

PARLIAMENT OF ZIMBABWE

Wednesday, 11th July, 2012.

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

PRAYERS

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (*in the Chair*)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. members, it seems our Ministers have boycotted Parliament today. There is only one deputy minister, so I think we are going to proceed to notice of motion Number 1 until the ministers come.

MOTION

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MR. MASHAKADA: I move that Orders of the Day, be stood down until Questions Without Notice are dealt with.

MR. S. NCUBE: It seems there are only two Ministers. For us there are a lot of burning issues to ask ministers, but it seems they are not taking us seriously. They are not there, the benches are empty. For us to waste our time saying we are having the questions without notice, I do not think is proper. I propose that they be stood over until the Ministers are here.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. member, since we have Ministers here, those with questions can direct their questions to these ministers. Maybe, as we go on, other Ministers are going to come in.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

MR. MUDARIKWA: My question is directed to the Minister of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion, Hon. Mashakada. Are you aware of the difficulties that the investors are getting in Zimbabwe? I will just give you an example of someone wanting to invest in a hotel business. He would require a ZINWA licence, sand licence, pit sand licence, transport licence, council licence, vetting licence, liquor licence, ZIMRA licence for music performance, ZBC licence, satellite dish licence, National Council for the Catering licence, vehicle licence, road service permit, ZIMDEF, NASSA certificate, ZESA, ZIMRA, dog licence, livestock movement licence –[AN. HON. MEMBER: *Inaudible interjections*]-

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order hon. member.

MR. MUDARIKWA: The engineers require 1% levy. EMA requires also 1% and discharge permit, diesel storage permit, fertiliser and chemical storage permit, carbon licence and a transport licence. If you have a two way radio, you have to have a communication licence, a fire arms licence,

national park licence for fish ponds, hair dressing saloon licence, gambling licence for the casino, insurance and government vendor number. Thank you Madam Speaker.

MR. MASHAKADA: I wish to thank the hon. member for the question that is very important. I am actually aware of those administrative and institutional bottlenecks that are affecting FDI flows into the country. As you are quite aware, in 1998, our level of investment stood at ZD400 million, that was the highest level of investment. After 1998, we saw FDI tumbling down. What we are trying to do now is to raise the level of investment into the country. The World Bank publishes what they call G-Business indicators and Zimbabwe has been found wanting in terms of the ease of doing business. We are quite aware of that World Bank Report which confirms what you are saying. The World Economic Forum Competitive Index has also found Zimbabwe as a country very difficult to do business with, confirming again what you are saying. However, I am happy to say that, as Government, we are putting in place measures to try to improve business in Zimbabwe so that Zimbabwe can once again become the most preferred destination for investment.

You are aware of the One Stop Shop Investment Centre that we

created in 2010, which is designed to facilitate the issuance of investment licenses and permits. The One Stop Shop Centre has put together about 8 departments under one roof. I shall try to name a few of these departments. We have put the Company Registry Department, Department of Immigration, ZIMRA, Indigenisation Desk, EMA, Ministry of Local Government and we have created a department of Investment Facilitation and After Care Services. Therefore, the whole idea was to put together all Government departments that have something to do with the issuance of permits and licenses. As you can see, we could not put all arms of Government under one roof, there could be other Government departments that were left out like those mentioned, ZBC, Firearms and so on. I would like to say that, all the departments that you raised do not stop an investor from investing. Once you go through the One-Stop Shop Centre, you can be issued with an investment license and then you comply later with other subsidiary requirements. You cannot stop establishing your business because you do not have a ZBC license, neither can you stop because you do not have a Firearm license. These are subsidiary compliance issues that you will have to meet by and by. Basically, we can issue an investor with a license within 5 working days at the One-Stop Shop Centre. We will continue with those reforms but what you have said is very important; we

need to look at all those laws and areas which continue to hamper investors so that we can once again raise Zimbabwe to become one of the most preferred investment destinations. Thank you.

MR. KANZAMA: Thank you minister for your elaboration. My question relates to what Hon. Mudarikwa has highlighted, that if an investor is helped at national requirement level, there are issues that are to be dealt with at council level. It is complicating things because it is the same procedure. When one finishes dealing with Zimbabwe Investment Centre, he is directed to go to Harare City Council or any other council either rural or urban. Some of these policies that are in our laws today were enacted in 1970 and they no longer conform with our indigenisation policy. How do you intend to tackle those challenges?

MR. MASHAKADA: Thank you Hon. Kanzama for the question. As I have indicated, we have created a One Stop Shop Centre where there is a department of Local Government, which caters for all issues like Municipal licenses, Land applications and other licenses. They are there to coordinate rather than allow investors to go from one Urban Authority to the other. Therefore, we have already done something about it. Thank you.

MR. F. M. SIBANDA: Thank you Madam Speaker. My question is

directed to the Deputy Minister of Youth, Hon. Matutu. His Ministry informed this House that there is a Youth Development Fund that has to be distributed by CABS and Stanbic Banks, of which I hope all Members here went to their respective constituencies. My question is, to what extent has that distribution of fund gone and how many, if there are any of those who have failed to get the money? Could he tell us how they are informed that they would have failed because they are now a problem to us, as they are coming to CABS everytime, inquiring about their applications? Could the minister tell us what process he has done to notify applicants who have not been successful. Thank you.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT,
INDIGENISATION AND EMPOWERMENT (MR. MATUTU):** Thank you Madam Speaker. Let me thank the hon. member for asking the question. I believe the question seeks to solicit procedures, which the ministry has put in place to ensure that those that have made applications for accessing the Youth Development Fund have accessed it. Firstly, I appreciate that there are challenges which the youth encounter when trying to find out the fate of their applications. In a nutshell, the Ministry is not the one responsible for advising the youth in question because the CABS facility is entirely being run by CABS itself and it is the one that does the

assessment on whether the project is viable or not. In the event that they are not satisfied with the viability of a particular project, they would use the same method of communicating, that is writing back using the same address to the same person. Apparently, if a youth has not received a response, either positive or negative, it means his/her application is still pending. As long as no response has been given, then that application is receiving due consideration. In the event that they have received a negative response, which has happened to some of the applications, the ministry has ensured that CABS must engage in a process of capacity building targeting those who have submitted their application and were not successful to ensure that at the end of the day, they are recycled for purposes of reconsidering such applications. Thank you.

MRS. MASAITI: Thank you Madam Speaker. I would like to find out whether the ministry has a policy that regulates how these banks identify the beneficiaries.

MR. MATUTU: The banks have a clear cut policy on how to identify the beneficiaries. First of all, if you want to become a beneficiary, you must make an application to the bank, indicating that you want to be funded and that you have a particular project and that it is located at a particular ward or area and also that it is being run by a person who is

between the age of 18 and 35 and these are the requirements and it will be the bank that will then be able to assess. What must also be understood further by the hon. member is that if you do not apply then obviously the bank does not come to your constituency or to any particular area to ensure that at least they advise the youths to apply. So, the most important thing is that he must apply and then the bank would then make its assessment, but in the event that you have got specific complaints about the manner in which the bank is going around in assessing certain particular projects, then you must bring it to our attention and we will be able to deal with each particular case. In general, those are the requirements and that is the method which is being used by the bank to identify the beneficiaries.

Thank you.

MR. ZHANDA: Thank you Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Labour and Social Service. Minister can you explain the policy that influences NSSA to invest in particular institutions, that is, NSSA derives its revenue from general workers particularly factory and farm workers. What influences NSSA to invest in a particular bank at the expense of wanting to reinvest in a factory that employs 400 people?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE (MS. MPARIWA): Thank you Madam Speaker. I want to thank the hon.

member for this very pertinent question which actually tries to unpack on certain investments or concerns by the public in terms of whether NSSA is still focusing on its core business in terms of the NSSA Act. Let me also hasten to say to the hon. House that NSSA is in very good hands in terms of the ministry where it is, through me, because I am one of the advocates during my working days when I was a trade unionist in terms of the establishment of NSSA. Yes the investment in banks may seem to be some kind of a misdirection in terms of whether the core business was focused on or not. You also should realise that NSSA does have a NSSA Board which is appointed in terms of the instrument that administers NSSA and the investment committee is the one that targets on what business or investment NSSA has to actually embark on. Specifically for the Renaissance Bank you are talking about where NSSA had to bail out the bank. It was necessitated and actually seen that it would be beneficial to the country at large and it was also a go ahead that was given through Cabinet. We had a serious debate in Cabinet in terms of whether we have to give a thumbs up in terms of bailing out Renaissance Bank.

The committee on investments in terms of NSSA actually did agree and they had to negotiate and talk to those that were involved in the NSSA bank so that they would actually bail it out. Also there are more benefits to

getting an investment of that bank than if NSSA had actually kept the resources without investing. Let me give you an example of why it is necessary for NSSA to carry out investments. If we were all to get old or to retire or if we were all to be unemployed at the same time you would find that NSSA does not have enough resources. So, money that is kept without any investment does not lay any profit in terms of keeping it in the bank, hence the investment with Renaissance. Of course, it is the first of its kind in terms of bailing out a bank, but we really are secured in terms of the goings on in NSSA and also the direction that we have taken and I speak with confidence that this is a good investment in terms of protecting the interest of both the workers, employers and the economy. Thank you.

MR. ZHANDA: Minister, I am aware that Cabinet could have deliberated on this issue but that does not mean that Cabinet does not error in its judgment. Even if you have got a board and you have got a committee of investment you are still subject to scrutiny and particularly this Parliament that is its role to scrutinise those in investments. Each institution is guided by a prescribed asset ratio and would you be able to tell us what the prescribed asset ratio of NSSA in terms of its portfolio and why invest US\$15 million in one institution whereas US\$15 million could have resuscitated 10 factories, 6 of them in Bulawayo and 4 of them in

Harare.

MS. MPARIWA: Thank you Madam Speaker. I know that the hon. member is very eloquent in terms of asset management and financial business but I believe that this is not a policy question which can actually be tackled in this House at this moment and I humbly request that the member puts this substantive question in writing so that we will be able to research and give information and also benefit all the members in the House. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Zhanda, can you put your supplementary question in writing please.

MR. CHIKWINYA: My question is directed to the Minister of Youth Development, Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment who is represented here by the Deputy. Your ministry gazettes Government regulations which have categorised economic sectors which are supposed to be placed under the Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment Policy. One of the sectors is education. May you please highlight to the House or explain to us what you are trying to see to achieve in placing education under the Indigenisation Policy.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT,
INDIGENISATION AND EMPOWERMENT (MR. MATUTU):**

Thank you Madam Speaker. I also would like to thank the hon. member for asking the question. However, I would like to believe that the question that he raised is a very fundamental question. It has actually raised a lot of debate as to what the ministry would want to achieve especially when we are looking at private school, pre-schools and other learning institutions and also *vis-à-vis* if we are to really try to look at the state of the education system in Zimbabwe. So, I would like to believe that it would not be fair if I was to attempt to answer that at this point in time so I would request that the hon. member puts the question in writing. I would adequately address it and other issues. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Chikwinya, would you put your question in writing, please?

***MR. TACHIONA:** Thank you Madam Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion, Hon. Mashakada; that is it disrespecting this House that you call them here to come up with laws and then when they want to go back to their home areas they do not have transport. Here I am talking of the issue of mileage and coupons that Members of Parliament come for two or even three weeks just to come and do their legislative business and you expect them to go back to their constituencies without giving them mileage and having

to foot the bill on the own. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Tachiona, that is a very good question which helps every member here but then unfortunately, you cannot direct it to the minister. You would rather have directed your question to the Presiding Officers which I am part of.

MR. SANSOLE: My question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture, Mechanisation and Irrigation Development. What is the policy of Government regarding the distribution of agricultural training colleges around provinces in the country? Is the ministry aware that Matabeleland North province is one of the provinces without an agricultural training college? What steps is the ministry taking to ensure that the province gets an agricultural training college?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE,
MECHANISATION AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT (MR. S.
MOYO):** I would like to thank the hon. member for asking this very important question. Government policy around the distribution of agricultural colleges in the country is that we wish to have a college in every province. It is true that there is no agricultural college in Matabeleland North at the moment. That is an issue that the ministry is seized with and is working on looking at the possibility of having that

college established in that province. You may want to know Madam Speaker that as a ministry like all other ministries have challenges in terms of budgetary allocations. At the moment, it may not be correct to think that that college may be established within the shortest time possible but the Government position is that we have a college in every province.

MR. CHITANDO: My question is directed to the Minister of Public Works. Minister, after the Members of Parliament had a feel of the National Sports Stadium playing as curtain raisers to the game of Zimbabwe *versus* Burundi, we found out that the stadium is now more or less like a potato field. What measures are you taking to rectify that so that the stadium meets the international standards?

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS (MR. GABBUZA): May I thank the hon. member for the very strong concern. I am aware there has been that representation, I did get the representation from members after they used the National Sports Stadium but suffice to say, members will remember that the National Sports Stadium was in a worse state than what you saw last time. As a ministry, we took a position that we will have to run the National Sports Stadium commercially. We have had two problems on that stadium and that explains why you found the stadium in the state that it was. There was a problem of overbooking and you are

aware that in an effort to try and raise some finances to maintain the stadium, which of course the fiscus does not normally contribute to, so we have to look for finances to run the stadium from the stadium itself. So there was a tendency of overbooking which we have rectified.

There was also a problem of the contractor that we are using; we have a Chinese contractor who is assisting us with maintaining the stadium. We later realised that the contractor, in maintaining the stadium had imported some lawn from outside Zimbabwe which lawn did not do very well . We have since brought a lawn which is more indigenous and is compatible to the weather elements of this country. As we speak, we have also taken measures to ensure that no people are using the stadium until it has been fully refurbished. There was also overuse by the national soccer team during their preparations for the world soccer match encounters. They were using the stadium for practice and at the same time expecting the stadium to be ready for use for the actual game. As of now, we have closed the stadium for any use, we are busy refurbishing the stadium and hopefully by the time we go for the next games, it will be very sound and would meet international standards you expect.

MR. CHIKWINYA: The over subscription which he has alluded to in terms of usage, is it not also not emanating from use for non core

business of a sports stadium. We are now seeing church organisations accommodating over 100 000 people, is that what the stadium was erected for?

MR. GABBUZA: Certainly, I agree with the Member because when the stadium was not in use, there was a tendency of our officers to make it available to church organisations and weddings and many other people who normally want to make use of the stadium. We have since rectified that and we have said, we can only make it available for sports-related activities which have very little or nothing to do with the use of the grassed centre of the pitch which has very fragile lawn.

In addition to that, if you remember when you used the stadium, it was immediately after we had the national events in terms of the Independence celebrations. We had the army and other officers' displays using the actual pitch where there is grass. Now, for those kinds of activities, we have limited options not to allow them but for churches, we have said they can only use the perimeters of the stadium which is mainly the sitting arena and other available halls not necessarily making use of the centre of the pitch. So we have rectified that and we do not expect a similar occasions and events to take place next time.

***MRS. SHIRICHENA:** My question to the Minister of Information

Communication and Technology is that our term of office is almost expiring and we have not received any computers to access information and also, for us to be more effective in our constituencies. If there is nothing coming up, may you please inform this House and ask their forgiveness that there is nothing coming. Thank you.

***THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (MR. CHAMISA):** Thank you Madam Speaker, I want to thank the hon. member who asked this question on wanting to find out when we will rectify the issue of computers that she raised that will enable her to be more effective in her constituency and enable them to access information. That is something we support as a Government, and we as a Government have set up plans especially my Ministry, I am sure you know that things we buy in the Government have certain procedures that need to be followed. So it actually goes to Tender Boards and it considers the standard and quality of the product, so what we have done is to set aside a certain amount for computers. As I speak the State Procurement Board is in the process of getting these computers. So I am hoping that before the term of office expires you will be able to get computers. I am again hoping you will be able to get those computers so that you can use them. I am hoping that we will be having computers in a few months; we will give

Members of Parliament and Senators. We are not giving them to Senators as charity but we are giving them to appreciate the use of technology and ICT's. I am sure that you have witnessed that those people who have computers have more information and we also look forward that our Members of Parliament will not just see laptops on the Televisions and newspapers like what has been happening. So I really want to thank you for your interest and I know very soon you will be having the long awaited computers and hopefully you will know how to use them. Thank you.

***MR. KANZAMA:** Thank you Minister for informing us that soon we will have those computers. I wanted to check with you that I am realizing that in the paper you have intentions of training the Ministers, Permanent Secretaries and Directors in training of ICT, but I did not see us hon. members where we were mentioned, I do not know what you are doing about that?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION COMMUNICATION

TECHNOLOGY: Thank you Madam Speaker for the question from Hon. Kanzama. In fact our ICT Government school is not just specifically designed for Ministers and Permanent Secretaries it is also supposed to be reaching out to our Members of Parliament, but we thought that we were not going to be training you how to drive before at least you have an

assurance that you will be able to own a car. Now that there is a possibility of you having these computers you will obviously go through the motions in terms of how to operate laptops or computers. We do not expect to give you something that we are not sure you will be able to fully utilise. So that programme is also going to be extended, in fact we have ICT Government school that is located at our central computing services, we hope that in batches or in groups we will get our Members of Parliament those who are willing to learn.

As you may know, Madam Speaker, that we have what we call the digital natives and the digital immigrants. Digital natives are those who were born after technology like myself but digital immigrants are people like *VaMafa*, *VaMutsekwa*, those are the digital immigrants. By way of age they were actually born before technology, but the good thing about digital immigrants is that they have more appetite than the digital natives because by being digital immigrants they are obviously more disposed to try and learn and we are happy that those digital immigrants and natives are all going to benefit. This is actually language, Madam Speaker, which we have in the context of our ICT. So I hope that we will be able to teach both the natives and the immigrants within our midst, thank you.

MR. MUZA: Thank you Madam Speaker, my issue since we do not

have the Minister of Industry I will direct it to the Deputy Prime Minister Hon. Khupe. It is the issue of ZIMSTEEL, what is our Government doing after a whole year of discussing that the future of ZISCO Steel lies in the hands of Government. For the past three months the workers have not received any wages, as I speak right now 600 have been evicted from their homes. I do not know what the Government is doing to address this issue and to ensure that our country develops than for it to remain stagnant as it is?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is a direct question to the Ministry.

MRS MASAITI: Thank you Madam Speaker, My question is directed to the Deputy Minister of local Government. Minister, are you aware that most of the health institutions fall under the jurisdiction of local authority especially the rural and urban councils. What is the Ministry doing to ensure that these institutions are well capacitated and well funded to deal with issues of HIV/AIDS?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR. ZVIDZAI):** Thank you very much Madam Speaker and let me thank the hon. member for posing the questions regarding the general provisions related to delivery of

health to the communities. Indeed your local authorities are mandated to take care of issues of health, primary health care and public health care that means looking at issues of refuse, issues of water and issues of primary health care centers like clinics and district hospitals. Like all other institutions Madam Speaker, our local authorities are emerging from the challenges of economic collapse of the past decade. Your local authorities are doing their best under the circumstances of an emerging economy and I am very proud to say most of the local authorities have been very significantly improved their staffing levels in the primary health care centers, their drug stocks in the primary health care centres and they have engaged private non-Governmental organisation to partner to fight the spread of HIV/AIDS. Statistics are available, suffice to say, major efforts will continue to be spread in the direction of dealing with the disease. Thank you Madam Speaker.

MR. MAHLANGU: My question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister Madam Khupe. You are on record of saying giving birth is a national duty which should not be charged any fee at all. You have been on record lobbying the Government including the Minister of Health to scrap user fees, when are these user fees going to be scrapped?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (MS. KHUPE): Thank you

very much hon. member. I think this is a very important question about women. I would like to thank the hon. member because he is one of the advocacies for women's issues. What I can say is that user fees have been scrapped. If you listened to the media last week, there were announcing that from now onwards women will not pay a cent because money has been raised for user fees. What was remaining was the logistics on how those funds are supposed to be given to clinics and hospitals, but the truth of the matter is that user fees have been scrapped. So, a pregnant woman will not pay a cent.

MR. MUNENGAMI: My question is directed to the Deputy Minister of Youth and Indigenisation. Is it Government policy to apply the Indigenisation Act selectively considering that if one looks at what is happening currently when most of the companies which are being targeted for indigenisation are non Chinese whilst those with strong Chinese connections are not being considered, for example ZIMASCO, which is owned 73% by Chinese.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT,
INDIGENISATION AND EMPOWERMENT (MR. MATUTU):** Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I want to thank the hon. member for that question. First of all it is not Government policy to apply the Indigenisation and

Economic Empowerment Act selectively. It is supposed to apply universally in respect of all companies that actually follow under that particular Act.

I also would want to point out that it is not true that at least the Chinese are actually left out when it comes to compliance issues and in particular, the member has actually mentioned ZIMASCO. The position is that ZIMASCO has submitted its provisional indigenisation and economic empowerment proposal, that proposal has been under consideration and there have been negotiations going on about compliance issues. However, the management of ZIMASCO has been arguing that since they are Chinese, they have been actually friends of Zimbabwe and therefore they should be exempted. They have also argued that they have got a 5-year development plan which they believe that it should not be disturbed by bringing a new investor on board. But nevertheless, I think the negotiations are going on and I would like to believe that a solution will be agreed upon and they will comply.

MR. CHIMHINI: My question is directed to the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare. Looking at statements that have been coming in the press about BEAM, what is Government policy, now that it appears the donor community seems to be withdrawing?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE (MS.

MPARIWA): Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I want to thank the hon. member for this important question. There have been negative reports about BEAM, from last week up to this week. Let me set the record straight. Mr. Speaker Sir, you know that BEAM is one of the social protection programmes within my jurisdiction. What has happened from 2009 to 2011, has been that UNICEF was playing the coordinating role technically, to manage the scheme on BEAM. However, UNICEF does not own the monies that they were been coordinating. The monies were coming from donors. In 2012, DFID has clearly said we need somebody else to carry the technical role than UNICEF. We entered into an agreement between what we call crown agents who are now managing on behalf of DFID and the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. We have the programme managing unit at Compensation House. The money is for DFID department, Department for International Development and not from UNICEF. The money was not coming from UNICEF even in 2009 up to 2010, members should be clear on that.

The money for BEAM is still there. DFID has actually put forward US\$15 million in terms of catering for primary school education for beneficiaries. The Government has put US\$16 million to cater for

secondary school education. Up to now, we have received applications for beneficiaries to the tune of US\$550 000 that is including both secondary and primary schools. The joy that I have is that we have managed actually to allocate resources for all first term beneficiaries and we are busy receiving even the remainder for the second term fees. We are going to complete payments for the second term beneficiaries in early August 2012 and the resources are available.

However, Mr. Speaker, Sir, it would appear that BEAM is now overwhelmed. You know very well that the demand is very high because of the pandemic of HIV/AIDS. We have an increased number of orphans and the poverty levels, income levels, female headed households, people with disabilities and child-headed families. So the resources are not enough but I would want to appreciate and thank DFID in this House and the Treasury for making the resources available. We are mooting the idea of actually saying because the demand is very high, what do we do so that we attain the MDG in 2015. I would want to appeal to members to conduct meetings in their constituencies to say there is nothing that has changed in BEAM.

MR. NDAVA: Thank you Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister. With the price war between the cotton farmers

and merchants, these people still have not found each other. What is the Government doing in order to avert a crisis that we are likely to see in the rural areas since most of our farmers this year only managed to produce cotton as their main crop.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (MS. KHUPE): This is a very important question. I would want to begin by saying that on Sunday I was in Gokwe and I met cotton farmers. What really concerns me is that the majority of those farmers are women who spend all their time growing cotton on the understanding that they will be able to look after their families. Looking at the population which is supposed to be benefiting from cotton, you find that there are 200 000 families who are supposed to benefit from cotton, but this year, it is a sad story. Buyers are buying cotton at 30 cents per kg. When I interacted with people from Gokwe they said, during the last season cotton prices were very good, so during this season because cotton prices were very good last season, they had grown a lot of cotton and they did not grow maize. They did not grow maize on the understanding that there were going to get a lot of income from cotton. These people do not have any food, some of them are doing barter trading, somebody gets a bag of cotton and they get a bag of maize and that is daylight robbery, it is a cause for concern.

We had a discussion around this issue and what we have resolved is that a Committee of Cabinet must sit down and resolve the issue. There are three proposals, we have got a proposal from the Ministry, we have got a proposal from the farmers and their unions and a proposal from the ginners. So we have said they must look at all those proposals and come up with one figure. What the farmers and their representative have suggested is 55 cents per kilogramme and we are saying at least it is reasonable but if we were to get 60 cents, for me would be reasonable.

What I can say is that the Committee is going to be meeting and come up with one substantive figure and that figure is going to be told to farmers but as Government we are very much worried and as a woman I am very much worried. The people who are suffering right now are the women and their children. They cannot send their children to school. This issue is going to be resolved as a matter of urgency.

MR. CHIMBETETE: My question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister. When is the Government going to intervene and to protect the Anglican worshipers who are being victimised by the so called Bishop Kunonga who resigned from CPCA and formed his own church called Anglican in Zimbabwe. Bishop Kunonga is refusing to vacate from the property of CPCA, but is chasing away the owners of the churches.

THE TEMPORARY SPEAKER: Hon. member, I think this is a specific question which requires the relevant Minister or the DPM to do justice to it. Therefore can you put your question in writing?

Oral Answers to Questions without notice interrupted by MR.

SPEAKER *in terms of Standing Order N.34.*

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

EVICTION OF GOLDEN KOPJE MINE EMPLOYEES

4.**MR. GARADHI** asked the Minister of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development to explain the Ministry's position with regard to former Golden Kopje Mine employees who are being evicted by Chinhoyi Municipality because of their party affiliation.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,

RURAL AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (MR. ZVIDZAI): I wish to thank the hon. member for asking the question regarding workers in Chinhoyi. I think this question has been on order paper for so long and I think some of the material in there is a bit outdated. My Ministry was not at any stage involved in the drafting of the agreement relevant to accommodation for the workers. Let me also emphasise that the ex workers had their own relationship with the mine and their own arrangements with the mine which arrangements were totally out of the

purview of the Ministry.

Mr. Speaker Sir, let me state that the eviction in question was administratively procedural and lawful as it was executed after a court order in favour of the Council. The Golden Kopje Mine and Chinhoyi Municipality entered into an agreement which gave council the platform to possess the houses whenever the mine ceased to operate. I am informed that mine employees were aware of the provisions of the agreement in question.

Let me emphasise that the said ex-mine employees were evicted after court order had been issued to that effect. Allegations that the evictions were politically motivated are therefore baseless.

MAINTANANCE OF ROAD BY MUTASA DISTRICT

DEVELOPMENT FUND

5. **MR. CHIMHINI** asked the Minister of Local Government, Urban and Rural Development to explain to the House why for seven years now, the Mutasa District Development Fund has not been able to service or maintain roads such as Honde Green to Ngarura-Rupinda Muteterere to Mandeya 2, Hauna to Mandeya 2 via Loretto and any other roads under its jurisdiction.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,

RURAL AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (MR. ZVIDZAI): The District Development Fund is not under the Ministry of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development. The question should therefore be redirected to the relevant Ministry, the Ministry of Transport.

**STEPS AGAINST VILLAGE HEADS IN MUTASA NORTH
CONSTITUENCY**

6. **MR. CHIMHINI** asked the Minister of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development to advise the House what steps a community can take against traditional leaders such as Village Head Shepherd Sagande, Mutirowaenda Katambarare and Ndai Dondo, a ZANU PF Chairperson in Ward 1, Mutasa North Constituency who force people to bring National Identity Cards to their Homesteads and use the Identity Cards to appoint villagers as party structure officials to cells and branches for a particular party. The role of traditional leaders is very articulated not only in the Constitution of the land as provided for in the Global Political Agreement. Traditional leaders should be a-political. The Traditional Leadership Act defines and delineates the work of traditional leaders. It is specifically around local development, issues of customarily views and culture. That is what our traditional leaders must do. In every basket or field you get one or two rotten apples. Any traditional leaders that engage themselves in

politics are just misbehaving, they are breaking the law. It is not allowed. When you come across such activities, I would like to encourage the hon. member and other members that this gets reported through the structures of local Government; to the D.A., if you do not get joy there, to the P.A., if you do not get joy there, then to the Governor, if you do not get joy then to me as Deputy Minister and if you do not get joy, to the Minister, if you get no joy then to the courts of lands so that the laws can be protected.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTION WITH NOTICE

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL INTEREST COUNCILLORS

7. **MR. NDEBELE** asked the Minister of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development to inform the House:

- i. Why he appoints councillors who lost their posts during 2008 elections and those who abuse the council funds during their term into position of authority?
- ii. Whether it is Government policy to elect special interest councillors from ZANU PF only?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR. ZVIDZAI): It is not true that councilors who had abused council funds in their previous

terms were appointed as Special Interest Councillors. Appointment of the same is based in a number of factors such as the skills of the individual and experience in local authority matters. I also take the prerogative of using appointment to effect a gender balance in line with the SADC Protocol for Gender and Development.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

GOVERNMENT POLICY ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS

8. **MR. CHIMINHI** asked the Minister of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development to explain:

- i. Whether it is Government policy to allow District Administrators such as Mr. Dhliwayo of Mutasa District, to summon village heads to political meetings addressed by Mr. Jabulani Sibanda?
- ii. How the families of the deceased Village Heads, Edward Chijara, Tonganayi Mamombe and Paul Mukariri will be compensated after a lorry belonging to Mr. L. P. Masamvu, an aspiring ZANU PF Parliamentary candidate, overturned and killed the three village heads and injured more than forty other heads on their way to a political meeting at the District Administrator's Office?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR. ZVIDZAI): It is not Government policy for the civil service which District Administrators are to dabble in politics. However, it is crucial to note that Village Heads as citizens of Zimbabwe have freedom of association as provided for by the constitution that they are free to attend political meetings of their choice but they cannot force other people to attend political meetings.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed unfortunate that some individuals lost their precious lives. The District Administrator, Mutasa, has prepared a report on the accident. The Ministry is mandated through the Civil Protection Unity and the Act relevant to respond to such incidents and therefore support to the affected families is being mobilised. In the best of my knowledge, I think a bit of support has been directed to the victims. If it has not happened, then we have a challenge but I am aware that we try to put together some intervention.

CHIKOMBA RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

9. **MR. JIRI:** asked the Minister of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development to explain why:

- i. Chikomba Rural District Council is allowed to run its affairs unprofessionally and without control?

- ii. The council does not entertain submissions made by rate payers during the time of budget consultations?
- iii. The council allows people to operate garages along streets e.g. near Total Garage in Chivhu?
- iv. Vendors are allowed to sell sadza at unhealthy places and the market opposite Vics Tarven?
- v. The budget does not reflect the Essar Mine's contribution to the community?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT URBAN

AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR. ZVIDZAI): i) The Local

Authority is not allowed to run its affairs unprofessionally and without

control. Granted, the Local Authority has been grappling with serious

problems over the years. The Ministry has carried out several

interventions to address the challenges which include systems audits and

appointment of key posts. The hon. member may want to know that my

ministry is paying close attention to Chikomba Rural District so that it

refocuses on the service delivery agenda and at the same time complying

with the tenets of sound corporate governance.

ii) In terms of Section 76 of the Rural District Council act, Chapter

29:13, as read with Section 96 and 103 of the Act, rate payers are given thirty days to lodge their objections against the charges and special levies. However, if this period lapses, Council is left with no choice than to submit a copy of the proposed budget to the Minister for approval. The hon. member may want to know that the 2012 budget for Chikomba rural District Council received only one objection. This was taken into account before approval.

iii) The Local Authority has engaged the owners of illegal garages and has come up with a strategy of availing land to them outside the Central Business district.

iv) Vendors are not allowed to sell sadza at unhealthy places.

Vigorous efforts to curb this illegal activity are ongoing.

MOTION

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (MS. KHUPE): I move that Order Number 1 be stood over until the rest of the Orders of the Day have been disposed of.

Motion put and agreed to.

MOTION

SECOND REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON

NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM ON
WASTE DISPOSAL AND MANAGEMENT IN HARARE AND
CHITUNGWIZA.

MR. SHOKO: I move the motion standing in my name:

That this House takes note of the Second Report of the Portfolio Committee on Natural Resources and Environment on Waste Disposal and Management in Harare and Chitungwiza.

MR. MAZIKANA: I second.

MR. SHOKO: Thank you. In terms of Standing Order Number 159, the commencement of every Session, there shall be as many Committees to be designated according to Government Portifolios as the Standing Rules and Orders Committee may deem fit. In accordance with that, in Section 160, the Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism was established. Subject to these Orders, the Committee went out to investigate on the waste disposal in Chitungwiza and Harare. I will start with the introduction.

1. Introduction

The Portfolio Committee on Natural Resources Environment and Tourism resolved to inquire into the waste disposal and management by the City of Harare and Chitungwiza Municipality. It

embarked on fact-finding visits to establish their preparedness and challenges in waste disposal and management.

It also visited Chitungwiza Central Hospital and polyclinics around Chitungwiza to appreciate the disposal of clinical waste. The Committee sought for explanations and clarifications on the same from the City of Harare Town Clerk and Chitungwiza Acting Town Clerk. The Committee received oral submissions from the Environmental Management Agency to deepen its understanding of the above issues.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the visit were as follows:

- a) To assess the preparedness of Chitungwiza and Harare Municipalities to manage and dispose their solid waste.
- b) To understand the challenges faced by these Local Authorities in the management of wetlands, sewer and water treatment.
- c) To develop an appreciation of the disposal of clinical waste in Chitungwiza Central Hospital and Polyclinics in Chitungwiza.

3. Methodology

The Committee employed the following methods in order to achieve its goals:

- i) Oral evidence from the City of Harare Town Clerk and Chitungwiza Acting Town Clerk on their waste disposal and management.
- ii) Fact-finding visits to Chitungwiza, Budiro, Glenview and Anjin Multi-purpose Centre on wetlands management, solid and medical waste disposal.
- iii) Oral submissions from Environmental Management Agency on garbage collection, sewer and water treatment.

4. Findings of the Committee

Sewer

- 4.1 City of Harare got the Management of Water and Sanitation in March 2009 from Zimbabwe National Water Authority (ZINWA). At this time water treatment was costly to the City of Harare as more chemicals were used to treat water.
- 4.2 The City of Harare secured US\$ 17.1 million from the Ministry of Finance to rectify the sewer system problems. US\$7 million was spent on sewer treatment works while US\$ 2.5 million went towards the reticulation exercise.
- 4.3 US\$ 8 million of Council money was also used as

additional funding to solve the sewer system problem.

4.4 The sewer reticulation for the City of Harare could not sustain the increased population and the pipes which were undersized needed replacement and upgrading to contain the increased volume of waste.

4.5 The sewer treatment plant has the capacity to treat 144 mega litres per day but Harare City Council was treating only 54 mega litres per day and 90 mega litres of waste water flows into the rivers.

4.6 US\$ 4.5 million was sourced from Africa Development Bank (ADB). US\$50 million was availed from China Exim Bank to be used for the treatment of sewer and reticulation systems. Money from China Exim Bank and Africa Development Bank would be utilized for three years starting this year ,2012 to replace the smaller pipes with the bigger pipes.

4.7 It was submitted that before the end of this year, most of the pipes would be running while the replacement of the major reticulation systems would be ongoing.

Illegal Dumping

4.8 The city of Harare in conjunction with Environmental Management Agency (EMA) intended to embark on a campaign to educate the public about illegal dumping so as to correct the littering mindset of Harare residents. The City of Harare intended to purchase additional 20 trucks to be used for refuse collection to ensure there is zero litter within the city.

Garbage Collection

4.9 The City of Harare intended to collect refuse in the Central Business District at night starting in March so that vehicles would be available during the day to residential areas. The Council intended to present its strategic plan to the Minister of Local Government in February this year regarding the collection of refuse in the Central Business District .On several occasions, the city of Harare has been paying private companies for litter collection but their equipment proved unreliable.

Wetlands

4.10 It appears that there is no clear, common understanding on what wetlands are, hence they are being redefined and urban planners were in the process of being educated on that fact. It was

submitted that Town House, for example, was constructed over a river and the city itself was built on a water catchment area. In Zengeza 4, some shops and residential houses were built on wetlands.

4.11 The city of Harare, so as to conscientise people on wetlands, was in the process of reviewing its wetlands policy. The policy would be implemented as a critical measure to protect the nations' environment by the end of this year.

4.12 Harare City Council intends to work with EMA on agreed elements on approved wetland constructions for the protection of wetlands and ensure the conditions are adhered to. On illegal wetland construction, the council submitted that its officials had been capacitated to inspect these illegal constructions. City of Harare submitted that Anjin Multipurpose Centre was being constructed within the stipulated guidelines although certain structures on the drawing, according to EMA, were outside the guidelines and needed to be stopped.

Car Scraps

4.13 The City of Harare was making plans, before the end of the second quarter of this year, to acquire appropriate vehicles to remove

car shells. The vehicles would also be hired by garage owners to take the car shells to appropriate dump sites. Individuals who do not dispose of their car shells will be charged a fee and their shells will be collected by the city council.

Legal Instruments

4.14 The city of Harare, since it currently has no legal instrument in place, intends to use EMA's memorandum of understanding with the Zimbabwe Republic Police to impound commuter omnibuses and deal with shop owners and individuals who dump litter on inappropriate sites.

Water Quality

4.15 The City of Harare claims that the water quality in Harare meets the World Health Organisation requirements because it is tested for quality by local and outside bodies to check if it meets the minimum international standards. The city of Harare assured and guaranteed the Committee that the water is free from contamination.

Water Treatment Chemicals Contribution

4.16 It was submitted that Satellite towns like Chitungwiza, Ruwa and Norton are not contributing anything towards the treatment

of water and they owe the City of Harare US\$9,3 million. City of Harare cannot disconnect water from these towns because it fears for the outbreak of Cholera and Typhoid.

Budiriro Pump Station

4.17 The City of Harare submitted that it had procured the water pumps for the station and joined them to their ancillary in order to commission them and replace the pipes.

Bulk Infrastructure

4.18 The City's bulk infrastructure was designed for only 250 000 people instead of over 2.5 million which is ten times its carrying capacity. The bulk infrastructure design that is being put in place has a carrying capacity of 4 million people which transcends to 16 times its original carrying capacity.

4.19 Up to nine Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) approved chemicals with FDA approval numbers are used in the treatment of water. The City of Harare assured the Committee that these chemicals are safe for human consumption and do not in any way affect people. It is analysed to ensure its purity including testing for lime and allergies.

Chitungwiza

4.20 It was submitted that the problem associated with service delivery issues in Chitungwiza mainly emanated from its water that is rationed from Harare Municipality.

4.21 Lack of adequate equipment like front end loaders compounded its failure to remove refuse dumps along the Nyatsime River. The council is trying to establish a proper dump site. A lot of informal activities in Chitungwiza which are not regularized generate a lot of scrap material.

Chitungwiza Municipality is currently charging \$3 per month for flea markets but is unable to exercise full control over them due to resource constraints.

4.22 Chitungwiza sewage treatment plant was not functional and the Municipality is in the process of rehabilitating the plant.

In view of the envisaged housing development which will accommodate an estimated figure of 15 000 families, Chitungwiza requires another sewer treatment plant.

4.23 Chitungwiza received an approximate funding of US\$1.2 million from the Africa Development Bank for the sewage reticulation, purchase of front end loader and a bulk water

meter for Chitungwiza to avoid being charged for the water it consumes based on estimates from the City of Harare.

4.24 The problem of sewage reticulation in Chitungwiza has been in existence since 2005. The increased population to approximately 1.5 million people has strained the bulk infrastructure's carrying capacity.

Chikwanha Dump sites

4.25 There is waste on the other side of Chikwanha Business Centre within Chitungwiza Municipality's jurisdiction which is dumped by the residents from Manyame Rural District Council. This waste is disposed of by Chitungwiza Municipality once in a while. Chitungwiza Municipality referred this impasse between itself and Manyame District to the Environmental Management Agency District Officer.

4.26 The Government has not been assisting Chitungwiza Municipality with any funding towards the sewage reticulation and attempts to address this problem through the former Minister of Health and Child welfare and the Chief Secretary to the President and Cabinet have not yet yielded any results.

4.27 Chitungwiza is nine out of a total of 22 refuse trucks are functional. The fleet needs to be increased to its full capacity in order to cope with refuse collection.

By Laws

4.28 It was submitted that there are no provisions in Chitungwiza by-laws that empower it to take legal action against the scrap dumpers. This is coupled by the lack of a proper industrial development plan to control the informal activities currently going on.

Proper Dump site

4.29 Chitungwiza Municipality requires an improved dump site which meets EMA'S specifications. Efforts have been made through its health department to sensitize and conscientise people on the need to control their dumping.

Compactor

4.30 The compactor at the dump site is not functional and attempts to repair it have failed because there are no spare parts.

Pumps from China

4.31 Chitungwiza Municipality obtained wrong pumps between January and March 2008 from China through the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe facility when Chitungwiza water and sanitation facilities were under ZINWA because there was no tender. The Municipality was not given a chance to provide the specifications to the relevant authorities. Thus, the pumps were procured as a bulk consignment without specifications and delivered to the local authority. However, the right pumps for the 3 pump stations in St Mary's have been bought through the ADB grant. Those pumps have been made redundant.

The Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) Facility

4.32 It was submitted that Chitungwiza Municipality's BNR facility broke down in 2004 due to excessive amount of sand of up to 5 tonnes that accumulated in the system daily. The sand used by women for scouring pots reduced the pump's life span from 5 years to only 6 months.

4.33 Approximately, US\$6 million is required to repair the plant in phases.

Water ways

4.34 Some Chitungwiza residents built their houses on improperly

planned places like on water ways and marsh lands. All of these uncontrolled housing developments that closed all open spaces meant for schools, marshy lands and for aeration of the community space were unfortunately authorized by the municipality. A report on houses built on improperly planned places was prepared and the conditions to implement the recommendations are now in place. Rectification would be done where houses are built along roads, over sewage pipes or directly below electricity pylons.

Incinerator

4.35 Chitungwiza Central Hospital has one incinerator for the disposal of clinical water. This incinerator services all municipality clinics, polyclinics, private clinics around Chitungwiza.

Furthermore, it serves Marondera Provincial Hospital, Wedza, Murehwa District Hospital, Beatrice Hospital, Manyame Maternity Hospital, Karoi District Hospital, Chinhoyi Provincial Hospital, Epworth Hospital, Sadza, Mutoko District Hospital, and Manyame Airbase Hospital including private hospitals. It also disposes condemned meat from shops.

Oatoway pits

4.36 Seke North makes use of an Oatoway pit to dispose of their sharps and needles. This is the most basic way of disposing medical waste especially for rural clinics and Hospitals that do not have incinerators but it is not ideal for clinics in towns because of limited space.

Environment Management Agency

4.37 It was the Committee's finding that Local Authorities do not respond to or make payments if they are issued with tickets by EMA.

Sewage Pump Stations

4.38 The Committee found out that sewage pump stations in Chisipite, Avonlea, Borrowdale Brooke and Budiriro are currently not working and are located adjacent to rivers. The raw sewage is discharged into river channels instead of being transmitted to treatment plants.

5. Observations of the Committee

The Committee made the following observations;

5.1 A cumulative total funding of US\$ 72 million has been availed to the City of Harare that is to be used for the treatment of sewer and

reticulation systems. US\$7.6 million was used for other purposes.

5.2 City of Harare does not have its own legal instrument and mechanisms to enforce or deal with the littering public. The Municipality had not made any meaningful effort to engage the public to desist from illegal dumping of waste.

5.3 There seems to be a deliberate misunderstanding of a wetland by Local Authorities so as to manipulate the provisions of Environmental Management Act that stipulates what a wetland is. Urban planners are knowingly flouting this critical provision thereby destroying the nation's environment.

5.4 There is no policy in place in local authorities to deal with the removal of car shells strewn around garages and residential backyards.

5.5 Most sewage pump stations are not functional. Examples include Chisipite, Avonlea, Borrowdale Brooke, Budiriro and Chitungwiza pump stations. This poses a serious threat to the life of animal and plant species in rivers around the cities.

5.6 City of Harare maintains that the water quality meets the World Health Organisation standards and guarantees the citizens of Harare, Chitungwiza, Ruwa and Norton that treated water is pure and

safe to drink.

5.7 City of Harare has been extravagantly spending money on unreliable private companies for litter collection.

5.8 The two Local Authorities' bulk infrastructure are no longer sustaining the increased population. Too much pressure is exerted on the undersized reticulation systems.

5.9 City of Harare currently bears the burden of financing for the water treatment chemicals. Other local authorities owe the municipality US\$9.3 million based on estimates because there are no bulk water meters.

5.10 Chitungwiza Municipality's sewage reticulation problems have existed for more than six years and appeals for funding from the government have been futile. The BNR facility, the compactor and the pump station at St Mary's are not functional. The Municipality has no proper dumping site that meets the EMA specifications.

5.11 Punitive measures that are instituted by EMA are not deterrent enough to stop people and local authorities from littering the environment and accumulating rubbish heaps.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 City of Harare in conjunction with EMA must develop by-laws that will enable it to effectively control litter dumping.
- 6.2 EMA should spearhead the wetland redefining process and ensures that town planners and all stakeholders have a common understanding regarding wetlands. Chitungwiza Municipality should quickly establish a proper dump site that meets EMA's specifications.
- 6.3 Chitungwiza Municipality should urgently develop proper planning for its industrial development and curb the mushrooming of informal activities that fuel the development of car scraps and illegal dumping.
- 6.4 Revive the partnership in refuse collection to help reduce the continued accumulation of rubbish heaps.
- 6.5 The Municipality of Chitungwiza should consider relocating and demolishing the residential houses built directly under the electricity pylons.
- 6.6 Chitungwiza Municipality should have its own water treatment plant given its expanding population. However, to allow for the inflow of revenue, corrupt tendencies should be curbed.
- 6.7 The two Local Authorities must invest in litter education

campaigns to reduce the amount of littering in and around urban areas.

6.8 Local Authorities ought to ensure that adequate sewer and water treatment facilities are in place before stands are allocated to beneficiaries.

6.9 Makoni polyclinic should revive its incinerator. It was submitted that approximately US\$30 thousand is required to repair it.

6.10 EMA should have options for custodial sentences on those culprits who fail to pay for tickets issued by the Agency.

6.11 Legislation must be put in place to coerce companies that produce those products that are not environmentally friendly to make them also bear the cost of cleaning the Environment.

6.13 In view of the fact that the incinerator has been in use since 1985, Chitungwiza Central Hospital incinerator is overworked and the hospital would immensely benefit if it procures at least two new incinerators to cater for maintenance and alternating their use. It costs approximately US\$ 80 thousand to purchase one incinerator. If the incinerator breaks down at the moment pressure to dispose medical waste will mount at Parirenyatwa Hospital.

6.14 Crisis Management in Local Authorities is poor and the

government needs to manage long term projections of cities' waste disposal and management.

6.15 There is need for the existence of public scrap yard dump sites in all cities and towns throughout the country.

7. Conclusion

The Committee therefore, is of the opinion that there is a very low level of preparedness by Chitungwiza and Harare Municipalities and the entire cities and towns within the country including growth points to manage and dispose their solid waste and there are many challenges faced by these Local Authorities in the management of wetlands, sewer and water treatment. A lot of determined effort is required to arrest these problems before they get out of control. The disposal of clinical waste in Chitungwiza Central Hospital and Polyclinics in Chitungwiza require urgent attention in order to sustain our environment and keep it safe and habitable.

***MR. MAZIKANA:** Thank you Madam Speaker. I stood up to add my voice to this report which has been tabled by the Chairperson, Hon. Shoko. The issue at stake is that we were given the opportunity to visit Chitungwiza and Harare Municipalities, looking at the cleanliness of water, the refuse dumping sites and how our waste is managed. We were

shocked by what we encountered. I think many of us grew up knowing that there is a phrase which says cleanliness is next to Godliness. I remember when I was growing up I used to see Bill Boards which read Harare Sunshine City and Keep Harare Clean, but when we went around, we found it is no longer the same. Things have changed in Harare and Chitungwiza.

I would like to say in short that hon. members, you should think deeply and go and visit Chitungwiza and go to Units J, K and all the other Units in Chitungwiza. You can even go to Zengeza, Budiriro, Marbelreign, Sunningdale and even Mbare and ask anyone of them to open their homes in those locations and visit their backyards. You will be shocked by what you will see. You will see burst sewer pipes and raw sewer oozing out. I do not think anyone of us would want our children to grow up in that surrounding where we have sewers overflowing in our yards. I do not think anyone of us would like to prepare meals in such situations where you would look through the window and see raw sewer flowing. Who in our midst would be happy to see sanitary pads which are used by women and their sisters in their yards? Who in our midst would love to see our dogs which we look after dragging used pampers and dippers? That is what we came across when we walked around. That is

the waste which we find in our cities and Chitungwiza. That is what the honourable mover has articulated.

Yes, Harare Municipality has got some help and now it is working on their sewer pipes. It is now providing clean water but we will still have challenges for the next three years. If you go around towns as well, if you are driving towards Hatfield, you will see that in the car that is in front of you there are people who are throwing litter outside the windows. They throw away especially cans, and you will be following behind. I do not know where we got that culture. One day I was watching television and I was watching our Prime Minister, I think he was in Budiriro but he was urging people in Harare to take care of their natural environment. He urged us to take care of our waste by putting it in proper bins which are collected so that typhoid and cholera will be a long time issue.

So, I am urging this august House that we should consider seriously our report as Members of Parliament who represent the people in the towns. I think it is our responsibility to tell the people and teach them to be clean so that we will be proud of our people. I would like to thank you for listening to me. Thank you Madam Speaker.

***MR. SITHOLE:** Thank you Madam Speaker. I would like to start by thanking Honourable Shoko who gave us the report on Chitungwiza

and Harare which was very touching. I want to thank you very much. I also want to thank Hon. Mazikana by supporting the report and in supporting their Chairperson. This reflects that we have people in Parliament who are concerned about the development of the country. I want to give my view but in my opinion it will be good that since you saw the waste you should have analysed where the waste was actually going. Which dams was this waste being dumped. Who exactly uses that water where the waste is disposed? There is need for us to have a clearer picture and a wholesome approach.

Madam Speaker, when towns are being planned in the country, there is a place where the Government settles. Harare is where the Government is settled and Bulawayo was set up for industry. So I think those are some of the things where we are losing it, as a country because we allowed Bulawayo to be destroyed in terms of industry, because whoever wants to do business comes to Harare. That is a handicap because even if we want to address issues in Harare and Chitungwiza, we should make an effort to understand what the carrying capacity of these cities was. For Harare it was 2 500 but now we have more than 2 million. So the issue of Bulawayo as for investments and the issue of Bulawayo as financial institutions, we should all unite and make sure we resuscitate the industry

in Bulawayo. That will alleviate pressure that is in Chitungwiza and Harare.

Not forgetting the issue of the Zambezi Water Project, in my opinion I think it is an issue that needs to be considered. The committee should be given the opportunity to assess what can be done on this issue so that what we see in Harare and Chitungwiza can not be replicated in Bulawayo. I realise that the Minister of Housing is here and let me say what I want to say. The issue of towns is not just about building but there are reasons why you have such areas such as Ruwa. I also hear that Ruwa is also supplied with water from Harare, then why were the settlements built there? They should have their own water works to relieve pressure from Harare.

Madam Speaker, I am happy to see the Minister of SMEs here. Let me say that if we want to be honest, the huge companies that we have in here, in terms of operation some of them are below 20 percent. You would find that their equipment is now obsolete and what can assist us now are the small companies. Why can we not as Parliament or Inclusive Government take money and assist the Minister in Tsholotsho, Chiredzi, Chegutu, Murambinda and all those growth points? We should assist the Minister to build houses there so that people will not flock to Harare.

There should be electricity, small industry and everything to relieve pressure from Harare and Chitungwiza. Whoever wants to make money now comes to Harare. It is not the fault of the people who come to Harare but is the problem of the leadership. We do not have foresight and we do not have foresight of how the situation will be after 100 or 50 years.

Madam Speaker, I also want to talk of wetlands. When God created the world he had drainage systems that he made and those are rivers and oceans. The wetlands we have are there for a reason. What type of employees do we have in the local Government who allow people to build in wetlands? In the wetlands there are habitants there and in terms of biodiversity, these wetlands assists in making the ecosystem work. If those things are there you will survive because of such habitants. Did you know that if you are bitten by a bee that actually increases your lifespan? When God created the country he put certain things in place in terms of the ecosystem. So when you find local Government allowing people to build in wetlands there is a problem. As Members of Parliament we need to assist the committee that is Chaired by Hon. Shoko and also what has been said by Hon. Mazikana.

Madam Speaker, in my view I thought I would be best for me to add my voice as well to the report. I think this issue should have made more

impact if it has been presented when the full House was here. However, there is always a phrase that it is not about the number of people who are available but I think with those who are here we can work on this report. The issue of SMEs should also be looked at in detail. Thank you Madam Speaker.

MR. F.M. SIBANDA: Thank you Madam Speaker, I need to add my voice to this plausible and scholarly report by the relevant committee led by Honourable Shoko and seconded by Hon. Mazikana. This committee has given me a lot of motivation to speak on few issues that are water borne diseases and air borne diseases, selective application of the law. Too many laws are very hard to enforce. The fourth is Natural Resources ratified a convention, engineered by Hon. Nhema last year. I am puzzled that Chitungwiza, when it was put into plan as a master plan by the colonial people then, it had no activities for people to be productive, but it was known as a bedroom of Harare. Currently, I understand Ruwa again is also a bedroom of the cosmopolitan City of Harare, which we call *bambazonke*. This influx of people to come and have residential stands without active industrial plans or otherwise has made all these diseases that are so insurmountable that you cannot control.

I would love to talk about the selective application of the law. We

were told last year that EMA fined the City of Harare thousands of dollars for allowing a Chinese company to build a five star hotel adjacent to the national sports stadium. Ironically, the same week, activity accelerated. As I drive to Bulawayo time and again, that wetland is terribly disturbed. I wonder why, after fining the City of Harare thousands of dollars and the culprits are left scot free. It is an exhibit that when we have too many laws, it is hard to enforce. In this one, I think it is not the case, it is selective application of the law.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, vehicle ABF 9674 is blocking other vehicles can the owner please, go and remove it.

MR. F. M. SIBANDA: If it were Mr. Museyamwa or Mr. Sibanda who had been given permission by the City of Harare to construct a five star hotel at that site, definitely he or she would never have been allowed to continue after a court injunction that, that site is wetlands. Last year, Hon. Nhema, as the Minister of Environment brought a convention that was 26 years old of which I challenged why it had delayed to come to Zimbabwe. He gave reasons then. He said wetlands or water ways should be conserved. Animals, wild lives like these that are here, kudus and leopards should be conserved, but ironically when people who come with the so called investments in sheep clothing, they are untouchable.

You can see that thousands of our wetlands will be demolished and disturbed. Echo system will be disturbed. That to me I think the Hon. Committee should have touched it. In the report there is nothing about the illegal structures that are built by the so called rich nations in this country. That is selective application of the law.

Let us come to water and air born diseases. Our people endure diseases. I wonder how people in Mbare live. In 1983, the late Hon. Dr. Zvobgo mentioned it in this House that he did not understand how people in Mbare lived. Most of us as Members of Parliament and the Executive, fly and drive. If you take a day as a pedestrian and go to Mbare Magaba, you would wonder how people survive under these conditions. It is pathetic. Your report is just a tip of the iceberg of which some of these things were done not knowing the echo system of the country.

This motion, as far as I am concerned, is crying for mercy. It is a motion or a report crying for mercy. Legally, when something is crying for mercy, it needs urgent attention. When a girl is being raped, screaming, she will be crying for mercy. If you wait and do nothing, you are also an accomplice because you did not act urgently.

Secondly, in Zimbabwe, there are veldt fires, deliberate or accidentally. You find a starting fire, you continue driving, where? You

could take just a branch and put out the fire, but you live it and then the fire will consume the whole country. In Botswana, particularly, we are talking about environmental management here where EMA should be educated better than what it is. In Botswana, if you do not fight a fire, you are arrested if are you known. You would rather leave your car 3km, take branches and fight the fire. In Zimbabwe that culture does not exist. People will be mourning, *panemoto*, *kulomlilo* driving. It is pathetic, our culture is lope-sided, our value system is lope-sided.

There is this *amacocacola*, the cans, people have no culture of preserving their dirty. You find someone driving a Benz throwing an empty can and peals of bananas and oranges and a lot of people suffered accidents because of stepping on a peel and then they are fractured. I am really going broad about reaching my nose. I do not speak of common things; I speak of the unknown where the devil does not tread. Most people talk of common issues, we should reach where only angels tread, not the devil. In this case when we make reports let us research.

Zimbabwe is known for making many laws, promulgation of many laws. If you have a ratio of one police officer to 800 people, one to a thousand, then those laws become invalid. Let us promulgate laws that are enforceable, laws that can mean something to Zimbabwe.

Lastly, but not the least, I would urge EMA to be proactive; to be above board. It should treat people equally and not selectively. Chinese people, yes they are acceptable in Zimbabwe, but there is now a problem worldwide that they do as they wish. They disregard the national laws of the host country; they do not pay people equally. They build structures where it is illegal. Zimbabwe should preserve our land for the next generation.

Census, somebody spoke eloquently about Bulawayo underestimates of their population. Census gives the administration few things but data collection, so that they will build so many houses, factories and schools. As we are going for census on the 17th of August up to 18th, I implore this House that people in the Midlands and Bulawayo, Masvingo and others, particularly Bulawayo, our population has been underestimated politically or otherwise. We need correct numbers, we are over 1.5 million plus those in the diaspora, such that when the facilities like houses are catered for – for instance, I am happy that in Magwegwe, we are going to have 560 households because Magwegwe is a residential, feeding Bulawayo.

Let us not just build accommodation for nothing else other than bedrooms. Chitungwiza today has less capacity in manufacturing because

the colonialists during the Smith era wanted those people to be slaves of Harare. Therefore, let us move faster to correct the anomalies as history is the teacher for the future. I would love to applaud this honourable Committee's report, which is scholarly. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

(MRS. NYONI): I want to thank all the members who have contributed. This is a very important debate because it does not only assist us to reflect on ourselves as a nation but also to try and see what habits we have come to adopt which are killing the nation. A nation that does not take care of its waste does not take care of its future. If you are dirty, you are far from God, but if you are not taking care of your environment, it means you are not taking care of your future. It is not just about where you throw the rubbish, but also what you do with that rubbish.

I want to make a few suggestions. Let us support this report because it is making us aware that our planners and local authorities are way behind and that they are overtaken by events. Our population in the cities has grown bigger than has been planned for and also faster than the ability to plan. As hon. Shoko said, the infrastructure is overwhelmed and is therefore overburdened. Let us seriously take what Mr. Mazikana said, that was really dramatic. He gave us a vivid picture to look at about what

happens to the waste when it comes back to your face, home and to your children. We really need to think about that because it becomes not just an undesirable scenario but a health hazard when you are dealing with pampers, pads and every other kind of waste. As a nation, we need to look at what we are doing about that.

I want to make a suggestion that, we need to revise our image, who are we as Zimbabweans? We used to be a proud nation, like someone said, Harare was a 'Sunshine City,' we used to be such a proud people. The women would wake up in the morning and sweep the yards and make sure that there is a rubbish pit, everything was in order. Today, when the women get up, they have to go and find something to do, I do not mean that they are not doing the right things, they are busy trying to make money. Let us really try and reorganize our families so that we go back to the cleanliness that we had.

Apart from families, we need to start at schools. In schools we used to be taught hygiene, we would be taught even how to look after ourselves. Today, I doubt if children are being taught about hygiene. I doubt if children are being taught how to clean the classrooms and the school yards. Some of you who are from rural areas go into a classroom and wonder what it is; there will be holes all over like those potholes in the

roads. When we were growing up we were able to make floors, why can they not find *isiduli* and make floors, they do not have to wait for cement.

Let children be taught how to look after their surroundings at schools. When they are throwing papers around or have brought *umphako* like maize and other things, are teachers teaching them to take care of that waste? Let us make sure that at school and at home hygiene is restored. Let us teach our children and families on how to look after our own waste. As we drive, let every car be mandated to have a plastic bag to take care of the waste that is generated in the car. If someone in the car throws waste outside, the car should be stopped and penalised because letting them go scot-free will make people throw things around. It is very important that we bring rules and regulations from childhood to adulthood in every sector.

I would also want to appeal to local authorities to plan for everybody. I would like to thank Hon. Sithole, you are correct hon. member, if local authorities planned for the SME's and made sure that each SME has a cubicle where they are selling from and all the designated areas have rules of operation, dustbins where people throw rubbish, there will be less rubbish around than there is. If this is not planned for, people sell everywhere and you do not blame them because they want to make a

living. I think that a combination of my ministry and all the other local authorities need to work together to make sure that these things are planned for to ensure that the place where people work from is legitimate and legal. When that happens, there have to be facilities for disposal of waste. A lot of people do not realise that the informal sector, take Mbare for instance- [AN HON. MEMBER: Bulawayo *emakokoba*]- I am talking about Mbare. Mbare is an economy in itself. A lot of people do not realise that when you go to Mbare where people are selling vegetables and second-hand clothes, there is a million dollars flowing in Mbare everyday and yet those people are not catered for to operate in a dignified way. That money is not organised to come into the fiscus so that it can then be used to improve our cities. We are looking down at the informal sector and the small business people and yet that is where the money is and hon. member yes, if you go to Makokoba, Dangamvura in Mutare, it is the same story as well. That is where the economy is and also at the same time, that is where the rubbish is. I want to propose that until we see that rubbish as business, we will see it as a burden. In some countries, that rubbish in itself is a business. There are people that are making money through the disposal of waste. There are business men who go to where that rubbish is and they will select rubbish as per category and recycle and remake other products

and it is big business in other countries. So I want to propose, hon. members that some of you need to take this, not as a challenge, but let us take this as a business opportunity. This waste which we have all over Zimbabwe is a real disgrace. Someone must take it as a business so that we can clean our cities, but also make money and goods out of it. Let me end by saying that I want to support this report and hope that the recommendations that have been given will be taken with the seriousness that the recommendations deserve.

I also want to end by saying this environment and the waste is not just in the cities, it is also in the rural areas. My dear friends, each growth point where you go to, you are met with papers and plastics flying all over and I think we need to look at Zimbabwe as a whole and say our country needs us to tidy it up and let us start from where we are working and up to the nation and let us walk our talk because this is a very important report. I thought I add would add my voice. I thank you.

ENG. MUDZURI: Thank you hon. Speaker. This report comes at the right time when we should be looking at what is happening in all towns rather than waste disposal and management in Harare and Chitungwiza. This report helps us to focus on what is happening in the country, but Harare being the main corridor into the whole country, this is the entry

point for any visitor coming into the country. It actually reflects what sort of country we have. As a former mayor and engineer, I have got enough knowledge to say that we have failed to plan for a single waste disposal site in Harare. There is no designed waste disposal site in Harare. Which means that the way we are disposing our waste is wrong throughout, let alone Chitungwiza which is a smaller town. I am happy that ministers are here. The Executive have to work with the councils to ensure that there are disposal sites. There have been plans for Harare, for instance, to have designs, disposal waste plans being done where you actually select plastics. You could have all the three things where you select plastics, irons and degradable material.

Whenever a development wants to come, there is heavy politics in this country that stops any engagement with any interested person to do investment. I want to urge the Executive to work with council to ensure that there is no politics in scientific business. Yes, there is reasonable politics to please the majority of the people to help our community develop, but as long as we work the way we are working in this country, we will never dispose waste in a correct manner. We can talk of Mbare and other areas but who created Mbare? They came in as a good idea but politicians hijacked them. When you want to correct anything, there is

enough politics to stop you from working and correcting those areas.

There have been plans in Mbare to change those flats. There have been plans to say let us relocate those people, let us work and build flats elsewhere. Those plans have been thwarted and they have never been done.

I will tell you there are examples in this country where we have planned to build a dam, which is Kunzvi Dam, since 1998 just to take away the burden of disposing waste into Lake Chivero where our water source comes from, but where is Kunzvi Dam today? It is a shame that we come here and talk that we are managing this country. We are destroying this country. These Cities of Harare and Chitungwiza have been built up stream of the water we drink and that means the whole of Harare and Chitungwiza are catchment areas for Mukuvisi River and Mukuvisi collects everything, anything that you throw down here, whether you throw it under ground or wherever, including our graves. As long as the water sips, it sips down into our rivers then into Mukuvisi, Lake Chivero and then into Manyame. We then treat it and bring it back for us to drink. The plans were there that we do another site just to prepare clean water to be brought into Harare and Chitungwiza, but that has not been done. We can blame each other but the blame game does not work. Let us have

proper plans with scientific work being utilised properly. Science has no more place in our institutions.

Another problem that we have is competent personnel in our institutions. We do not have competent technical personnel in most of our institutions, so some of the work that we get is sub standard and we will never get answers. If we get substandard workers, we get reports that are meant to please politicians. Politicians should be able to know that this makes sense and they argue it out there so that when we tax people, we tax them for something that they understand. The Minister was talking about what used to happen in the past. We grew up with rubbish pits in our homes and we still have them. In my village, at my house, we have a rubbish pit where we put papers and other things then we burn the papers. This is what is happening behind houses in Harare. There is no more reasonable collection of garbage, but still where the garbage is being taken to, is not a designed site for waste disposal, so we are still dumping on to land which is not meant to collect this waste. We need to seriously think as a nation that while we waste, we think that we are doing good, we think that we are protecting our people by saying we might refuse them some earnings, but we need to train them and work towards improving our environment and ensuring that EMA also is given an opportunity to

practice what they practice. Fining people is not enough. When you fine Harare, who are you fining? When you say you are fining Harare City Council, you are not fining the mayor or the councillor, you are punishing the residence, but who is running council? It is the officials. So, how do you make them react to make sure that they correct the issue which you want them to correct? The money they are paying comes from residence and it does not pain them.

I think we need to revise our laws so that we can directly point at people who are failing to do their duties to ensure that garbage and any waste is disposed correctly. Today, if you go to Ingwe farm or to Crobrough Farm where we were disposing sewage on the ground using cattle as part of management of sludge waste in our institutions of sewage treatment plants; those things are dry now. All furrows are dry. The 10 thousand herd of cattle has been reduced to less than 5 thousand and we are smiling and we are saying things are working. We are destroying our very source of water and there will never be enough water in Harare until we start planning seriously. There is need for central government and local authorities to work in tandem to ensure that we have properly treated water and properly treated garbage in the sense of designated waste disposal plants. I thank you.

MR. MADZIMURE: I also want to contribute to this report which I think is one of those important reports that have been presented in Parliament. Madam Speaker, I am glad that the minister responsible for Small Enterprises is around and she has found it fit to also make a contribution to this good debate. If we want to address this situation, we have to start thinking seriously as Zimbabwe to say, what exactly do we want to see tomorrow. In this regard, I want to draw the minister to the issue of lawlessness in areas where small business people are operating from.

Madam Speaker, the only way that you can maintain order is by making sure that all the activities are legally coordinated. The system that we have even at *Mupedzanhano* today is that all the cubicles that are there are owned by a group of individuals who then rent them out to other people. The city of Harare has no mechanism to even collect rentals from those people. There is a group of people who now collect money on a day to day basis. The million dollar business that the minister referred to – the money instead of finding its way to Treasury is finding its way to individuals.

Why we have what we call *Chipangano* in Mbare, it is not because they are there to protect the interests of any political party, that is far from

it because our people are educated and they know exactly what to do. So, they are not working as a gatekeeper for a political party but what they are now doing is surviving on this lawlessness. That means there is no one who regulates the opening of a market in Mbare other than the lawlessness group which is conducting all the interviews and allocating people places to operate from.

Madam Speaker, if you walk through *Matapi* or Magaba hostels today, you will be shocked with what you see. There are pots everywhere, people are cooking food everywhere and they are allocated those places and they pay those individuals. You look at how they dispose the left-overs. If you walk through *Magaba* which is only a few kilometers from here, you will not eat for the next two or three days. The flies that you see there, it is like a carpet. You look at the waste being disposed from the toilets, it actually escapes the pipes and falls on the ground. The situation there should not be allowed to exist in a civilized society but there are people who are thriving with that disorder. What makes it quite disturbing is that we have got even senior politicians who are thriving on that situation.

We have got people who are organising people to make sure that it becomes difficult to walk into Mbare. Our councillors do not have access

into these hostels. If a councilor is found walking around that area, he is beaten up. If the Member of Parliament is found walking around that area, he is beaten up. So, we have left our people at the mercy of a group of lawlessness people and this is sad. Madam Speaker, even if you organize to go and do a clean up today in Mbare, unless the person says that I have come from ZANU (PF), the organizers of that clean up will not access Mbare. Even if you have bulldozers to go and clean up, you will not do that. – [MR. MUSVAIRE: *Wakamboendako here?*] - I am saying this because I am from Harare. Hon. members, let us look at this issue seriously, if we do not have information about what goes on in Mbare, we should keep quiet because we will be judged harshly if we try to sanitize things that are not proper.

There was a Bill Gates programme where flats were going to be built at Tsiga area in Mbare. A temporary holding would be built to accommodate people from those flats to make way for renovations to take place in those flats. That programme was rejected by the ZANU PF supporters. The project was taken to Dzivarasekwa and the flats are now almost complete. The programme intended to remove those people in those inhuman dwellings into better flats. I do not know as human beings, especially the black people, why we would want to capitalize on other

people, the same people that we fought for to be independent to live in such conditions. So, there is no way that we are going to correct the situation in Harare as long as there is this lawlessness.

The same applies to all the taxi ranks. Instead of having the City of Harare workers policing those areas, we have a group of people collecting money from the ranks. As a result, there is no one who ensures that all the rubbish is placed in the bins like what the hon. minister has said, you can dispose your rubbish in a bin and those that can be used as manure in a separate bin. That can not be enforced at our terminals because there is a group of individuals that controls that area instead of the municipal workers.

I was shocked when I went to Namibia and I had an opportunity to drive quite a long distance. You do not see a piece of paper flying in Namibia. It is a Southern African country and they went through the same protracted struggle but they have said, we are also organized as blacks – [MR. MUSVAIRE: *MDC inokanda mapepa mutown mese umu*] – Madam Speaker, I take great exception to people who behave like the ordinary thugs that we talk about when they are supposed to be Members of Parliament and are supposed to lead this nation to the future. Some are still quite young that I think if God gives them long life, they still have

more than 40 years to live. This is what they want to see, that is exactly the impression that I am getting, then some of them do not deserve to be part of the civilized society.

Madam Speaker, we used to have the municipal police who would move around in their uniforms in Harare. That scared a lot of people from doing what is against the law, the issue of throwing rubbish everywhere. On the contrary, you find the municipal police moving around in plain clothes like they are CIDs as result there is not a thing that makes someone think twice before you throw away paper. So I think the Committee also should have included the issue of policing of the CBD. All our local authorities now do not have police which you can easily identify so that if you have a complaint when you have seen someone throwing litter and you want the police to take action, we can refer to the Municipal Police.

I also think that our Municipal Police should have more powers. You look at the flea markets that we have in Harare, the one by the Central Police Station which is now run by the police wives and some of those security agents. You allocate people space, you do not put in place mechanisms to control their activities especially how do they expose their rubbish, who is responsible? Because as far as I am concerned a person who has a market stall is responsible for everything that happens around

that stall. The moment you manage to do so it also contributes to the cleanliness of the entire community and that is what we are not doing.

On EMA, Madam Speaker, whilst EMA is fining the city of Harare and the like there are also some decisions they are making or they are allowing some things to go un-checked. The very good example is of the hotel being built along Mukuvisi opposite the National Sports Stadium. When this issue was raised, Madam Speaker there was someone, a very responsible person who said can we fail to build a hotel because of *madatya* meaning the frogs.

That person does not have an understanding of what a wet land is. The land enables us to get water especially in those days of drought when we have problems. It helps conserve the water; it sustains the people during that particular time of drought. But we do not even see that because we are not looking into the future, we concentrate on what we get as individuals.

This is what is happening in Chitungwiza. Almost all the wetlands are finished and EMA is there. I think it is the responsibility of those people who would have built those illegal structures in areas to suffer the consequences. Let those structures be destroyed for the betterment of the future of the people of Zimbabwe.

Madam Speaker, I am really touched that we have to invest in making sure that we clean our cities and make sure that the water the people drink is clean. I was shocked this other day when I was somewhere outside Zimbabwe only to hear that the German Government was making serious contributions towards the resuscitation of the reticulation sewer in Harare but some of these things are not reported.

Madam Speaker, the issue of scrap, how we are disposing even those scrap cars, like Hon. Mudzuri said; you do not have any designated dumping site. Whenever I decide to go and dump my scrap or my car I just load it, look around and see that there is no-one watching, I will dump it anywhere because you also do not have that designated area. The dumping sites which we have, some of them have been oversubscribed, they are now full.

Finally Madam Speaker, I want the City of Harare revisit their by-laws. You can not allow a situation where you organise people to clean up an area and tomorrow you find someone emptying his or her bin at that same spot and nothing happens. There must be some deterrents, there must be fines which are really big, if anyone throws his rubbish out of the moving car, what you simply have to do which I heard Hon. F. M. Sibanda saying that they have got very good relations with the CVR. It must be

possible to tress the individual and the individual must be fined and my only fear is that again you will simply be promoting corruption but again those corrupt people must be weeded out. I thank you.

MR. MAKUYANA: Thank you Madam Speaker, for the opportunity that you have given me. I want to support the analysis that was done by the Committee on Environment that is chaired by Hon. Shoko. This report is not only focusing on Harare and Chitungwiza but the waste management system that is in Harare is actually in all cities. So what we should come up with is a way forward for Harare and Chitungwiza to come up with the issue of cleanliness and waste disposal. People should behave like human beings whereby they can dispose their waste.

We actually need to come up with fines or a law that mandates that it be taken as an offense if one fails to dispose the necessary waste. We need people who spearhead the issue of hygiene in the cities. We realise that all professions who are in the waste management sector are not being operated in a proper manner. We realise that there is a lot of corruption in organs such as EMA, so there is need to look into the way the money is utilised and then in the report we have realised that the law enforcement will take place because of our poor waste management system. Thank

you.

MR. MATSHALAGA: Thank you Madam Speaker, I too would like to commend the portfolio committee for exposing what is potentially very dangerous development in the country. I think those of us who are in the portfolio committee on Health are also seized with problem. The problem manifests itself in a variety of ways, the only problem with the report is its emphasis on policing. I think what is needed is less policing and more of planning. We need to plan the management of waste. You also need serious civic education on developing habits not only in the public but even in the family on how to manage waste.

Firstly, I want to talk about planning, with current institutional weaknesses in planning there is very little, one can do about waste. I will give you an example of a commuter omnibus or the commuter omnibus system, it is the worst form of transport to service a city because first of all, the system itself has very little respect for law and order...

MR. MHANDU: On a point of order, Madam Speaker, I do not think we now form a quorum.

Bells rung

Quorum formed

MR. MATSHALAGA: Madam Speaker, I was referring to the

urban commuter system. I was pointing out that the current system is not amenable to good waste management practice, largely because you see that the system contributes to littering almost where the commuter driver or bus decides to operate from.

Madam Speaker, in terms of policing, I think what is observable is the tendency to want to over centralise the policing of the management of waste. I think this country would go a long way, for instance, if we look at the place where most people go at night and there are cars that congregate and people drink beer almost until midnight – the best person to police the area is not an outsider, it is the people in the community that are greatly affected by the noise the worst, by the litter that is being thrown out. They can police it at more sustainable basis because they are there 24 hours, seven days a week and the problem is very, very dear to them. They would like to see the place cleaned up.

Madam Speaker, the current centralised system, take for instance the Department of waste management in the City of Harare, it has very few staff. Its institutional importance is very limited. It has only key staff to do the work for the whole city and we understand that it also has a fleet of vehicles which is equivalent to that of 1957, that means we are not giving proper priority to waste management.

Madam Speaker, the other big problem that we have is what the other hon. member has said about what appears to be politicking. I do not think it is politicking as such, it is failure by either the civil authorities to have a will to control waste management. I think if the city fathers and Government should realise that they are sitting on a time bomb, because it will cost the city and Government more with the outbreak of diseases.

Yes, we must allow small scale and informal traders to do their business, but what is developing? I do not want to join my colleague who has exaggerated about flies because we have people living in those areas, earning an income in those areas. But what is developing is that everyone along the street appears to have either the authority to sell either two or so bananas, in the event of the central administration, police coming, he can just shift either the whole lot in a cardboard box and this thing requires that we not only ensure proper administration, but at least educate our people that it is in their best interest to operate from licenced areas. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**THE MINISTER OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
AND CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT:** Madam Speaker, I move that the debate do now adjourn.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Thursday, 12th July, 2012.

On the motion of **THE MINISTER OF SMALL AND MEDIUM
ENTERPRISES AND CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT**, *the House
adjourned at Twenty Six Minutes to Six o'clock. p.m.*