

PARLIAMENT OF ZIMBABWE

Wednesday, 6th March, 2019

The National Assembly met at a Quarter-past Two O'clock p.m.

PRAYERS

(THE HON. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE HON. SPEAKER

VISITORS IN THE SPEAKER'S GALLERY

THE HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I recognise the presence in the Speaker's Gallery of students and lecturers from the Africa University in Manicaland Province. You are welcome! – [HON.

MEMBERS: *Hear, hear.*] –

May I also inform the Hon. Members that I recognise the presence in the Speaker's Gallery of students and lecturers from Kwekwe Polytechnic in the Midlands Province. You are welcome! – [HON.

MEMBERS: *Hear, hear.*] –

APOLOGIES RECEIVED FROM MINISTERS

THE HON. SPEAKER: The following Hon. Ministers have tendered their leave of absence from the House:

- The Minister of Transport and Infrastructural Development - Hon. J B. Matiza;
- The Minister of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation - Hon. K. Coventry;
- The Deputy Minister of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation - Hon. Y. Simbanegavi;
- The Minister of Environment, Tourism and Hospitality Industry - Hon. P. Mupfumira;
- The Minister of Primary and Secondary Education - Hon. Prof. P. Mavima;
- The Minister of Home Affairs and Cultural Heritage - Hon. C. Mathema;
- The Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare - Hon. Dr. Nzenza;

- The Minister of Energy and Power Development - Hon. Dr. J. Gumbo;
- The Minister of Women's Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises Development - Hon. Dr. S. Nyoni;
- The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade - Hon. S. B. Moyo; and
- The Minister of Finance and Economic Development - Hon. Prof M. Ncube.

PETITIONS RECEIVED

THE HON. SPEAKER: I have to advise the House that on 5th March 2019, Parliament received a petition from National Residential Care Leavers Network requesting Parliament to urgently protect the constitutionally guaranteed rights of young adults who are discharged from residential care facilities to survive, develop and become contributing members of Zimbabwe. The petition has since been referred to the Portfolio Committee on Youths, Sports and Recreation.

HON. MUTSEYAMI: Thank you Mr Speaker Sir, good afternoon. I rise on a point of privilege concerning the absence of Hon. Ministers. Section 26 and 63 of our Standing Rules and Orders speak to the Hon Ministers, Deputy Ministers or Vice Presidents who would have been occupied with other things to send their apologies in writing to the Speaker of Parliament. Mr. Speaker Sir, the last session before we went for break, you were away on Parliamentary business. We faced the same problem where almost 90% of the Hon. Ministers were not present in this House. This has been going on and now it is more like a song at the expense of the tax payers.

This is costing the nation because whenever we ask our questions Hon. Speaker Sir, we always look to the Leader of the House to give us responses. He is now more of a moving Oxford dictionary in terms of everything that the country needs to know. My humble request to the office of the Speaker is to take note of this challenge which we are facing with regards to Ministers and for the Hon. Speaker to bring this to

the attention of the Executive in order for them to manage this problem once and for all.

This is bearing in mind that there is the spirit which was put across to the whole nation that we are now moving in a new dispensation.

However, the absence of the Ministers is even worse than when we had R. G. Mugabe as President. You have to take note of that. So, I put my request before you and await a response which will be beneficial to the citizens of this country. I rest my case. I thank you Mr. Speaker.

THE HON. SPEAKER: One of the qualities of being honourable is to exercise measured laughter and a also measured sense of decorum. Hon. Mutseyami, your point of privilege is noted and agreed to. I think this time we will put it in writing to the Executive pointing out this issue so that there might be some improvement. In fact there should be some improvement in terms of Section 107 (2) of the Constitution which obligates Vice Presidents, Ministers and Deputy Ministers to attend to the business of the House and also the business of Committees of the

House. Therefore, we will act accordingly and see what happens thereafter.

HON. NDUNA: On a point of privilege Mr. Speaker Sir. After the occurrence of the Battlefields Mine Disaster at Cricket Mine in the last sitting of Parliament, I came a day after the disaster to Parliament and requested your Chair, in the mould of the Deputy Speaker on the day, Hon. Gezi to ask if the Minister of Mines and Mining Development could favour this august House with a Ministerial Statement after the occurrence of that disaster, which should touch on three major issues to do with; the disaster preparedness for such occurrences, the bringing into this House the Bill on Mines and Minerals Act so that it can be repealed to avert such occurrences in the future and lastly on compensation for the bereaved and injured in the event of such occurrences. This was my fervent request. I therefore, in the same vein, ask that there be a follow up in terms of bringing that Ministerial Statement touching on those three key issues. I thank you.

THE HON. SPEAKER: Thank you, I will raise the issue with the Hon. Minister concerned and I hope the Leader of Government Business has also taken note of that request.

HON. DR. LABODE: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would want to ask the Minister of Finance to come and give a Ministerial Statement in this House because Zimbabwe stands to lose part of the \$400 million that is coming for ARVs because we have failed to pay our own contribution which only comes to \$6 million. We cannot afford to lose \$400 million because of \$6 million. So he must come and tell us the reason behind the non-payment. I thank you. – [HON. MEMBERS: *Hear, hear.*] – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, order, Hon. Member pointing across the table, may you be composed please. I take note and in collaboration with Hon. Ziyambi, Leader of Government Business, we will also activate that and make sure that the Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Development reacts in terms of Ministerial Statement so

that we can have advantage of that \$400 million. Is it from the Global Fund, Hon. Labode?

HON. DR. LABODE: Yes, Mr. Speaker Sir, it is from the Global Fund.

HON. PHUTI: Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise with concern on the perfunctory approach that this House has on the issue raised before our leave coming from the contribution that I made on the 5th of the previous month.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the Deputy Speaker of this House, ruled on the last day of ...

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, order, the Hon. Deputy Speaker.

HON. PHUTI: The Hon. Deputy Speaker of this House, Mr. Speaker Sir, ruled that the Chair was going to make a statement concerning the issue of preferential usage of languages in this House as raised previously.

I waited with an expectation that we were going to have that statement according to the second paragraph of yesterday's *Order Paper*. I therefore, rise to remind that it is in the interest of the Hon. Members here and people that we represent in their various differences in languages that they speak that this statement be issued so that we can know the direction that we are taking. I also note that whilst something could be happening concerning the issues of language, it is important that it be explained or put in this House for purposes of clarity. My fear is that this issue may die a natural death as it has in various other sessions of Parliament that have elapsed. I thank you. – [HON.

MEMBERS: *Hear, hear.*] –

THE HON. SPEAKER: I am going to allow the last, Hon. Member your name again?

HON. CHIKOMBA: Chikomba!

THE HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Chikomba, you are the last one on point of privilege.

***HON. CHIKOMBA:** My question is directed to the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement ... - [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, order, I had said I would allow only one more point of privilege. You do not recognise yourself, Hon. Tsunga and Hon. P. D. Sibanda, please seat down. Hon. Gonese!

HON. GONESE: Thank you very much Hon. Speaker Sir. On the 29th of January in the year of our Lord 2019, I rose on a matter of privilege and in the Chair was the Hon. Deputy Speaker. The point I raised related to the provisions of Section 214 of our Constitution.

In terms of that provision, Mr. Speaker Sir, when members of the Defence Forces are deployed in Zimbabwe, there is an obligation on the Head of State to inform Parliament in appropriate detail of the reasons of that deployment. After I raised the point of privilege, Mr. Speaker Sir, the Hon. Deputy Speaker promised to look into the matter and thereafter make a ruling. Since the 29th January up to the present, we have not heard anything from the Chair. I am now rising to find out as to what

has become of the issue that I raised. In particular, we have got the Hon. Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs in the House. I want to find out whether or not the Executive believes in upholding the rule of law in obeying the Constitution as required by the Constitution itself because up to now, the Hon. Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs has not indicated to us why we still have not received that notification which is peremptory in terms of the provisions of Section 214 –if we can be enlightened in that regard. – [HON.

MEMBERS: *Hear, hear.*] –

Some Hon. Members broke into ululations and celebrations upon Hon. G. Sithole's entrance into the House.

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, order, I have conferred with the Hon. Deputy Speaker, I think there was some lull on that matter. In terms of the Constitution, Section 214, indeed we will advise the Executive to respond accordingly and the Hon. Leader of Government Business will assist us in that regard. It is a question of explanation that is demanded by Section 214 of the Constitution.

We apologise to Hon. Gonese for the delay in responding accordingly.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

***HON. CHIKOMBA:** Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. My question is directed to the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Climate and Rural Resettlement. In his absence, I will direct my question to the Leader of the House. We seem to have a drought because of the climatic conditions, is it not possible that cloud seeding could be done so that crops reach maturity? I thank you.

***THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO):** Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I would like to thank the Hon. Member for asking such a good question which relates to cloud seeding. I would like to inform the Hon. Member that Government has plans to do cloud seeding. People who are capable of doing cloud seeding have already been paid their funds but the Hon. Member needs to realise that there should be favourable conditions for cloud seeding especially as

regards ICTZ. If the ICTZ is over the country, we can do cloud seeding and harvest some rains. Cloud seeding cannot harvest some rains during a period when we are in the dry season. I thank you.

HON. SIKHALA: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. My supplementary question to the Deputy Minister of Agriculture is, is he aware of the level of crop wilting at the present moment throughout all regions in Zimbabwe? Secondly, the question asked by the Hon. Member is very important in terms of timeframe. Crops are wilting, *hatisi muchirimo*, we are in summer, where cloud seeding can start so that we avert drought, that is the question the Hon. Member has asked.

HON. KARORO: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I would like to thank the Hon. Member for the clarification but when I referred to the obtaining weather conditions as the dry season, I know it is the rainy season but when the conditions are not favourable, it is as good as we are in the dry season and it is not favourable to cloud seeding.

HON. T. MOYO: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. My question is directed to the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs. To

what extent has the Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs put in place measures and policies to curb further increases in the prices of basic goods and commodities by economic saboteurs and enemies of the State?

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, LEGAL AND PARLIAMENT AFFAIRS (HON. ZIYAMBI): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I would like to thank the Hon. Member for the question. Some years back, we used to have a policy of price controls – [HON. MEMBERS *Inaudible interjections.*] –

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, order! Hon. Members, can you control the volume of your speeches?

HON. ZIYAMBI: I was saying that we used to have a policy of price controls and a board that would ensure that prices are controlled. The experience that we have is that it does not work. So, what the Government is doing through the Transition Stabilisation Programme is to ensure that we increase productivity and competitiveness and that will ensure that prices will stabilise and become competitive.

HON. CHIKWINYA: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. My question is directed to the Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education. Hon. Minister, during the tenure of the previous Minister, the Government had muted a policy of upgrading technical colleges into becoming universities. What is the position within that policy? Again, within that policy, lecturers have been compelled to upgrade their educational qualifications in preparation of implementation of that policy. We are now having lecturers who are having the same qualifications with university lecturers but their salaries are so huge in terms of salary gap, what is the Government going to do to make sure that people of equal qualifications earn equal salaries?

**THE MINISTER OF HIGHER AND TERTIARY
EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT**

(HON. PROF. MURWIRA): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I wish to thank the Hon. Member for the question. I want to start by the issue of polytechnics. The policy is that the Higher and Tertiary Education Ecosystem will be constituted by industrial colleges, polytechnics,

teachers' colleges, vocational training centres and universities and all of these must keep their positions. They are not there by accident. It is very important to know that we did a critical skills audit in this country from December, 2017 to June 2018. The last skills audit in this country had been done in 1981. That skills audit led to the recommendation of polytechnics. That is why we have polytechnics, but let me just say that, that critical skills audit revealed that although we have 94% literacy in this country, our skills levels are at 38% The ambition of this country is to use our skills and minds for the development of this country - [HON. SIKHALA: *Especially your skills.*]

Hon. Sikhala having apologised off the microphone.

THE HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Sikhala, switch on the microphone and apologise accordingly.

HON. SIKHALA: My apologies Mr. Speaker Sir.

HON. PROF. MURWIRA: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir –
[*Laughter.*] – I am definitely laughing because my skills are much more than that – [*Laughter.*] – Our skills audit which is a guide to our

manpower planning and development in this country shows that although we have a literacy rate of 94%, our skills levels are at 38%. It therefore means that the direction of our education should take the direction of being practical. This country will be built by people in grease and not people in ties only.

What that basically means is that our polytechnics are a vital cog of our industrialisation strategy. Based on this, polytechnics will remain polytechnics. However, if there is a wish for any offering of a degree of which there is in polytechnics, they do so in conjunction with a university, which we call a scheme of arrangement. Polytechnics for example Kwekwe Polytechnic is giving a B-Tech degree in conjunction with the National University of Science and Technology (NUST). All our polytechnics are offering degrees in conjunction with NUST.

When it comes to the other question which is the refinement of the question on the lecturers, through you Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to inform the Hon. Member that on the 26th of February 2019, we submitted the principles for the amendment of the Manpower Planning and

Development Act which is on its way to this House for the purposes of making polytechnics, teachers colleges, industrial training colleges attain the status of academic institutions a status similar to that of State Universities. This basically means that they will be accorded their critical place within the development agenda of this country. This basically means their upgraded position is going to be reflected in the conditions of service of our lecturers.

In actual fact, we are in touch as a Ministry with all our lecturers to make sure that we map this way forward and this condition is being looked at and not only looked at, we are acting upon it because we know the vital nature of polytechnics. We say our minds and our hands together will determine the trajectory of this country in terms of its development. I thank you.

HON. MAYIHLOME: My supplementary question is, can the Hon. Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development explain Government's plan on the unemployed graduates of tertiary institutions like teachers and nurses.

THE HON. SPEAKER: I am afraid that is a new question altogether. Hold on to your question.

HON. MADZIMURE: In his response, the Hon. Minister indicated that we have a 94% literacy rate. This shows that we are a very educated nation. Can he explain why, when we go to vote, we have more than 25% of people who cannot put an X – [HON. MEMBERS: *Hear, hear.*]

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, order. That question does not have empirical evidence – [HON. MEMBERS: *Hear, hear.*] – Order, order, order, order! I have not yet finished my statement. I have just began to say that supplementary question has no empirical evidence to indicate that the electorate who voted were indeed among the 94% literate, so we cannot entertain that.

HON. SIKHALA: I want to follow up on the question asked by Hon. Chikwinya. We notice that your predecessor put in place a policy where he wanted to upgrade teachers training colleges not to offer diplomas but to offer Bachelors of Education degrees. Is your Ministry

still pursuing that policy where teachers colleges are going to be upgraded not to offer Bachelors of Education degrees?

HON. PROF. MURWIRA: Thank you Hon. Member for that question. I hope I will answer this question with skill – [*Laughter.*] – The question of teachers’ colleges is similar to the question of polytechnics. I want to say as an overall answer that we are pursuing a policy whereby Zimbabwe and Zimbabweans and everybody trained in Zimbabwe should attain levels and not labels. What do we mean? The labels are Prof. Murwira when I am not a professor. The levels are Prof. Murwira when I am actually a professor – [HON. MEMBERS: *Hear, hear.*] – I am saying this to actually underpin the education policy that we are pursuing. It is an education policy that will combine a body of knowledge with a body of skill, and we are saying teachers are very important to us - it does not matter what label you give to their certificate. It is the skill and the knowledge that they give that is vital to us. That is why we are reviewing the Manpower, Planning and Development Act to reflect the importance of knowledge and skill

levels, not labels. Therefore, teachers' colleges shall remain teachers' colleges. If they need to do a degree - which is commendable, they will do it under a scheme of association with universities that are existing. I thank you.

HON. MURAYI: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. The Minister has alluded that we have got a...

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, it is Hon. Minister.

HON. MURAYI: Thank you Hon. Speaker. The Hon. Minister has alluded that we have got the labels where we have got people who are said to be professors and doctors, yet they are not professors and doctors. Can we be furnished with those people who are being called professors and doctors when they are not – [HON. MEMBERS:

Inaudible interjections.]-

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, order! Order Hon. Dube. The Hon. Member has asked a very good question but that question requires research for the Hon. Minister to come up with proper statistics – [AN HON. MEMBER: *He said that he has got the statistics.*] - I am told

that the Hon. Minister Prof. Murwira has got the compendium and the statistics.

HON. PROF. MURWIRA: Thank you Hon. Speaker Sir. When I talked about labels and levels I was talking about our policy thrust. Our policy thrust is that we are saying Zimbabweans should not run for papers because I can get a paper from a bin and call you doctor or professor. Zimbabweans should run for skills. So our policy thrust is what I am talking about. The policy thrust is levels not labels. I thank you Mr. Speaker Sir – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*]-

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, order! I had suspected that there were no statistics to that question; I think you can put it in writing so that we have proper statistics before the House.

SPEAKER'S RULING

MATTER OF PRIVILEGE ON INTERPRETATION SERVICES

THE HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Phuthi on Thursday, 14th February, 2019 raised a matter of privilege concerning the failure by Parliament to

provide simultaneous interpretation services for all the languages recognised in the Constitution of Zimbabwe into the language of record as his contribution made in Kalanga on Tuesday, 5th February, 2019 was not recorded in the *Hansard*. In responding to the matter raised by Hon. Phuthi, it is important to note that in terms of Section 6 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe, all the 16 officially recognised languages must be treated equitably. In addition, Section 63 (a) of the Constitution provides as follows:-

‘Every person has a right to use the language of their choice.’

In view of the foregoing, it is thus regrettable that owing to resource constraints, Parliament is yet to employ interpreters to provide simultaneous interpretation for all the 16 officially recognised languages. In an effort to address the anomaly, Parliament has once again written to Treasury seeking concurrence to employ additional interpreters and the concurrence is still pending. As a stop gap measure, Parliament has since engaged the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation (ZBC) to provide interpreters as and when required. The discussions

with ZBC are ongoing and the House will be advised of the availability of the said interpreters in due course. In the mean time, a corrigendum has been made to the hard copy of the *Hansard*, 5 March, 2019, Volume 45, Number 37 to include Hon. Phuthi's contribution. The soft copy of the *Hansard* appearing on the Parliamentary website has already been corrected.

On behalf of the Presiding officers, I would like to extend my sincere apologies to all the Hon. Members who have been deprived of their right to speak in the language of their choice, and promise that in the new Parliament, this will be history. All languages will have interpreters. I thank you.

HON. NGOME: Thank you Hon. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Settlement. My question is concerning the issue of Water bodies that were earmarked for irrigation. For example, in my constituency we have got Mupudzi Dam which was completed in 2003.

THE HON. SPEAKER: Can you stick to policy please.

HON. NGOME: It is concerning the issue of water bodies that were earmarked for irrigation. Hon. Minister, what plans does your Ministry have in this second republic? I thank you.

THE HON. SPEAKER: I did not get the last part.

HON. NGOME: What plans does your Ministry have in this second republic? – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

HON. KARORO: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, although the question is a bit vague, I will try to answer it.

THE HON. SPEAKER: Can I clarify the question? There are several water bodies, what are the plans in the second republic to maximize usage of these water bodies? The question is very clear.

HON. KARORO: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to thank the Hon. Member for the question. This country has over 10 000 water bodies for the purpose of irrigation. In the second republic, Government is putting in place measures to increase the water bodies. The purpose is to increase the irrigation activities in our farms, for example there are 10

new dams that the Government intends to construct throughout the country. The essence is to increase the irrigation capacity of our farms.

I thank you Mr. Speaker Sir – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

THE HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Deputy Minister, the question is there are several water bodies throughout, what plans are there to utilise the water bodies currently existing – [HON. SIBANDA: *Inaudible interjection.*]-

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, Hon. Sibanda cool down please.

HON. KARORO: Mr. Speaker Sir, the plans are there. The plans are to increase the hectarage under irrigation. Government is procuring irrigation equipment to make sure all the dams are utilized through irrigation schemes.

HON. CHIKWINYA: Thank you Hon. Speaker, as you rightly clarified the worry by the Hon. Member and as alluded to by some of us is that of the handicap with the water bodies in existence so far, and as alluded again by the Government, is that the water bodies are silted. So

I thought the Hon. Minister is supposed to answer giving us a plan on how we are going to de-silt so that we can utilise these water bodies which are there but are non-functional.

HON. KARORO: Mr. Speaker Sir, the question of siltation being brought about by the Hon. Member is something separate from the original question. The challenge is that yes, we have water bodies that have been underutilized because there was no irrigation equipment. That is why I said Government has undertaken to procure enough irrigation equipment to make sure that all the water bodies in the country are brought to full utilisation capacity Mr. Speaker Sir. The question of siltation is something else that is different from the original question. Government will make sure all those dams that are affected by siltation are de-silted.

***HON. MATAMBANADZO:** Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for affording me this opportunity to ask my question to the Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development. I want to find out how far Government has gone with the policy of

giving loans and grants to students at technical colleges and universities. I ask that question because the Ministry was paying for the STEM project. Since they are no longer paying for STEM, I was suggesting that they use the funds that have been set aside for STEM to give grants and loans because he said his Ministry is not responsible for that. I thank you.

***THE MINISTER OF HIGHER AND TERTIARY EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT (HON. PROF. MURWIRA):** I want to thank – [AN HON. MEMBER: *Taura neshona.*] - I would like to thank *vakuru ava* – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

***THE HON. SPEAKER:** Order, ‘*vakuru*’ Hon. Minister, is the person that is speaking now, the one who asked the question is Hon. Member, you can proceed.

HON. PROF. MURWIRA: What we have done is to make sure that [HON. MEMBERS: *Shona.*] – our Higher and Tertiary Education system...

THE HON. SPEAKER: *Aiwa neshona.*

***HON. PROF. MURWIRA:** I would like to say that loans for our students who are at universities and polytechnic colleges are important. I would want to let the House know that the developments that are made in our higher and tertiary education are at four levels. The first level is to look into and see what students are learning then we came up with the Zimbabwe National Qualifications Framework. Secondly, the teachers and lecturers at universities and colleges, in terms of their promotion then we came up with a single promotional and advancement procedure, because they have several procedures. Thirdly, the infrastructure where our students receive their lectures from. Fourthly, we looked at how our students are resourced so that they can attend these institutions. What we did was to approach the banks for a backing system. A company called Eduloan promised us \$10 million and the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) promised us \$50 million that will be given to our students through the banking system. However, the problem has been that the banks were asking for pay slips and not everyone who is paid

gets a pay slip. Since last year, we were busy trying to see how best we can resolve that issue.

We approached the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and gave them our request that we wanted to have a risk fund so that our students who do not have pay slips can benefit from the fund so that the bank will be able to disburse the funds to them. I am happy to announce that the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development has given us \$8 million as part of the risk fund. We would like to work with another bank, and today I signed that policy with another bank so that our students can have access to loans without the guarantees I made reference to earlier.

We also want to see a situation where the bank will be able to disburse 10 times more than this amount so that it becomes 10 times \$8 million and it becomes \$80 million. This can then be channeled into loans or grants for our children without the requirement of a pay slip. The money is there but it was the modalities regarding this access which were difficult to attain. We have been working in this regard to

smoothen out these impediments. My apologies, I believe that my explanation where I mixed with English terms, has made it possible to understand that; higher and tertiary education refers to students and not teachers. Therefore, this does not refer to anyone else except the learners; it is a Ministry of learners. The fourth level which I referred to indicates that if there are no learners, there is no Ministry. That is what we are working on. Thank you.

***HON. MATAMBANADZO:** First and foremost, I would like to thank the Minister for upgrading the Kwekwe Technical College for it to offer a degree. I did not understand his final response where he was referring to teachers and comparing to learners. I only asked about learners on how they can receive loans or grants. That is the only thing I asked when they will receive those loans or grants because there is a fund we believe they have which used to be referred to as STEM for Advanced Level students. They then stopped the STEM programme yet it was helpful to the whole nation. Are there any plans on that STEM fund and if not, can that be used to pay for higher and tertiary education

students because parents are finding it difficult to pay because of the economic hardships. That was my supplementary question.

***HON. PROF. MURWIRA:** Thank you Hon. Speaker for that question. I am sure that I responded to that question. I said our Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education is a learners' ministry and in the absence of learners, there is no ministry. That is why we are saying we are pooling together funds for our students to obtain loans for their education. We are saying we do not have a free fund. If we give these students loans, future students can also access it because it becomes a revolving fund. We do not want to give people false hopes that there is a fund which is disbursed for free so that others can spend freely going forward. We are saying, all those who use the fund should use it during the appropriate moment but reimburse later so that others can also be able to learn using the same fund. I thank you – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] -

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, order. Hon. Minister, I think the question is; you had a budget for STEM. Will you transfer that budget to

loan, grants or scholarships for university students? If the money is not there, that is alright but the question is; the money that was being given for STEM, can it be transferred to assist the students? That is the question.

***HON. PROF. MURWIRA:** Thank you Hon. Speaker. I would like to say, the money that was being disbursed to Advanced Level students had already been disbursed and exhausted then – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] – To date, Hon. Speaker, our budget for 2019 is earmarked for support to be given to apprenticeships. Our country had desisted from supporting apprenticeships since 2012. However, we know that apprenticeships are vital because students learn skills whilst they are at work. So our thrust this year is to deal with a thousand students who are already on apprenticeship. We are going to recruit another thousand in March. So, we have two thousand apprenticeships that are going to benefit this year. That is when the A level STEM scholarship started. The apprenticeships have been

resuscitated. We have sent back the money where it was coming from.

I thank you.

HON. TSUNGA: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. My supplementary question arises from a segment of the initial response by the Hon.

Minister to Hon. Matambanadzo's question which relates to the national qualification issues.

THE HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, the background is recorded already. Proceed with the question.

HON. TSUNGA: I wanted to make sure that it is relevant. My question is - what is Government policy in regard to the nature, scope and course content of degree programmes offered by our universities because as we hear lately, there is thinking about scrapping some degree programmes. So, we need to know the implications on, for example industry employability and so on.

THE HON. SPEAKER: Sorry, the question does not arise from students grants and loans.

HON. MKANDLA: My question is directed to the Minister of Transport and Infrastructural Development to explain the Government policy regarding the vehicles which are moving on the roads without registration numbers.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT (HON. CHASI): The question that has been asked is really a matter of law and not necessarily a matter of policy. Our law requires that no vehicle should be on our public roads without the necessary registration. So, the law enforcement agencies have the responsibility to ensure that they remove all unregistered vehicles from our public roads. I thank you.

HON. NDUNA: My follow up to the response from the Minister is, would the Minister not possibly engage ICT in terms of filling up the void left by the change of ownership where you require another set of number plates, seeing that there is shortage of foreign currency to continuously import different number plates. Would you not therefore have ICT in place in order that everything to do with change of

ownership is imbedded in the computer as opposed to physically allotted number plates which are scarce?

HON. CHASI: This Government has embraced technology, particularly in the field of transportation, vehicle registration and vehicle surveillance for any purpose. The Minister of Finance and Economic Development did indicate that with regards to Government vehicles we require and need gadgets that are IT based which will help us to be able to identify vehicles. So, I want to assure the Hon. Member that Government is working on a system that is technology based and will enable us to know the status of each and every vehicle with regards to its registration. We will also be able to know whether the driver is licensed and whether the vehicle is insured. Let me assure the Hon. Member that we are working on a very intensive IT. Government has embraced technology in the area of vehicles, whether it is public service vehicles or not. So, I want to give that assurance to the Hon. Member. I thank you.

HON. NDEBELE: Hon. Speaker, I just want to check with the Minister what Government policy is in respect of more than one vehicle carrying the same personalised number plate. I am a bit worried as a parent that there are vehicles that are driven particularly in Bulawayo by drunken young men and women and the number plate simply says ED *Pfee*. What is Government policy in respect to that? - [HON.

MEMBERS: *Hear, hear.*] –

HON. CHASI: I want to thank the Hon. Member for a very important question. Number plates are a key aspect of our security system. So, if one desires to have a personalised number plate which says ED *Pfee*, that is their choice but they must go through the necessary processes. I also want to make it very clear to the Hon. Members and members of the public that anybody who abuses our registration system by copycatting a number plate and giving it whatever name they want, they must know that they are breaking the law and necessary action will be taken. So whether they are drunk or not, as far as we are concerned, they must register their car in accordance with the law. If they are not in

compliance, I have indicated that we have embraced technology and we are going to catch them and make sure that vehicle does not drive on our roads. I thank you.

HON. NKANI: My question is directed to the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement. Hon. Minister, what is the Government policy regarding coming up with a priority list of future irrigation schemes on our available water resources district by district throughout the country?

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, order, that question is redundant now.

HON. MUSHORIWA: My question is directed to the Hon. Leader of the House. Mr. Speaker Sir, the Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Development in his budget presentation made an attempt and provided around 4% of the budget to provinces. My question is that since the money has been allocated to provinces in the absence of provincial councils, how is that money going to be accounted for, given

that there are no provincial councils and the people who were elected have not been sworn into office as of now?

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, LEGAL AND

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (HON. ZIYAMBI): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, there are two unconnected questions from Hon. Mushoriwa. The question of allocating resources could not wait for the legislative process because Parliament had to do the process to ensure that the budget is there once the legislative process is there.

The Hon. Member's second concern is about provincial councils. The legislation is being drafted, the principles were presented to Cabinet and very soon the Bill will be tabled in Parliament. What was critical was for the Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Development to ensure that it is catered for in the budget; hence the need to ensure that that amount was included under the current budget. I thank you

HON. CHIKWINYA: Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you very much. My supplementary question is, if I heard correctly, the gist of the

question was that the money was released in the absence of provincial councils. So who is going to account for the released money?

Therefore, the answer from the Hon. Minister, in my view, is a bit insincere. We have sections of the budget where money has not yet been released but structures are in place to account for that money. I then begin to question how the Hon. Minister can release funds where there are no structures to account for the money and deprive funding where there are existing structures already to account for that money. Therefore, my question is, when are you going to put those structures in place to allow for accounting of the money?

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, order, the Hon. Minister was very clear. The money has been allocated but not disbursed. Acknowledging Hon. Mushoriwa's observation and as soon as the Bill is before the House and it passes, then disbursement will take place. I thought that was quite comprehensive.

***HON. SEWERA:** My question is directed to the Hon. Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare or to the Leader of the

House. All along you were helping people in terms of food provision in drought stricken areas because grains have wilted. When is Government going to start helping people because they have nothing to eat?

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, LEGAL AND

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (HON. ZIYAMBI): Thank you Mr.

Speaker Sir, I want to thank the Hon. Member - [HON. MEMBERS:

Inaudible interjections.]

THE HON. SPEAKER: Order, order. May we have order please!

Hon. Minister.

HON. ZIYAMBI: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Hon. Member for the question. The food mitigation programme is ongoing and we receive weekly updates on what is happening throughout the country. At the moment, we are not at the peak hunger period and we also acknowledge that this year, we have an eminent drought that is looming. Government has sufficient stocks of grain to ensure that no one starves.

What has been happening is due to logistical problems with transporters, some areas were not adequately covered but we have sufficient grain to ensure that nobody starves. I thank you.

***HON. MAJAYA:** Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, as regards these supplementary food grains, a lot of costs are incurred when people are asked to pay transport costs. It defeats the whole purpose and becomes expensive for the beneficiaries.

HON. ZIYAMBI: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I want to thank the Hon. Member for the follow up question which is indeed very correct in that grain is distributed throughout our Grain Marketing Board (GMB) depots to our ward levels. Then beneficiaries have to make ensure that they collect the grain from the allocation point to their homes. We have noticed that transporters have been overcharging our people and it is one of the areas that we are looking at to ensure that they are not charged exorbitant fares.

In some areas, they were charging from \$3.00 to \$6.00 per bag and we are looking into that to ensure that they get the grain even if they do not have the money. I thank you.

HON. SIKHALA: Madam Speaker Ma'am, there is also a worrying trend especially during these drought periods where food is specifically distributed on the country side on political affiliation. Can the Minister re-assure this House that this time no one will be discriminated against in terms of food distribution because of someone's political affiliation?

HON. ZIYAMBI: Thank you Madam Speaker. This question has been asked over and over again and we have given the same answer. The distribution is done by Social Welfare in conjunction with councillors and village heads because they are able to identify, depending on the mode – if it is for the vulnerable groups, they have to be identified but when we have hunger, which is widespread and we say everyone must be given grain, then the village heads and councillors will

ensure that all the names of people in that particular village are written down and forwarded to Social Welfare.

Perhaps what is confusing the Hon. Member is that, in the country side, the majority of people there belong to one particular party and that confuses him and then thinks that only a particular segment is being given food aid. I thank you.

HON. SIKHALA: On a point of order Madam Speaker. My question is very sincere and I also expected the Minister to answer me sincerely. Hon. Minister, two weeks ago, in my own village, Hon. Berita Chikwama went and addressed people there over the issue of drought and told villagers, including my own family members that everyone who belongs to the MDC is not going to obtain food. I did not want to mention people's names; I wanted you to give a general policy so that you educate some of your Members of Parliament. This is something that has happened and we want your protection as the Leader of the House. So, my question is very sincere, people outside there are concerned.

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: On that one Hon. Sikhala, I think we need evidence – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] – Order, order! Hon. Members. Can we have order? Order, Hon. Wadyajena, please take your seat. Hon. Chikwama, order.

HON. ZIYAMBI: Thank you Madam Speaker. My answer was very adequate. I indicated that the policy of Government is that every household must get food assistance irrespective of political affiliation. I also indicated that our Social Welfare Department is responsible for food distribution. When they are distributing the food, they have to work with councillors and village heads to ensure that they get names of all the households. I further said that in the said area where he is referring to, maybe it is populated by people from a certain party, so perhaps he was confused because a certain party is dominant in that particular area and he mistook Government policy for what it was not. If he has a specific issue he can then approach our Social Welfare Department to indicate that certain households are being denied food

assistance and that can be cascaded to the Minister or to myself if he fails to get an adequate response. I thank you.

HON. DZUMA: My question is directed to the Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare. What is the Government's policy with regards to preparedness on the imminent drought?

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Dzuma, may you come again – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] – Order!

HON. DZUMA: Thank you Madam maam. My question is directed to the Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare. What is the Government's policy with regards to preparedness on the imminent drought – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] – I will direct it to the House of – [*Laughter.*] - I will direct it to the Leader of the House – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Dzuma, may you please approach the Chair – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] – Hon. Dzuma, approach the Chair please – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

Hon. Dzuma approached the Chair.

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Sikhala order! Hon. Chikwama, order!

HON. SODA: Thank you Madam Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Industry and Commerce. What measures are there to deal with the so called tuck shops which are peddling money laundering and black marketing of goods, mainly by foreigners who own the majority of these businesses? Of concern is the fact that there are some locally produced goods which you cannot obtain through normal distribution channels but only got through tuck shops – [HON.

MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Zhemu, please may you come again – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

HON. ZHEMU: Alright. My question is directed to the Minister of Industry and Commerce – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order Hon. Members. Order
– [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

HON. ZHEMU: My question is directed to the Minister of Industry and Commerce – [AN HON. MEMBER: *Haapo.*] – In his absence, I will direct my question to the Leader of the House. What measures or policy is there to deal with the tuck shops which are peddling money laundering and black marketing of goods. Of concern is the fact that there are some locally produced goods which you cannot find through the normal distribution channels but they are only got through tuck the tuck shops and most of these tuck shops are owned by foreigners. Now the question is - what policy does the Government have in dealing with the tuck shops. I thank you.

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, LEGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (HON. ZIYAMBI): Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I think we addressed this question earlier on when a particular Hon. Member asked about price controls. His concern is about goods that are found in tuck shops and they are overpriced. My

earlier response covered it. I said the policy that we have is to ensure that we turn around industry and goods are readily available such that companies compete to supply the same products. That is the only way to deal with the black market. When goods are in abundance, the black market disappears. Government's policy is to ensure that we create this environment where goods become readily available to deal with the black market.

HON. MAGO: My question is directed to the Leader of the House or else he will direct it to the relevant Minister.

What is Government's policy on remittance of pension contributions by companies, either Government or private which are in arrears for long periods resulting in contributors failing to get their pension dues when they go on retirement – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Member may you please repeat your question.

HON. MAGO: What is Government's policy on remittance of –
[HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] – What is Government's
policy on remittance of pension contributions by either Government or
private organisations which are in arrears for very long periods of time
resulting in contributors failing to get their pension when they go on
retirement?

**THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, LEGAL AND
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (HON. ZIYAMBI):** I would like to
thank the Hon. Member for the question regarding pensions which is a
very good question.

We have gone through a period where our pensioners lost their
pension and a Commission of Inquiry was set up to look into
circumstances of how that pension was lost with a view of taking
corrective action. That is an exercise that was undertaken and
recommendations have been adopted and it is work in progress to ensure
that those that lost their pension will not lose it. The general policy of
Government is that if you a company has got a private policy where it

contributes – the employer must contribute what they are supposed to contribute as well as the employee. When the employees retire, they must get their pension. That is the general policy, but we have had scenarios where inflation ravaged this country and that resulted in the persons being negligible. This is the situation which resulted in the commission of enquiry being appointed to look into that scenario with a view of taking corrective action, but under normal circumstances, either Government through its pension scheme pays off those that retire and private pension schemes also used to pay those that retire. That is the situation that we hope will obtain going forward. I thank you.

Questions Without Notice were interrupted by **THE HON.**

DEPUTY SPEAKER *in terms of Standing Order No. 64.*

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

HON. KARENYI: Thank you Madam Speaker. I have my question here on Question No. 1. The question has been on the *Order Paper* since 5th December and up to now, Madam Speaker, the Minister has not yet responded to my question. We have always raised this

almost every Wednesday when Parliament is sitting and I think the Minister is not taking this matter seriously. If you check on it, Madam Speaker, the Minister was responding on the issue of social welfare and this is a V11 whereby people are being denied access to food and the V11 is here. I have asked the Minister to investigate because it is on record, but up to now, Madam Speaker, I am not happy - I think it is time that the Ministers be cautioned.

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I hear you Hon. Member. I think this matter was discussed at the beginning of this session and the Speaker promised to do something about it.

RELEASE OF PRISONERS THROUGH PRESIDENTIAL AMNESTY

5. **HON. CHIKUDO** asked the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs to state when the nation can expect the release of prisoners through the Presidential Amnesty as is the practice after a general election.

**THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, LEGAL AND
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (HON. ZIYAMBI):** Madam

Speaker, I want to thank Hon. Chikudo for posing that question which is very important and it will allow me to explain the process. The Power of Mercy is provided for in Section 112 of the Constitution. Section 112 (1)(a) stipulates that the President, after consultation with Cabinet may exercise the power of mercy, that is to say may grant a pardon to any person concerned in or convicted of an offence against any law.

Madam Speaker, the exercise helps in decongesting our prisons and also serves as a reminder to inmates and society that the purpose of imprisonment is founded on the pretext of reformation rather than retribution. Let me reiterate that though it has become a practice that after general elections, inmates are pardoned - it is not sanctioned by the Constitution or any statute. The Power of Mercy is the prerogative of the President and it is not an inmate's right. It should be noted, Madam Speaker, that the President already pardoned 3 000 inmates in March 2018 which was a few months before elections. I thank you.

HON. S. BANDA: My question to the Hon. Minister is, during the said pardon in 2018 there were three prisoners with the same case.

Of the three only one was released. I do not understand how that could be. Thank you.

HON. ZIYAMBI: The question is now very specific about specific prisoners and surely, the Hon. Member cannot expect me to go to specific reasons about each and every prisoner why they were granted parole at this short notice. Perhaps if he has got specific reasons why he thinks those men were supposed to be included within those that were given amnesty, he can write then I can investigate. I thank you.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY INTO POST ELECTION VIOLENCE

6. **HON. CHIKUDO** asked the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs to state what assurances are there that the Report of the current Commission of Enquiry into the post-election violence which involved the shooting of civilians would be made public as findings of similar enquiries were never made public in the past.

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, LEGAL AND

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (HON. ZIYAMBI): Thank you

Madam Speaker. My expectation when I saw him rising was to withdraw because it has been overtaken by events. I thank you.

HON. CHIKUDO: Whilst the original question has been superseded by events, I have a supplementary question. What is the progress made by Government in implementing the recommendations of the said Mohlante Commission? Thank you.

HON. ZIYAMBE: Madam Speaker, the question was overtaken by events and this is a new question which can be answered next week.

STATISTICS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES CONVICTED OF CORRUPTION

7. **HON. CHIKUDO** asked the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs to provide the statistics of Government officials, including former employees who were implicated, convicted and sentenced for corruption or abuse of office on an annual basis during the

last 10 years and to state measures being taken to prevent such occurrences.

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, LEGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (HON. ZIYAMBI): Madam Speaker, regarding question number 7 my officials are still compiling the statistics as we did not have an accurate database. I will furnish them once I have it.

HON. MPARIWA: On a point of order Madam Speaker. If you note, Madam Speaker, on the *Order Paper* pertaining to this particular question it is from last year in December and I think we take great exception as Members of Parliament for Ministers to come here unarmed and without any responses and without even taking seriously the business of Parliament. Hon. Speaker, can you kindly engage the Executive pertaining to the responses of even the further remaining questions that have not been responded to by the Ministers. I thank you.

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, your concerns are noted Hon. Mpariwa.

**CONSTRUCTION OF CHAORA, CHAMAKUDO AND INYALA
IRRIGATION SCHEMES**

10. **HON. SHIRICHENA** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to inform the House on when the Government intends to construct Chaora, Chamakudo and Inyala Irrigation Schemes in order to utilise water from the Mundi-Mataga Dam.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE,
WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON.
KARORO):** Thank you Madam Speaker. The Mundi-Mataga dam was completed in 2003 with the main objective being for irrigation purposes and water supply to Mataga growth point. The capacity of the dam is 39 million cubic metres and is capable of irrigating approximately 1081 hectares of land of which currently only 210 hectares has been developed. Chaora block is being constructed under the 200 hectare per district per province programme. Electrification of the scheme is

underway by a contractor. Other works such as water delivery works and infield irrigation, contractors are in the process of moving to the site.

Chemakudo and Inyala feasibility studies – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections.*] –

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order Hon. Members, may the Deputy Minister be heard in silence please.

HON. KARORO: Thank you Madam Speaker. Chemakudo and Inyala feasibility studies are to be updated in 2019 for construction in 2020. I thank you.

CLOSURE OF BULAWAYO SHOWGROUNDS CATTLE SALE PENS

11. **HON. MAYIHLOME** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to explain the reasons for the continued closure since 2015, of the Bulawayo show grounds cattle sale pens for weekly auctions.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE,
WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON.**

KARORO): Thank you Madam Speaker. Hon. Member, there is no intention to reopen the Bulawayo show grounds for cattle sales. The reason for this is that show grounds are for exhibition of health animals. Situations have arisen in the past when outbreaks of contagious diseases have led to difficulty in accepting other health animals for exhibition and without risking further spread to other areas. Stakeholders are strongly advised to establish dedicated sale pens when sanitary measures can be implemented without affecting activities involving other spheres of livestock activity.

Control of highly contagious diseases is a public activity at State expense and these diseases are interested to limit the expense to the State especially when resources are scarce. I thank you.

HON. MAYIHLOME: Madam Speaker, can the Hon. Minister explain the lack of consistence in applying this policy because in some other towns like Gweru and Masvingo, this does not apply and the

particular case we are talking about in Bulawayo, appeals have been made several times that there are other facilities within Bulawayo that are not at the show grounds, like in the Khami Road sale pens that we also closed in explicable circumstances where farmers are suffering not just from Bulawayo but across the whole of Matabeleland that were using these facilities. Can this be explained why there is no policy consistency across the country. I thank you.

HON. KARORO: I would like to inform the Hon. Member that this is not done on discriminatory grounds. Coming to his concern Madam Speaker, I would want to ask the Hon. Member to favour me by putting that in writing because this is a specialised question which needs our experts to come up with plausible explanation on why it seems as if Bulawayo alone is being singled out. I kindly ask the Hon. Member to put it in writing; I will submit it to our experts for the correct responses. I thank you.

RESUSCITATION OF THE COLD STORAGE COMMISSION

12. **HON. NYOKANHETE** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to state Government's position regarding the resuscitation of the Cold Storage Commission (CSC), and when salary arrears for its employees will be settled.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO): Thank you Madam Speaker. Government approves the Cold Storage Commission turnaround plan. The main thrust of this plan was the resuscitation of the company through recapitalisation of the company. Pursuant to this, an investor has since been identified and Government has approved the investment proposal. The signing of the deal was concluded and the investor is expected on the ground soon. The arrears will be paid according to court order. I thank you.

HON. NDEBELE: On a point of order Madam Speaker.

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

HON. NDEBELE: Madam Speaker, for time immemorial, I think Government has been coming up with rescue plans for CSC but I notice that there has not been any consideration perhaps to review or change the management at CSC. My question to the Minister - is that under consideration before the implementation of the new rescue package with a new investor?

HON. KARORO: Madam Speaker, there is too much noise if the Hon. Member can repeat the question.

HON. NDEBELE: Government has come up with rescue package now and then for the CSC but I have never heard during all these times any mention of a consideration to change the management at CSC.

HON. KARORO: Thank you Hon. Member, all that is contained in the terms of reference with the new investor. The terms of reference can be made available to the Hon. Member of Parliament upon request.

HON. MADZIMURE: Madam Speaker, the Hon. Minister is talking about a new investor. Can the Minister favour this House with a progress report of the numerous packages that have been offered to the

CSC for its resuscitation and indicate to this House what have been the gains out of those numerous packages that have been given to the CSC.

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Madzimore, this is a new question. I think you can put it in writing then the Minister will give you a response.

HON. NDEBELE: The Minister has indicated that the terms of the new package can be availed on request. I submit my request Hon. Speaker because we only read about all these deals in the *Herald* and we see them on television during the news hour. So, it will help this House if the Minister could table the terms of that supposed deal.

HON. KARORO: Thank you Madam Speaker. To be tabled next Wednesday.

OFFER LETTERS FROM ZILAWU AND MASHOSHORI
SETTLERS

15. **HON. CHOMBO** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement settlers at Zilawu and Mashoshori farms in Raffingora will get offer letters.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO): Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you for the question which allows me to further clarify the issue of illegal settlers on A2 farms. The official A2 farmers at Zilawa already have offer letters. Those without offer letters are illegal settlers who have been interfering with A2 farmers in possession of offer letters hoping they would eventually be regularised. Thank you Madam Speaker.

HON. CHOMBO: Thank you Madam Speaker Ma'am. He said the Minister alluded to the fact that there is going to be regularisation; I just want to make sure I understand well on the settlers who do not have offer letters. Thank you.

HON. KARORO: Thank you Madam Speaker. The Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement will send a

team from the Lands Department to go and make detailed assessments on the said farm and regularisations will be made on a case by case basis. Thank you.

HON. NDEBELE: I want to check with the Minister if the same regularisation process will apply to villagers in Insiza. We were informed recently that some are going to be evicted and a Lands Officer had written them a letter notifying them that they should vacate the occupied land. However, these are people who have been on the land for more than 10 to 15 years. This on its own may speak to the hurried nature of the resettlement process. So, I want the Minister to clarify...

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is a new question Hon. Member.

HON. NDEBELE: It is arising from this issue of offer letters. People are being thrown out of their land because they do not have offer letters. I live on a piece of land for 10 years and somebody comes from Harare with an offer letter and I am evicted without a court order.

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I hear you Hon. Member. Put it in writing and the Minister will give a response.

RESETTLING OF FARMERS MOVED FROM GREENBUSH FARM

16. **HON. CHOMBO** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement when farmers who were moved from Greenbush Farm in Raffingora will be resettled.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO): Thank you Madam Speaker. I would like to ask the Hon. Member to provide the correct official name of the farm as Greenbush farm does not appear in our database of acquired farms. Thank you.

PEGGING OF WHEAT PRICE IN US DOLLARS

17. **HON. CHOMBO** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to advise whether there are plans to peg the wheat price in United States dollars.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE,
WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON.
KARORO):** Thank you Madam Speaker. Hon. Member of Parliament,
wheat producer price is pegged in US dollars and according to the
Government Policy, the US dollar and the bond is at par. So, the onus is
on the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, whether to pay
in US dollars, bond or any other payment modality. Thank you.

HON. SARUWAKA: Thank you Madam Speaker Ma'am. To the
Hon. Minister, I think he has just misled the nation when he said the US
dollar and bond is at par. In the Monetary Statement presented, it was
clear that they are no longer at par. This is the danger where ministers
come late to respond to questions. Yes, on the 21st of December when
the matter was raised, there was that lie about the value of the US dollar
but today, the official position is that they are not at par.

HON. KARORO: Hon. Madam Speaker. I agree that this
question was prepared before the Monetary Policy was presented.

HON. MUTSEYAMI: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I think it is very important to take note that as the august House, we have to take Government and Parliamentary business seriously. In this case Hon. Speaker, there is need for an appreciation by the Hon. Minister to do the right thing. How can he move all the way from the office with a wrong response? This means he has not even had the courtesy of going through the information. He does not even know the paper that he is holding; reading things here that happened sometime last year.

There is need Hon. Speaker through our Leader of the House, for our Hon. Ministers to appreciate the level of reading responses which are correct. There may be need for you to go through it whilst you are in the truck with your chauffer so that you present what is real. He comes all the way with a fake statement, presenting to the nation things which are not right and worse still to the tax payer. Madam Speaker, may you please help the House.

DRILLING OF BOREHOLE IN SILOBELA

18. **HON. M. M. MPOFU** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to state when the drilling of boreholes in Silobela would commence after the survey of identified sites was done in June, 2018.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO): Thank you Madam Speaker. The Government recognises the widespread water challenges being faced in the country and prioritises the enhancement of water security through borehole drilling in all rural and drought prone areas. Indeed, surveys for the four sites for borehole drilling in Silobela were done in June, 2018 and the sites are not yet drilled.

However, I would like to assure the House that the drilling of boreholes for Silobela and other drought prone areas such as Chiundura have been prioritised for drilling under the 100 Days Priority Projects approved by Cabinet for immediate implementation in the Second Republic. The 12th meeting decision of 18th December, 2018 states that;

‘In this regard, the Ministry is availing resources for the drilling exercise for the prioritised areas.’ Thank you Madam Speaker.

HON. NDEBELE: My supplementary is, in the last Parliament we were all promised four boreholes per constituency and now my reading into the Minister’s answer is those boreholes will now be provided to prioritised areas. My question is, Bulawayo has always had problems with water from time immemorial. Why are we not on that prioritised list?

HON. KARORO: Madam Speaker, drilling of the four boreholes is in all the constituencies but of course priority is given to the drought prone areas but eventually all the constituencies will be considered under this programme.

CONSTRUCTION OF WEIRS IN SILOBELA

19. **HON. M. M. MPOFU** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to state when the proposed weirs in Silobela will be constructed.

**THE MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER,
CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO):**

Madam Speaker the Ministry is always available to assist the communities in the construction work of the weirs. Each district has got a ZINWA Engineer to assist the community in the implementation of the National Water Harvesting Programmes. The ZINWA Sanyati catchment offices in Gweru will assist on the issue raised. The main hindrance which the Ministry has encountered is lack of participation by communities in the implementation of the programme, which we appeal to Hon Members to assist in the mobilisation of the communities in the implementation of these projects which will in turn benefit them. Once the community is ready to do the construction the Ministry would provide the necessary cement for the implementation of the programme. The Ministry would not like to have a situation where cement provided in the initial phase of the project dried up as communities were not forthcoming in the construction of the weirs. I thank you.

PUNGWE PIPELINE WATER PROJECT IN MUTASA CENTRAL

20. **HON. SARUWAKA** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to state:

a) when Manhanga, Govhingo and Vumbunu communities in Watsomba area and other areas in Mutasa Central would be connected to the

Pungwe Water Pipeline Project

b) the amount of funds invested in the project by ZINWA to date and the expected date of completion; and

c) the targeted beneficiaries and the selection criteria.

**THE MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER,
CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO):**

Madam Speaker, the designs of the seven off-takes for all communities to tap water from the Pungwe project including the bill of quantities are now in place. The communities are expected to pool the required local materials with the support, co-ordination and participation of the local Hon. Members of Parliament. Once they are ready they contact the nearest ZINWA catchment office, which in this case is SAVE catchment wherein the engineer there stands ready to come and guide on the

technical and supervision of works. With regards to the off-take for the mentioned communities, the nearby Watsomba area at St Matthias, Tsonzo schools and Dada clinic has already been connected. From Dada clinic the line goes towards Govhingo where some homesteads now have access to water. Those not yet connected should contact the same ZINWA office in Mutare if they are ready with the local materials. The same pipeline proceeds to Vhumbunu area and currently the line has been trenched and awaiting procurement of pipes which ran out under the 2018 National budget. There is provision in the 2019 budget for these ongoing works. From Vhumbunu, the pipeline should go to Manhanga community and again planned works will proceed this year in 2019.

HON. SARUWAKA: I think the Hon. Minister limited himself to responding to part (a) of the question though the question is in three parts. The second part refers to the amount used by ZINWA so far in this project in Mutasa and the third part is to do with the selection of the

beneficiaries. So, he has not responded to part (b) and (c) of the question.

HON. KARORO: Madam Speaker, with regards to the amount of funds invested in the project by ZINWA to date and expected date of completion, most of the materials are mobilised by the community. ZINWA mainly provided technical support for the feasibility design and construction of the pipeline. The Ministry provided cement for the project and will continue to support the mobilisation process through the Water Fund, well wishers and stakeholders. The completion of the project depends on how soon the resources are mobilised. We will need to compute the full cost in cash and kind which has gone into the works when all the works are complete but suffice to say that Government is currently – [HON. MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections*] - Madam Speaker I need your protection from these rogue elements.

HON. MPARIWA: Madam. Speaker, with all due respect, if the Minister did say that may he kindly withdraw because it is in contradiction of the decorum of this House.

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What did he say, I did not hear it.

HON. KARORO: Madam Speaker, with all due respect, I was not referring to these Hon. Members but I was referring to the rogue elements that are making noise.

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Deputy Minister, please may you withdraw your statement.

HON. KARORO: I withdraw my statement Madam Speaker.

HON. SARUWAKA: I think the Hon. Minister was in the middle of his response when he spoke of the rogueness of other Members so he still needs to complete his response.

HON. KARORO: Now on the targeted beneficiaries and the selection criteria, the national water harvesting programme targets all users and the designing of the system is done in accordance with the available water options and sources as well as the cost associated with the option. For often programmes, all major water pipelines in the

country and communities along the pipeline are being targeted to depending on the feasibility of taking water from the particular pipeline.

Institutions such as schools and clinics and the nearest communities are obvious priorities. Government is also constructing weirs and drilling boreholes in areas which are not close to the pipelines.

Hon. Members having been making noise.

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order Hon. Members. May the Hon. Deputy Minister be heard in silence please!

HON. SARUWAKA: Thank you Madam Speaker. The reason why part (c) of the question is there is because we had experienced problems in Mutasa Central on this particular Pungwe Project because at that time the CEO of ZINWA Dr. Sakupwanya also ran as the candidate for the ruling party in Mutasa and there were problems with a lot of Members.

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Saruwaka, I think you should be specific...

HON. SARUWAKA: It is because we had problems with the criteria. There was particular discrimination of Members that do not belong to ZANU PF when this project was being implemented. I wanted to understand from the Minister, from their investigations, whether they have established or whether everyone without regard to which particular party they belong to, are being catered for? This is the response I want from the Hon. Minister to assure us that this project is not politicised because this is a Government project as far as we are concerned.

HON. KARORO: Thank you Madam Speaker. Unfortunately for this project, we have not received official complaints from the people in his constituency, but if he can favour us with those who have been sidelined on the political grounds, if they are there, he can bring in official communication so that we respond accordingly. Thank you.

HON. NDEBELE: When the Minister says the communities have been asked to pool resources together, is that a polite way of saying ZINWA has no capacity, therefore they are asking already overburdened and poor members of the community to fund the piping of water to their

homesteads? This is what we have been talking about all the time that ZINWA is under capacitated. They must leave matters of water provision to local authorities.

HON. KARORO: Madam Speaker, my Ministry is committed to coming up with workable solutions especially when we look at challenges like water shortages. To demonstrate that, we can send a team from ZINWA to go and do all that is possible to make sure we come up with ways of working with the communities so that we find lasting solutions to the water challenges in Hon. Saruwaka's constituency. Thank you.

DESILTATION OF GWENORO DAM

23. **HON. B. DUBE** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to explain why the Gwenoro Dam which supplies water to Gweru City Council has not been de-silted 10 years after the report was made to the Ministry.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE,
WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON.**

KARORO): The Ministry is very aware of the challenges of siltation in almost all the dams in the country. The main hindrance in the desilting process has been the lack of suitable equipment which is fast and less expensive to use, hence economically viable. With the current equipment, it will be very costly and takes many years to completely desilt large dams such as Gweno Dam. As such, the Ministry is working on the Belarus facility to bring modern desilting equipment which is fast and viable. Gweno Dam will be targeted among other affected dams for the desilting exercise. More effort is however required in catchment protection programmes to curb the siltation of rivers and dams. Thank you.

HON. DUBE: Hon. Minister, I think the issue is on timeframe. This report was ten years ago and now in your explanation you are just talking of a possible new mechanism and way of doing things which you have not given a timeframe and we risk another ten years. I am sure the risk involved is too high and so, I need a specific answer which gives detail to timeframe.

HON. KARORO: Madam Speaker, I do not know what transpired in the past in the constituency. So, what I am saying here is what we want to do from here going forward. In terms of desiltation, Government is procuring modern desilting equipment from Belarus and I want to assure the Hon. Member of Parliament that this time around it is not going to take the ten years. This is the Second Republic. I want to assure you that we are going to try to be as quick as possible. Thank you.

HON. GABBUZA: Madam Speaker, the Minister said that the problem is equipment to desilt the dams. Now that they have found proper equipment from Belaras, my question is when they remove the silt from the dam, where will they put the silt because erosion will still bring it back into the dam.

HON. KARORO: Madam Speaker, I want to be clear on this one. I am not part of those who are saying we will give them the sand. For us, there is a lot of construction that is going on around and we are going to give those people who are developing residential areas. They need this sand and we are going to give them. Thank you.

HON. B. DUBE: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. The type of silt material that comes from a desilting river can never be used on any construction site. So, I think the Minister should give us another solution other than that one. Thank you.

CONSTRUCTION OF LUBONGO DAM

24. **HON. B. DUBE** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to explain why the Ministry is not considering the construction of the proposed Lubongo dam to ensure adequate water supply to the City of Gweru.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO): Thank you Madam Deputy Speaker. As you may be aware, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate held the Water Resources Infrastructure Investment Conference from the 4th to the 5th June, 2018, at the Harare International Conference Centre (HICC). The Water Resources Infrastructure Investment Conference showcased the

major water and water related projects in Zimbabwe, highlighting each project's funding requirements and the opportunities that accrue to such investments.

Lubongo Dam was among the 37 dams which were showcased for investment. About US\$247.5 million worth of investment is required for the dam. Anhui Shui'an Construction Group Corporation Limited (ASCG) of China, among other companies expressed its willingness to invest in the project and the companies are working on the detailed proposals for consideration by the ministry. I thank you.

CONSTRUCTION OF WEIR DAMS IN HURUNGWE DISTRICT

26. **HON. KASHIRI** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to explain why the ministry is not monitoring the construction of weir dams in Hurungwe District as progress is currently stalled.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE,

WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON.

KARORO): Madam Speaker, the ministry is always available to assist the communities in the construction work of the weirs. Each district has got a ZINWA engineer to assist the community in the implementation of the National Water Harvesting Programmes. The ZINWA Manyame Catchment office in Harare will assist on the issue raised.

The main hindrance which the ministry has actually encountered is lack of participation by communities in the implementation of the programme. We appeal to the Hon. Members of Parliament to assist in the mobilization of the communities in the implementation of these projects which will in turn benefit them. I thank you.

PRODUCTION OF STOCK CARDS BY WOMEN FARMERS

30. **HON. M. NKOMO** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to explain:-

- (a) why under Command Livestock, women farmers apparently operating farms registered in their husband's names are requested to produce stock cards; and
- (b) whether there is any consideration of child headed families, widows and widowers who do not have stock cards under the same programme.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, GRICULTURE,
WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON.
KARORO):** Thank you Madam Speaker. Stock cards are issued under a person's name with a view that they are managed under a 'household' or 'farm'. Women operating farms registered in their husband's name should present the stock cards pertaining to those properties along with other background information of previous production.

Command Livestock Programme is intended for skilled and competent farmers who have produced and traded cattle commercially. The conditions of the funds require a business plan, assurance of infrastructure i.e. fences, feeding troughs, equipment and technical

competencies to assure a return on investments and repayment of the loaned amounts for which Government is providing guarantee to the private sector financier within the stipulated time periods. Applicants that are able to meet these conditions are shortlisted. I thank you.

HON. MAYIHLOME: My supplementary question is - may the Hon. Minister please explain what programmes there are for those without stock cards who require cattle as well? Who in all intents and purposes have the capacity to look after three or four herds of cattle but are deprived or denied because they do not have stock cards?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE,
WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON.
KARORO):** Madam Speaker, I see no reason why farmers should not have these stock cards because we have veterinary offices throughout the country in all the districts and they are waiting for you, ready to issue you with these stock cards. I thank you.

**DISTRIBUTION OF IMPLEMENTS ACQUIRED THROUGH THE
BRAZILIAN FACILITY TO DDF**

35. **HON. MPOFU** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to explain whether the ministry is considering distribution of some of the 443 tractors and assorted equipment sourced from Brazil to the District Development Fund to capacitate its tillage unit and enhance agricultural productivity in rural communities.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO): Thank you Madam Speaker, the ministry is at an advanced stage of ensuring that tractors and assorted equipment are deployed in a manner that will raise capacity of tillage services.

However, the tractors and equipment must generate revenue that will enable servicing of the Government debt with Brazil. I thank you.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS TO QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

CONSTRUCTION OF A COURT IN CHIMANIMANI

8. **HON. SACCO** asked the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs whether the Ministry has plans to construct a court in Chimanimani district to ensure that the course of justice is not compromised.

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, LEGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (HON. ZIYAMBI): Hon. Sacco asked a very pertinent question pertaining to plans to construct a court in Chimanimani district to ensure that the course of justice is not compromised.

Let me start by thanking the Hon. Member for posing such a significant question. Access to justice is every citizen's constitutional right. This question comes at a relevant time when the justice sector is working towards a vision of achieving accessible world class justice through providing an accessible, efficient and effective justice delivery.

Mr. Speaker Sir, Section 69 (3) of the Constitution provides that every person has the right of access to the courts or to some other tribunal or forum established by law for the resolution of any dispute. It

is ideal for every district to get a court. The Judicial Service Commission is working towards decentralising of courts. This can be evidenced by the opening of Mutare, Masvingo High Courts and many magistrates' courts around the country.

Mr. Speaker Sir, Chimanimani district has no permanent court though we have established a circuit court which sits once a week. In our 2019 budget, we have no plans to construct a permanent court. However, let me assure you that as soon as funds are available we are going to establish a new court in Chimanimani. I thank you.

ALIGNMENT OF MARRIAGE LAWS WITH THE CONSTITUTION

9. **HON. MANGORO** asked the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs to state when the Ministry will align marriage laws with the Constitution in order to outlaw child marriages.

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, LEGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (HON. ZIYAMBI): Marriage laws will be aligned to the Constitution during this session of Parliament.

The principles of the Bill have already been approved by Cabinet and the Bill will be brought to Parliament soon.

HARVESTING OF WATER FROM RIVERS IN HONDE VALLEY

13. **HON. MUDIWA** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to state whether there are plans to harvest water from rivers in Honde Valley area in Manicaland Province for irrigation purposes.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO): Plans are in place to utilise the existing water bodies for irrigation purposes.

ETHANOL BLENDING

14. **HON. MUSIKAVANHU** asked the Minister of Lands Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to state the plans towards achieving the 20% ethanol blending in view of the developing downstream agro-industry in areas around Tokwe-Mukorsi Dam in Masvingo Province.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE,
WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON.
KARORO):** Thank you for the question. Be advised that mandatory blending level of 20% was initially enacted in 2013 and the target has always been to increase the blending level to 20% under the ARDA Chisumbanje Sugarcane and Ethanol Project. However, due to Foreign Direct Investment constraints, the targeted expansion from the present 9000 ha to 22000 ha could not be achieved during the period 2015-2017.

A reinvestment thrust has had to be undertaken in 2018 with at least 3, 150 ha targeted for 2018/19 Expansion and or Development Programme. Given the current motor vehicle fleet, current Chisumbanje production is only able to satisfy 10% blending level.

LAND SALES FOR PRODUCTION OF MACADAMIA NUTS

22. **HON. MADIWA** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to explain how small scale farmers in Chavhanga area in Mutasa North Constituency who are

selling their land to large scale farmers for production of macadamia nuts will benefit in future from such ventures.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO): Chavhanga area is a communal land and is administered by the Local Government through village heads. My Ministry has not received a report to that effect.

USAGE OF MPUZI DAM FOR IRRIGATION PURPOSES

25. **HON. NGOME** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to explain why Mpuzi Dam in Mutare South Constituency which was constructed in 2003 for irrigation purposes, has been lying idle to date.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO): The observation by the Hon. Member has been noted. Over the years, the ministry has been prioritizing the rehabilitation of

existing irrigation schemes with minimal investment in new irrigation projects. Through the 200 ha project that the Government has launched in this new dispensation, plans are underway to develop the initial phase of 20 ha at Mpudzi irrigation scheme and procure for the construction contractor in progress. Review feasibility studies for the area around Mpudzi dam, to effectively utilize the dam potential of approximately 700 ha, is in progress.

CONTRACTS FOR TRANSPORTERS UNDER PRESIDENTIAL INPUT SUPPORT SCHEME

28. **HON. NYABANI** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement to explain how transporters transporting deliveries under the Presidential Input Support Scheme are contracted since local contractors in Rushinga area are sidelined.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE,

WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON.

KARORO): Inputs under the Presidential programme are delivered by the contracted suppliers who engage their own transporters and GMB is not responsible.

Transporters who meet the contracted supplier's requirements and wish to be contracted by the supplier can offer their services to the contracted inputs supplier.

Movement of Inputs from GMB Depots

If inputs are to be moved from the depot to a distribution point, GMB can contract transporters around the district for such movement. In terms of depot to depot movement, GMB advertises for transporters to sign contracts if they meet the requisite requirements. All transporters are welcome for as long as they meet requirements and are willing to accept rates paid by GMB.

CONSTRUCTION OF HARONI DAM

29. **HON. SACCO** asked the Minister of Lands,

Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement whether Government has plans to construct Haroni Dam to cater for Charleshood Estate as well as supply of water for residents in Chimanimani urban.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, GRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO): The Government is very much committed to the further development of dams in the country. The country has a potential to store 47.3 billion m³ but currently only 22% (10.5 billion m³) of this is being stored in the existing dams. Hence this gives scope for the further development of additional dams.

However, the development is not only limited to the Government but also by private players. The Water Act allows for the development of dams by private players as long as a permit is granted to do by the respective catchment council.

**DRILLING OF BOREHOLES IN SHURUGWI SOUTH
CONSTITUENCY**

31. **HON. MKARATIGWA** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Settlement whether the Ministry could consider drilling of boreholes in Mashoko in ward 21, Mazivisa in ward, Zimbune, kadodo, Ruzive, Jamba, Machiya, Mwedzi and Mache villages in ward 24 in Shurugwi South Constituency.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO): Hon. Member, the Ministry is drilling boreholes under the National Water Harvesting Programme prioritising four sites per constituency that would have been submitted by Hon. Members of Parliament. In the Shurugwi South Constituency, four boreholes were sited and await drilling. These are Kashambe in ward 21, Bokai/Mharishongwe in ward 24, Vungwe in ward 11 and Batanai Ward 2.

After the first round of the drilling programme is completed, another round of four boreholes would be auctioned until all the

boreholes in the constituencies are covered. However, drilling progress is constrained by inadequate availability of drilling rigs.

CONSTRUCTION OF WEIR DAMS IN SHURUGWI SOUTH CONSTITUENCY

32. **HON. MKARATIGWA** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Settlement whether the Ministry consider construction of weir dams in Banga, Makotore, Chekenyu and Chemhuru areas in Ward 8 in Shurugwi South Constituency.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE, WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON. KARORO): Hon. Member, the National Water Harvesting Programme is also targeting the construction of weirs or small dams to enhance water security for domestic use and cattle watering in rural communities. The programme is also targeting four weirs per constituency. There were no weirs constructed so far in Shurugwi South Constituency and all the areas mentioned can be taken as the prioritized list for the constituency. In this regard the Hon. Member is urged to conduct the

ZINWA – Runde Catchment for further assistance in the construction of weirs.

Ministry will continue supporting the programme through the provision of cement for the construction work and technical expertise in terms of design of the weirs, supervision of the construction while the communities are providing labour and local resources such as stones and sand for the construction of the weirs for the desilting exercise.

However, extra effort is required in catchment protection programmes to curb the siltation of rivers and dams.

DESILTING OF DAMS IN SHURUGWI SOUTH CONSTITUENCY

33. **HON. MKARATIGWA** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Settlement whether the Ministry consider desilting of dams in Takaza, Mwedzi, Pedzi, Tugare, Masimba areas in ward 24 and Gonye, Zvidzai, Gundura, Rusike, Size, Banga and Makonde areas in ward 9 in Shurugwi South Constituency.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE,
WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON.**

KARORO): Hon. Member, Ministry is currently implementing a desilting programme meant to restore the storage capacity lost in dams due to siltation nationally. Some dams and weirs are now heavily silted and their ability to store water for productive use is now compromised.

The main hindrance in the desilting process has been the lack of suitable equipment which is efficient and effective to operate. With the current equipment, it will be very costly and take many years to completely desilt dams. As such the Ministry is working on the Belarus facility to bring modern desilting equipment. The mentioned dams will be targeted among other affected dams for the desilting exercise.

However, extra effort is required in catchment protection programmes to curb the siltation of rivers and dams.

REPAIR OF DIP TANKS ROOFING IN SHURUGWI SOUTH CONSTITUENCY

34. **HON. MKARATIGWA** asked the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Settlement when the roofing of dip tanks in Gundura and Makoni areas in Shurugwi South will be repaired.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LANDS, AGRICULTURE,
WATER, CLIMATE AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (HON.
KARORO):** Hon. Member, up to 75% of all country's dip tanks are in need of some form of repair. Budgetary allocations to the Ministry dedicated to dipping programme has been grossly inadequate to the extent that dipping chemicals could not be procured timeously and in adequate quantities, let alone embarking on dipping infrastructure repair and maintenance.

Ministry will utilise its 2019 fiscal allocation, subject to timely releases of resources by Treasury to repair the above mentioned dip tanks.

*Questions With Notice were interrupted by **THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER** in terms of Standing Order No. 64.*

*On the motion of **HON. O. MGUNI**, seconded by **HON.***

***KASHIRI**, the House adjourned at Sixteen Minutes past Five o'clock p.m.*