



PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

OFFICIAL REPORT

THIRD SESSION - THIRD MEETING

TUESDAY, 30 APRIL 2024



IN THE PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA

Official Report of the Proceedings of Parliament

THIRD SESSION - 31ST SITTING - THIRD MEETING

Tuesday, 30 April 2024

Parliament met at 2.00 p.m. in Parliament House, Kampala.

PRAYERS

(The Speaker, Ms Anita Among, in the Chair.)

The House was called to order.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, I welcome you to this afternoon's sitting. Last week we considered a bulk of the Rationalisation of Agencies and Public Expenditure (RAPEX) Bills and we are left with one, which we shall consider this afternoon.

Over all, the House has so far considered 29 RAPEX Bills of which 22 were passed, eight rejected and seven were withdrawn by the Executive. I urge the Executive to carefully study the concerns of the House and address them.

Notably, these concerns were:

1. The quality of drafting of these Bills. The defective certificates of financial implications fell short of the requirements of Section 76 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 and genuine concerns about the effect of rationalising some entities on actual service delivery.

I also urge the ministers to ensure that they do a thorough analysis of the aforementioned

concerns and not trade blame. In the same vein, I urge the relevant sector ministers to always be present in the House. You cannot say that, "the House has rejected or been bribed" when you are not in the House.

Legislation is done in the House, not in the Cabinet. Much as we know you are the ones who bring the Bills. Stop blaming our members. If you are failing to do your work, it is not the members who are failing and I thank the ministers who have consistently been here.

Hon. David Bahati, you have been here, it is unfortunate that Hon. Henry Musasizi travelled, the Government Chief Whip was here, I got an apology from Hon. Ecwera Musa.

Parliament is not a theatre of legislation and therefore, legislative matters' are best addressed in this House, not somewhere, we always regard Government business as a priority and that is pursuant to rule 25(1) of the Rules of Procedure.

At the end of the day, the Executive and Legislature play a complementary role in ensuring the effective governance of this country. All the decisions of the legislature are done in utmost good faith, not with any bad intention. When we hear members, going to discuss and having an idle talk in the Cabinet that members are being bribed.

Why don't you come and argue in the House? We legislate for this country but you are saying that we have rejected reports and we are not

doing anything. If we are not doing anything, close Parliament.

Honourable members, various parts of East Africa are witnessing devastating floods during the ongoing heavy rains. For example, in Kenya, the rains have not only destroyed diverse property and infrastructure it has also claimed lives. We condole with our brothers and sisters in the region.

In Uganda, some parts of eastern Uganda like the Elgon, Teso Subregion, are currently suffering with floods and disruption of livelihood.

Considering the location of Lake Victoria, which receives a comparatively higher average annual rainfall, there is need for us to prepare for any forthcoming disaster and ensure that our people do not suffer the same.

As I wish you a good deliberation, this afternoon, I am repeating, where you have issues with the legislature, come and address it in the House, not from where we are not.

On the issues of RAPEX, we have said, do a proper analysis that is good for this country and when your Bills are being handled, not only yours, you should be in the House. I do not know whether some of you are just appointed to come only to see and go and bad mouth.

These members of Parliament are human beings, they are doing a lot of work and you must thank them for doing all that. *(Applause)*

Having those corridor talks that Parliament is useless, we are not and we shall not be. We will continue doing work for this country if you feel hurt that the RAPEX Bills that were rejected were done unfairly, bring them back and the House looks at them. If it means reconsidering them, it will be done.

Honourable members, I think that is enough for people who have the ears to hear. *(Members rose)* I have said that is enough. Please, first, sit. *(Laughter)* Let it be blamed on what the Speaker has said. I said it – on disaster?

Hon. Ecweru?

2.12

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WORKS AND TRANSPORT (WORKS) (Mr Musa Ecweru): Thank you, Madam Speaker, for your communication. I am not speaking as a minister for disaster management but as a minister for roads.

I would like to share with you and the House the concern that the sector is having, particularly given the dwindling resources that are meant for road maintenance –*(Interjections)*- yes, allow me to say this: it is going to rain like it is already doing. This House will, whenever we go for matters of national importance, be about roads that have been swept and I will be coming here to apologise.

We are doing budgeting and I really want us to insist - we, as Cabinet and you, our colleagues – on making sure that money for road maintenance is there –

THE SPEAKER: So, honourable minister, do you now appreciate that we must complement each other? Are we relevant in the process?

MR ECWERU: That is why I am very humble before the House. *(Laughter)*

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, next item.

BILLS FIRST READING

THE CONTRACT FARMING BILL, 2023

MR SSEKIKUBO: Madam Speaker, you had magnanimously ruled that you were allowing time for people to present on floods. However, mine was a personal flood, whereby the honourable member for Kazo County bad-mouthed me – exactly as you have been saying – on the Floor of this House –

THE SPEAKER: Is he in the House?

MR SSEKIKUBO: Apparently, each time this matter arises, he makes clear that he is not in the House.

THE SPEAKER: Hon. Obua, can we have the Member for Kazo in the House? We will discuss that issue when the Member is here. The Government Chief Whip will have him here. Before the Leader of the Opposition, let us have the Chief Opposition Whip. Honourable members, can you keep quiet.

2.14

MR JOHN BAPTIST NAMBESHE (NUP, Manjiya County, Bududa): Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the opportunity. Madam Speaker, I agree with you on the catastrophic disasters of floods. I witnessed them even when I passed through your constituency of Bukedea – I saw that the floods had ravaged crops and even entered people's houses.

Besides that, Bududa, which is synonymous with the other form of disaster – landslides – is equally hard-hit. In my constituency of Manjiya, for instance, and that of my neighbour, Lutseshe, so far, we have witnessed seven landslides. We are lucky that these particular ones have not claimed lives, but they have destroyed crops and livestock.

Madam Speaker, I was listening keenly to the former minister of disaster preparedness and refugees. You know very well that you responded to questions of how disasters claimed lives in the city of Mbale. Now, that you are in that docket of works and transport, you made a pledge that you have not honoured – of working on the infrastructural developments – which were the cause of the floods. Up to now, that has not been addressed.

We are afraid that any time, if because of the heavy downpour that is pounding, these rivers burst their banks, again, those same culverts will be overwhelmed and the repeat of what happened maybe even worse. I expected you to say something about it because you made a commitment here.

You had made an undertaking to ensure that those culverts and the other technical terms you used – gabions - were going to be widened. Up to now, they have not been deepened and widened. I do not know what you are waiting for, honourable minister –(Interjections)– information? (Interruption)

MS OBIGAH: Thank you, my brother. Madam Speaker, I think we need to rise to the disasters. The rains are heavy in Kenya, but also in Uganda now. I would request that we do massive tree planting. Climate change is real and going from bad to worse.

I agree with you: our homes, first, before we look at our neighbours. Every time, you start from home before you move to the next level. We promise to support you in the move against climate change. Thank you.

MR NAMBESHE: As I conclude, Madam Speaker, I will seek your indulgence to lay on the Table the reports that have already been compiled by the chief administrative officers of Bududa, Elgon and that of Bukedea. The ones of Elgon are not yet here, but I know my colleagues –

THE SPEAKER: First, read that letter.

MR NAMBESHE: It is a submission of a disaster report and a request for relief by the chairperson of the district disaster management committee of Bukedea, who is the chief administrative officer. I beg to lay.

THE SPEAKER: How many homes are affected?

MR NAMBESHE: I read verbatim, Madam Speaker:

“Following the disaster occurrences from the month of February to date, where heavy rains, hailstorms and winds have affected approximately 1,150 households, destroying most of their houses, food crops and livelihood and has even cut off some social services, a number of homes are still submerged in the subcounties of Kamatur, Aminit, Kangole and

some parts of Kolir. Data collection is still ongoing to establish more details.

Meanwhile, I write to your office to submit the attached report requesting for any appropriate intervention and relief aid...”

In fact, the request is similar to the ones of Bududa and Elgon. I beg to lay.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable members, you have heard the report that was written. Up to now, no action has been taken. Where do you expect those people to go and stay? Government? Hon. Bahati, are you standing in?

2.19

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COOPERATIVES (INDUSTRY) (Mr David Bahati): I am standing in for the Government Chief Whip, who is not here, but coming. I suggest that –

THE SPEAKER: The Prime Minister?

MR BAHATI: Madam Speaker, we are going to take up this matter with the minister for disaster preparedness, in the circumstances, and report on Thursday.

THE SPEAKER: Can I have a team? Now I am also being mean - much as I am conflicted, I am a Member of Parliament for Bukedea - can I have a team in Bukedea tomorrow? The Leader of the Opposition -

2.20

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (Mr Joel Ssenyonyi): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am glad that you have guided the Government that when they have issues with us as the Legislature, they should bring them to the House. In the same way, when we have issues, we bring them here with the hope that action gets to be taken, like the matters that are being raised; disaster issues - hopefully the Government gets to take action.

Madam Speaker, I request that you procedurally guide on a particular issue. On Monday 26th

February, I went with a team of Members of Parliament to the site of Lubowa Specialised Hospital, to do our oversight role as Members of Parliament, to establish what is going on there and give a report to Parliament. I came and gave a report to Parliament to the effect that we were denied access to the precincts of that place.

The Minister of State for Finance, Planning and Economic Development (General Duties) Hon. Henry Musasizi here, among the updates he gave to this House, was that we have so far injected over \$156 million through promissory notes. That is over Shs 600 billion.

Madam Speaker, one of the accountability committees we lead – the Committee on Public Accounts (Central Government), has been trying to access these premises to do our work as Parliament, and they have still been denied access.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you guide procedurally, on whether this Government is not duty-bound to account to this country. You cannot inject over Shs 600 billion into a project; you do not want us to access as Members of Parliament to play our oversight role and yet you keep coming back to Parliament asking for more money, for what exactly? Why can't the Government account for this project? What is so unique about it?

We are going to discuss a supplementary schedule where you are asking us for money for different projects. How as Parliament, are we supposed to give a green light for money to be injected into projects if you cannot account for it?

Madam Speaker, I request that you guide me on this matter. The Government should be able to account. This is a lot of money that we are talking about. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable members, I requested the Deputy Speaker to go to Lubowa. He went *-(Interjections)-* do not say he did not go; you are not his bodyguard. He went and he has a report to that effect.

Secondly, the contractor for the Lubowa Specialised Hospital project was changed and we want to give the new contractor time. I have been in a discussion with the chairperson of the committee; we want to give him a little time and then the committee - I can even go together with the committee. They must account for the money.

Just rest assured, we are handling the issue of Lubowa. We are in touch with the committee, and the Rt. Hon. Deputy Speaker has a report to that effect. He will be presiding over the next sitting and will give you information to that effect. However, we can also hear from the Government about Lubowa.

MR SSENKYONYI: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for that update. Madam Speaker, we would like to defend you as the leader of the Legislature because -

THE SPEAKER: Meanwhile, the other time we were talking about Namboole; there is a testing match tomorrow. Let us go and watch the testing game to see where our money went.

MR SSENKYONYI: They will give us an update. What I was saying, Madam Speaker, is that as the head of this institution, we would like to defend you. We want the Government to account for this money; they should not let you, the Speaker, carry their burden because we give this money to you Government; the Speaker should not be accounting for you as Government. Please account for the Shs 600 billion; carry your cross.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, the Rt Hon. Deputy Speaker and I are Members of Parliament; when we give you information, you interrogate them based on the report that we are going to give. I told you we had to go to Namboole. Yes -

MR SSEMURJU: Thank you, Madam Speaker. The reporting in Parliament is guided by our rules. When a committee reports, what happens? We do not have a rule on what happens when it is the Presiding Officer reporting. I wanted to -

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, kindly listen to *Hajji*.

MR SSEMURJU: Madam Speaker, I wanted to be guided. Because the report sometimes attracts questions, when the Deputy Speaker reports -

THE SPEAKER: They attract questions and reactions.

MR SSEMURJU: Yes, when it is the Deputy Speaker reporting, what do we do with that report? First, the rules do not allow presiding officers to debate.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, we asked the Deputy Speaker to go and find out the status. He will bring it in his communication and you will react to that effect just like you react when we say anything. That does not mean that we are going to permanently stop people from going there. We have to go there; there must be value for money.

What we are saying is, let us leave these people who have just taken over the site to settle. Then we shall have a report to that effect and all the accountable committees that are responsible should be able to go and see what is happening. Hon. Naboth -

2.27

MR NABOTH NAMANYA (FDC, Rubabo County, Rukungiri): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I seek your indulgence that the Rules of Procedure we get when we are sworn in, provide for the work that is supposed to be done by the committees. In this House, we have two presiding officers. Now, in a circumstance that the Speaker is the one to visit the hospital-

THE SPEAKER: Quote for me the Rule of Procedure that denies me to go and see and report what is happening? I have just been reporting on the rains. Do procedures refuse me to do that?

MR NAMANYA: Madam Speaker, what is disturbing me is that if we set a precedence that the Speaker will be the one allowed to follow

up these projects, we shall in the future be overwhelmed that members of the committees will always be barred from doing their work and wait for the Speakers to come.

The guidance I am seeking is, whether this one will not be referred to in future to stop other committees from doing the work.

THE SPEAKER: There is a point of order.

MR NAMANYA: I do not need an order, Madam Speaker, before I exhaust *-(Laughter)*

THE SPEAKER: Hon. Naboth, Hon. Musenero is not here. Yes, there is a point of order from counsel. *(Hon. Okiror and Hon. Nsereko rose)*

Honourable members, what we were doing was to help the House. The Leader of the Opposition went there, and he was denied so we wanted to find out why he was denied; that is what we are handling. You should know that we are working for the same thing - sit down. Next item.

BILLS FIRST READING

THE CONTRACT FARMING BILL, 2023

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, Article 94(4)(C) of the Constitution of Uganda grants Members a right to move a private member's Bill; It is their right and nobody can stop them from doing that.

I, therefore, ask Hon. Abed Bwanika to come and exercise his constitutional right.

2.31

DR ABED BWANIKA (NUP, Kimanya-Kabonera Division, Masaka): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Allow me to appreciate you as a presiding officer for allowing me to exercise my right.

Also, allow me to appreciate our legal department who helped me to put this Bill together specifically Counsel Tamale and the team.

I would like to appreciate the seconders who I worked with, Hon. Stella Isodo and Hon. Pamela Nasiyo.

THE SPEAKER: Please read your Bill.

DR BWANIKA: In accordance with Rule 128 of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament, I move that the Bill entitled, "The Contract Farming Bill, 2023" be read for the first time.

Madam Speaker, I beg to lay the Bill.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you.

THE CONTRACT FARMING BILL, 2023

THE SPEAKER: Pursuant to rule 129(1) of the Rules of Procedure, the Bill is referred to the Committee of Agriculture, Animal, Industry and Fisheries as prescribed by - the seconders will speak, it is for the first reading. The 45 days stand as per rule 129(2)

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY 2024

THE SPEAKER: Yes, *mukatuliki*

MR SSEWUNGU: I am sorry to take you back to a procedural matter Madam Speaker. You see most of the business in this Parliament is conducted under the Leader of the Government Business, who is the Prime Minister and several of the issues you have raised rotate around her and she has over 13 ministers in her docket.

I recently heard when there was a reshuffle, many of her ministers jubilated because they survived and were retained as ministers. Therefore, the procedural matter I am raising is that for the time we have been here- Members who have been here for some time, whenever the Prime Minister is not going to appear at the beginning of a session, she works with the Speaker so that those strong items are handled at the time she arrives.

However, here we are with a Prime Minister whom we debated about to be made a Prime

Minister, but she is very rare in the House- I will not talk about the Vice President; that is a known problem.

Madam Speaker, could we know why the Prime Minister who is facilitated and is the Leader of Government Business in Parliament ends up giving the Speaker challenges because of failing to do her work? We would like to know why she does not appear in this House. This is a very serious matter. The Prime Minister must be here.

Today, I asked one of the ministers on the front bench but he said, "No, I am not the Prime Minister and there is nobody delegated".

We used to have Gen. Moses Ali, but we know his challenges now.

However, he used to appear here, and the Parliament would move.

Because, when I am on this side, I want to encounter your side with an informed position from Government. But here we are in Parliament, raising issues of Lubowa, and disasters but the Prime Minister is nowhere to be seen.

Madam Speaker, would it be procedurally okay for us to know what happened to the Prime Minister, with all the facilitation in her ministry and over 13 ministers? Thank you, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Government-

2.35

THE MINISTER, OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENERAL DUTIES) (Ms Kasule Lumumba): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I remember the Rt Hon. Robinah Nabbanja, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda and Leader of Government Business in Parliament, wrote to the Rt Hon. Nakadama Rukia Isanga, and copied you, the Deputy Speaker, and myself as the Minister in Charge of General Duties Office of the Prime Minister.

The message was that in her absence in the House, and the absence of the Rt Hon. Moses Ali, the Deputy Leader of Government Business in Parliament, she would only be represented by Rt Hon. Nakadama Rukia Isanga. So, as an obedient servant and a senior person, the letter still stands. I have never received a copy of a withdrawal.

I request that in the case she wrote and I have not been able to access that letter of withdrawal, I beg to be guided by you, Madam Speaker. But in my mind, that letter still stands, and I have to go by that. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, as you have heard a letter was written to Hon. Nakadama copied to me, no other letter rescinding that decision has been copied to me. So, in the circumstance, the other letter still stands.

MR SSEWUNGU: So, Madam Speaker, who is the Leader of Government Business today?

Secondly, where is Hon. Nakadama? And is this letter perennial, that it will not change? Because we cannot move - who is responding on behalf of the Government?

THE SPEAKER: Can we hear from Hon. Obua, the Government Chief Whip?

2.38

THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF WHIP (Mr Hamson Obua): Madam Speaker, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda, in exercising his mandate under the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, appointed fellow citizens, the honourable members of this House, and those who are not but qualified to be in this House, to serve in different portfolios.

I stand here with the appointment of the Government Chief Whip, so in me, I am three in one. I am Government, I am a chief, I am a whip and that is my title. *(Laughter)*

Therefore, Madam Speaker, in the hierarchy of Government and in the absence of the top

authority, the most senior takes precedence. In this House, you can see the Front Bench full of ministers and the Government Chief Whip is here representing the entire Government.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, Government and the Government Chief Whip. Honourable members, we shall not move if you continue on procedure. Next item-

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON
COMMEMORATION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY, 2024

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, as you may be aware, the International Labour Day is tomorrow, Wednesday, 1 May 2024. It is a day for recognising the role of the labourer in societal transformation.

Pursuant to rule 52(1) of the Rules of Procedure, I invite the Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development in charge of Labour to give us a statement. It is also unfortunate that last year, a day after the International Labour Day, we lost our Minister in charge of Labour. I request the House to stand and pay tribute to the Late.

*(Members rose and observed a moment of
silence.)*

THE SPEAKER: We have a new Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development in charge of Labour, it is our prayer and wish that God protects and keeps you because we still need you. Please, minister- yes, “*Mwalimu*”-

MS NAMBOOZE: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise on a point of procedure. Last year, after the unfortunate incident that took our colleague, the minister to whom the House has risen to pay tribute, we were told that a report in relation to the circumstances around his murder would be given to this country.

However, since then we have not been availed with that report. Wouldn't it be procedurally right if the Government briefs this House about that matter specifically, in relation to the report? I beg for your guidance.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. The Government Chief Whip -

2.38

THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF WHIP (Mr Denis Obua): Madam Speaker, if it pleases this House, through you, the line minister in case the investigations are complete may with the permission of the Cabinet brief the House on the findings.

I know that upon the demise of Col Charles Engola, a team was put in place to investigate the circumstances and report. I believe that if the report is ready, it can be shared with Parliament with the permission of the Cabinet under collective responsibility. I thank you.

THE SPEAKER: You cannot have a timeframe for investigations. Minister, Hon. Esther-

2.44

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR GENDER, LABOUR AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS) (Ms Esther Anyakun): Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the thought of giving our colleague a moment of silence. It gives all of us a deep thought about the tremendous job that he did for this country.

Uganda will celebrate International Labour Day on Wednesday 1 May 2024 to appreciate workers' contributions to national development and raise awareness about workers' rights and responsibilities.

The International Labour Day is a globally recognised public holiday which originated from 19th century labour day union movements in the United States. May 1st was designated as a day to commemorate those who died in the struggle for improved working conditions. In Uganda, May 1st will be marked by ceremonies at national, city, and district levels.

The theme for this year's National Labour Day is: “Improving Access to Labour Justice: A Prerequisite for Increased Productivity.”

Access to labour justice is a fundamental right, essential for maintaining a fair and equitable labour market, protecting workers from exploitation and unfair treatment, and promoting compliance with labour laws.

The theme highlights the importance of ensuring that workers have access to fair and effective mechanisms for resolving disputes and grievances in their workplaces, which in turn contributes to increased productivity and economic growth.

The Government of Uganda has established a comprehensive legal and policy framework to enhance access to labour justice. Key legislations include the National Employment Act, 2006, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, 2006, Workers Compensation Act, Cap 225, the Labour Disputes (Arbitration and Settlement) (Amendment) Act 2021, the National Social Security Fund Act, Cap 222 (as amended), and the Labour Unions Act, 2006. These provide a framework for dispute resolution and prevention.

The institutional framework comprises of Labour officers spread in all districts, cities and municipalities serving as quasi-courts of the first instance on labour matters. In addition, the Industrial Court is functional as a referral court for labour disputes.

Workers in Uganda face challenges in accessing labour justice despite existing frameworks. Issues such as unfair dismissal, unpaid wages and unsafe working conditions are widespread, particularly among vulnerable groups like women, youth and informal sector workers.

Many employees do not contribute to social protection, leaving workers financially insecure in old age. The National Labour Force Survey 2021 indicates that many workers are exposed to hazardous working conditions, including exposure to dust, fumes and violence, with many lacking protective gear.

While 898,000 workers had suffered accidents/injuries in the 12 months preceding the survey, data from the Insurance Regulatory Authority's

Annual Insurance Market Report 2022, reveals that only 30,555 lives were insured under 2,347 Workers' Compensation Policies in 2022.

The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development plays a crucial role in ensuring access to labour justice by formulating policies, enforcing legislation, overseeing dispute resolution mechanisms, providing capacity building and awareness programme and collaborating with stakeholders to promote fair labour practices.

However, the ministry faces constraints such as a lack of a web-based system and national database for labour statistics, an integrated case management system for labour complaints and dispute settlement, as well as staffing shortages, insufficient tools, logistics and court facilities.

As we commemorate International Labour Day, it is important to recognise and address the barriers that hinder workers from seeking redress for workplace disputes. The ministry is committed to enhancing access to labour justice and seeks the support of Parliament in addressing the constraints.

Madam Speaker, the ministry, in collaboration with social partners, has planned several pre-Labour Day activities, including the 2nd Annual Labour Convention and Expo 2024, focusing on enhancing access to labour justice, field visits to workplaces, tree planting, exhibitions for innovative enterprises and public awareness campaigns through various media channels to educate workers about accessing mechanisms for labour justice.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to announce that the national Labour Day celebrations will be held at Mukabura Grounds, St Leo's College in Fort Portal City. We are honoured to have His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda presiding over the function, and we extend a warm invitation to all Members of Parliament to attend. The event will be broadcast live on major TV stations, allowing all Ugandans to join in the celebration of our country's labour force.

I thank you all. For God and my Country.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Esther. Shadow minister?

2.52

THE SHADOW MINISTER OF GENDER, LABOUR AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (Ms Fortunate Nantongo): Thank you so much, Madam Speaker. As we commemorate the International Labour Day this year – and I am grateful that the theme is looking at the labour rights for all workers – we are having many challenges facing the workers, especially those in the informal sector. The biggest challenge is the enforceability of the labour laws. We have made the laws and we are calling for a policy for labour rights. However, especially in the sector of foreign investment -

THE SPEAKER: Do you have the regulations for those laws?

MS NANTONGO: No, we do not. We have the laws. We are looking for a policy and the regulations that cover these laws. This is causing challenges in their enforceability. The workers in these industries, Madam Speaker, especially in the foreign investment industries, are facing many challenges. We have come up, once and again, to call for the Government to ensure they enforce the labour rights in these industries.

Worker's arms are being cut off, workers are being killed and there is no response whatsoever. They are not being paid. So, as we celebrate this day, emphasis should be put on enforcing the rights of these workers.

Madam Speaker, we passed the Employment Bill and it was returned. However, the Committee on Gender, Labour and Social Development is facing a challenge in that we do not have this Bill before us. So, we cannot go forward with this Bill.

The Occupational Safety and Health (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (OSH Bill) is still under process, and it is one of the issues that could cater for the labour rights that we are celebrating tomorrow.

Lastly, as we celebrate this day, we should really look so much at the labourers because the workers are not going to be able to go to the celebration grounds. However, they have rights that need to be enforced. They have issues that need to be worked on. Access to labour justice is very crucial.

Madam Speaker, we have industrial courts. However, many of our workers do not know that these industrial courts exist. They do not know that they can run to these courts to access justice when they have issues.

On mechanisms of reporting cases, Madam Speaker, I think we need to come up with an online system because workers cannot keep running to Kampala to access the courts. If there is an online system that can ensure that these workers can report their cases and they can be fast-tracked by any person, it would be good to ensure enforceability of these rights.

Information from my fellow minister, Madam Speaker. *(Interruption)*

MS NALUYIMA: Thank you so much, shadow minister for labour, for giving way. In addition to what she has already said, Madam Speaker, can this country be updated on the matter of minimum wage? We shall not talk about justice when we have not yet at any one time put the minimum wage for all those workers down there who are really suffering and they cannot yield anything out of their sweat.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you.

MS NANTONGO: As I conclude, Madam Speaker, as she has mentioned, the most important thing is to curb the exploitation of workers. We have workers who do the same kinds of jobs, but receive meagre salaries, while their fellow colleagues receive more. We are pushing for the minimum wage Bill. It is about time that the Government ensures that this minimum wage Bill is brought on the Table, we discuss it and we deal with this issue of insufficiency in wage payment once and for all. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Workers' Representative?

2.56

DR ABDULHU BYAKATONDA (Independent, Workers' Representative): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I thank the minister for coming up with a statement and, indeed, the theme of this International Labour Day.

Workers are very critical in the development of any economy. One scholar, Adam Smith, in his book *The Wealth of Nations*, remarked that workers are the stores of values, meaning that without handling worker's issues, the economy cannot grow in the right direction. What is important about this is that we need to focus and look at the implementation of the laws in our shelves. One such law is the Public Service (Negotiating, Consultative and Disputes Settlement Machinery) Act (2008).

This Act is one of the core issues. Under section 3, it says that every institution of Government (ministries and departments) shall have what we call a consultative committee, which is a court of first instance.

Madam Speaker, there are gaps in implementing this law, which has caused grievances in several workplaces. In the instance, you find that most of these fights have resulted into compromising on service delivery because most of the money is going into compensation of court cases.

I pray that, as a matter of urgency, Madam Speaker, you will be pleased to allow me to move a motion without notice, that we need to profile all these other laws and ensure that, at least, their implementation is done. At an appropriate time, I could do that -

THE SPEAKER: You want to profile all the laws that you made?

MR BYAKATONDA: Madam Speaker, there are a number of laws – actually, there is a saying that the laws are made in Uganda and implemented elsewhere. That defeats logic and the purpose. Like for that law which I have

just mentioned, if it was implemented in this country, we would have increased productivity and industrial harmony and all would be well in our economy.

I beg to thank the minister. I also thank you for giving me this opportunity. I invite Members to move to Fort Portal and we celebrate together. I also urge that tree planting – as you emphasised, Madam Speaker – be emphasised during this Labour Day celebrations so that we plant more trees to avert the drastic effects of climate change.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon. Charles?

2.58

MR CHARLES BAKKABULINDI (NRM, Workers Representative): Thanks very much, Madam Speaker –

THE SPEAKER: If you do not allow these Workers' Representatives to speak, they may not be voted in, again. (*Laughter*)

MR BAKKABULINDI: Madam Speaker, let me start by correcting this. We normally say “celebrations of Labour Day”, but in the real sense, they are not celebrations. We commemorate the death of those who struggled for the workers. Otherwise, if we are to celebrate, we have to put a list of achievements of what we have achieved. Nevertheless, we do both at the same time.

Madam Speaker, it is good that we have just talked about the Lubowa Specialised Hospital project. I am not bringing the Lubowa case here now, but I want to use it as an example. The theme is “Access to Labour Justice.” If our leaders, the Leader of the Opposition and Members of Parliament could be denied entry, how do we expect workers' leaders to enter industries? (*Applause*) I think this is where we need to concentrate. When we are there, we should not simply speak, but should put action into what we want to implement.

Madam Speaker, you heard the shadow minister talking about the Industrial Court. Recently, we had a workshop. We are complaining that

it is high time we came up with the Industrial Court of Appeal. This is because three quarters of all cases in the Industrial Court are won by the workers. However, after that, they appeal to other colonial courts, and there the workers will never achieve anything. I think if we are to save the workers of this country, we need another mechanism in order to achieve that.

My colleagues talked about the minimum wage, but I think this side is about protection of the investors, not the workers. *(Applause)* Because wherever we have gone, the minimum wage is a requirement. It has nothing to do with deterring the investors from coming. It is the lowest point, saying that do not exploit where you have gone. That is the meaning of the minimum wage. However, it is now history and we have repeated that. Some of us are no longer singing it because it seems that it is impossible to implement.

My prayer is that you, my colleagues, are being invited to come on this Labour Day, wherever you will be, either in Fort Portal or in your districts. Let us all come and work together to protect the labourers of this country. Thank you very much.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon. Mugole -

2.58

MR STEPHEN MUGOLE (NRM, Kabweri County, Kibuku): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to thank the minister and the shadow minister for the two statements they have made.

However, we have a number of regulations already made under the labour laws. Not all labour laws have regulations, but a number of them have. Madam Speaker, even last week you talked about the issue of regulations. We have already made a precedent in this House.

When we were passing the National Social Security Fund (Amendment) Bill, we asked the Government to come up with regulations within 60 days. They came up with regulations, but one of the regulations was not as was recorded before Parliament. And that particular item has not yet come back.

I am just trying to wonder whether we can use this precedent that whatever law we pass here; we give a time limit as to when the Government shall come up with the regulations. The issue of leaving leeway to the Government to come up with regulations is why some laws have no regulations for 20 years. I suppose that we should either give 90 days for every law to come up with regulations.

You can imagine now that we have gone through this RAPEX, very many laws have been amended. However, we have left a leeway. If we do not give it a blanket that within 90 days' regulations shall come, even these RAPEX laws we have passed are going to have problems. Mine was general. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Is the Attorney-General here? Government, we need regulations to all the laws that we are passing.

3.03

THE CHIEF OPPOSITION WHIP (Mr John Baptist Nambeshe): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to thank the honourable minister for the statement but seek her clarification, especially when she gives a theme like this one on increasing access to labour justice.

The fundamental question would be, is the Government preaching water but drinking wine? If you were to prosecute the recent selective salary enhancement of teachers, wouldn't you see the injustice that has been occasioned on teachers of arts subjects? This was after directives were lopsided to discriminatively increase salaries for science teachers.

This has had a very disastrous impact on education. Quality education is no longer being dispensed to our children because it is a de-motivator on this part of the labour force, the arts teachers. Therefore, for one to claim that there is increasing access to labour justice when there is discrimination on the part of a section of some of the labourers, would be a vice. That is the information I will give you that I have heard in this century.

Madam Speaker, the minimum living wage is a serious issue. I know the President declined to assent to it in the 10th Parliament, but this Parliament has powers that are enshrined in the Constitution. I am of the considerate view that we would revive this law and have it passed because almost in all of East Africa or Africa, Uganda is the country that has the cheapest labour that is exploited. That is why you see these investors that are in Uganda – or whatever the case – information –

THE SPEAKER: Attorney-General?

3.06

THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY-GENERAL (Mr Jackson Kafuuzi): Thank you, Madam Speaker. An issue arose as to whether we have regulations - They are sending me an index; I will present it here in a few minutes.

THE SPEAKER: Okay. We need regulations for all the laws that are passed in this House, and the sectoral committees must also make scrutiny of all the regulations that are made, whether they are in accordance with the Bills that have been passed in this House. We need that. Next item?

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

(I) PETITION ON CONCERNS OF PROJECT AFFECTED PERSONS OF THE EAST AFRICAN CRUDE OIL PIPELINE IN KYOTERA DISTRICT

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, petitions are a vital avenue for citizens to engage with the Legislature and to enable citizens to seek for specific remedies from Parliament on a wide range of issues as stipulated under Rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure. I will require the Member to present the petition and go straight to the prayers contained in the petition.

3.07

MS FORTUNATE NANTONGO (DP, Woman Representative, Kyotera): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I beg to move under Rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament and present the humble petition of the East African

crude oil pipeline eco-project-affected persons in Kyotera District.

As guided, I beg to go straight to the prayers in the petition. Your humble petitioners pray that Parliament, through the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, conducts an inquiry into the allegations raised by the petitioners to ensure the protection, fair and timely compensation for the project-affected persons, which occurred during the process of compensation and this was contrary to Article 26 of the Constitution that calls for adequate and prior compensation.

Hereto your humble petitioners have appended their signatures. I beg to submit.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you very much, honourable member. Pursuant to Rule 36 of the Rules of Procedure, and considering the urgency of the matter, the petition is duly referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and to the Minister of Energy and Mineral Development for expeditious consideration, and to report back to the House and the petitioner. We are going to handle it two-way. We will have a report from the minister and the committee. Next

(II) PETITION BY RESIDENTS OF KKOLO-BUWANYI VILLAGE, NANTABULILIRWA PARISH, GOMA DIVISION, MUKONO MUNICIPALITY, MUKONO DISTRICT, WHO WERE AFFECTED BY THE ONGOING REFURBISHMENT OF THE RAILWAY LINE

THE SPEAKER: Hon. Nambooze.

3.09

MS BETTY NAMBOOZE (NUP, Mukono Municipality, Mukono): Thank you, Madam Speaker. In accordance with Rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament, I present a petition from the residents of Kkolo-Buwanyi Village, Nantabulilirwa Parish, Goma Division, Mukono Municipality in Mukono District:

“...Your humble petitioners, Madam Speaker, pray that Parliament intervenes in matters and investigates the conduct of Uganda Railway Corporation, for failure to compensate the petitioners;

Two, that Parliament urges the Government to pay compensation to the residents affected by the refurbishment of the Old Metre Gauge Railway line between Kampala and Namanve, as promised by Uganda Railway Corporation;

Three, the Uganda Railway Corporation confines its activity within the agreed 10 metres of either side of the railway line, as agreed upon between itself and the residents affected by these works, between Kampala and Namanve; and

Your humble petitioners are duty-bound and will ever pray and hereto append their signatures.” The signatures total 317. I do therefore pray that you allow me, Madam Speaker, to lay their petition on the Table.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Pursuant to Rule 36 of the Rules of Procedure, and considering the urgency of the matter, the petition is duly referred to the Minister of Works and Transport for expeditious consideration, and to report back in two weeks. It is also referred to the Committee on Physical Infrastructure, which should report back in 45 days.

What they are raising is something very urgent and it must be handled. You need to visit the locus for you to appreciate what is happening.

3.12

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WORKS AND TRANSPORT (WORKS) (Mr Musa Ecweru): Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague. I was consulting somewhere when I saw her come onto the Floor. The report is ready, and we have been doing some work together with the leadership. We have not just been sitting. We have some information that I will be very happy to fill the House in, with what we have done and what needs to be done.

THE SPEAKER: Had you got the petition before?

MR ECWERU: The moment I read on our agenda that this was coming up, I consulted because we have been working on the Project Affected Persons(PAPs) of Uganda Railway Corporation (URC). It is work that we have been undertaking. I know that she has raised it, so we are going to handle it.

THE SPEAKER: What you need to do, honourable minister, is to take the petition, do an exhaustive analysis, look at all that is being raised, and then report back. You may even report back in one day. We do not mind, so long as it is from the petition. Next

(III) PETITION BY RESIDENTS OF
NJeru MUNICIPALITY AND JINJA
CITY AGAINST THE THREAT OF LAND
GRABBING AND EVICTION

THE SPEAKER: Hon. Batuwa.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF
PARLIAMENT TO AUTHORISE
GOVERNMENT TO BORROW UP TO
EUROS 110,543,947.52 FROM STANDARD
CHARTERED BANK, TO FINANCE THE
KITGUM-KIDEPO ROAD UPGRADING
PROJECT

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, as you may recall, on 18 April 2024, the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development tabled a proposal for borrowing to finance the upgrade of Kitgum-Kidepo Road, that is a 115.8 kilometre road, which is a very valid connection between the Acholi and Karamoja subregions. After that connection, Hon. Felix Okot will say that there is equity. The same road connects to South Sudan.

In addition, it is a vital catalyst for the realisation of a huge tourism potential; that is Murchison Falls and Kidepo tourism circuit, which is the road.

As a requirement of Article 159(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995, and Rule 155 of the Rules of Procedure, I now invite the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to move a motion, to which we will receive a report. If the report is not ready, we will debate on the report of the whole House.

3.16

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (GENERAL DUTIES) (Mr Henry Musasizi): Madam Speaker, I beg to move a motion to authorise the Government to borrow up to Euros 110,543,947.25, which is approximately \$117.26 million, from the Standard Chartered Bank, to finance the Kitgum-Kidepo Road upgrade project.

Madam Speaker, this motion is moved pursuant to Article 159 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, sections 36 and 39 of the Public Finance Act, and Rule 155 of our Parliament Rules of Procedure. I beg to move, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Is it seconded? It is seconded by honourable ministers for lands, Karamoja, the MP from Sironko, Hon. Obua, Dr Omona, Hon. Silwany, and by the whole House. People want the roads to be worked on. People want connectivity between Karamoja, Lango and Acholi – Hon. Nambeshe. People want tourism roads to be worked on. There is always the perspective of why only one region is tarmacked? We are now exercising equity. This is a very important House, much as we may not have a - Mr Okema-honourable minister, do you want to justify? Please do.

3.19

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (GENERAL DUTIES) (Mr Henry Musasizi): Madam Speaker, the project has the following benefits;

1. The road project will greatly stimulate and support local economic activities by improving connectivity in socio-economic facilities, reducing road maintenance

costs, vehicle parading costs and travel time in the Karamoja Subregion.

2. The road will provide a reliable connection to Kidepo Valley National Park, Uganda's third best tourism destination and promote regional development in the Karamoja Subregion.
3. The road will also improve access to rural economically productive areas and thereby contribute to socio-economic development, poverty reduction, regional and national integration, and stimulate and support local economic activities by reducing transport costs and travel time along the existing gravel road.
4. The road upgrading intervention will offer a safe, secure, environmentally sustainable, reliable, and dependable transport system on the road that meets the needs and aspirations of the national road sector.

Madam Speaker, the updated economic analysis that we carried out in January 2022 showed that the road is economically feasible for upgrading to paved standards. The analysis yielded an economic internal rate of return of 17.1 per cent and economic net present value of USD 30.604 million.

I wish to also present to the House the project cost and the financing arrangements. The total project cost is approximately Uganda Shs 379.1 billion, exclusive of VAT, of which 95 per cent will be funded by the Standard Chartered Bank and 5 per cent by the Government of Uganda.

The cost of the road per kilometre is Uganda Shs 3.2 billion, and Government contribution will be utilised for the payment of taxes, project implementation and acquiring the right of way for the project.

The following are the detailed terms;

I had mentioned that we are borrowing in Euro, 95 per cent of the project costs, which is Euros 96 million and we have the insurance cost of Euros 14.5 million.

The maturity period is 13 years, including three years of grace period. The period for the loan, as I have mentioned is three years and the interest rate is six months reliable, plus 1.1 per cent margin per annum and the management fees is 1.45 per cent calculated on the loan amount paid up front.

The commitment fee is 0.3 percent on the withdrawn loan amount, and the facility agency fee is Euros 20,000 per annum. With this satisfactory information, I would like to appeal-

THE SPEAKER: Can you people wait and the minister finishes?

MR MUSASIZI: Madam Speaker, I have provided sufficient and necessary information that we require to pass this loan. I would like to invite colleagues to debate with the view of supporting my position that this loan be considered by Parliament.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Government Chief Whip -

MR SSENKYONYI: Madam Speaker, I have something to raise quickly. This matter was referred to a committee by yourself to interrogate. We want roads to be fixed and service delivery to happen in various ways. However, we must be able to interrogate the question of borrowing.

Our debt burden is about Shs 100 trillion and continues to grow. The reason these matters are sent to committees is for the committee to interrogate a couple of things because many times people in Government enter into problematic agreements.

We have seen that in committees and that is the place of the committee to interrogate and then advise this House, is this the best option to take, is this the best place to borrow this money from or whatever the case might be but we are learning that the committee was not able to do this work.

Maybe through you, the committee needs to help us understand what happened because I have interacted with some members of the committee who say that they have been waiting for the chairperson to invite them for a committee meeting and that has not happened. We do not know if the committee leadership has abdicated its responsibility on this matter.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Leader of Opposition (LOP), you and I plus the Government Chief Whip are the leaders of these committees, and this House will not be delayed from working because we do not have very active committee members like Hon. Nathan; but let Hon. Obua come up - just a minute.

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: Madam Speaker *-(Interjections)-* I want you to go for training-

MR KIBALAYA: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Hon. Nandala-Mafabi is one of the senior legislators in this country-

THE SPEAKER: One of the best chairpersons.

MR KIBALAYA: And one of the people that we look up to and admire. Our rules are clear, that the Speaker is listened to in silence. But when Hon. Nandala-Mafabi was asking for procedure, you said wait a minute but before waiting for a minute, he was already on the microphone.

Is he in order to grab a microphone, instead of listening to the Speaker first before he speaks, so that we emulate what he does or he wants us to emulate? Is it in order that you can grab the microphone when the Speaker is speaking-

THE SPEAKER: No, I had granted the Government Chief Whip to give us a position on what could have happened and his plan. By the way, this is a committee of the whole House. The other committees work for and on behalf of this House. Government Chief Whip *-(Hon. Aisha Kabanda rose)- Hajjat-*

MR OBUA: Madam Speaker, in lieu, of the issue raised by the Honourable Leader of the

Opposition and the justification given by the Minister of Finance, I rise under Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament to move that Rule 155(3) and (4) be suspended for consideration of Item No.6 on the Order Paper for today.

THE SPEAKER: Is it seconded? (*Members rose*) It is seconded by Hon. Okwir, Hon. Okwalinga, all the ministers, Hon. Elwelu and Hon. Alanyo.

Would you like to speak to your suspension motion? Yes, Hajat?

MS AISHA KABANDA: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. We have ably heard from the Leader of the Opposition that the matter was sent to a committee and you have also agreed that you, him and the Leader of Government Business lead these committees. We have not heard from the chairperson.

THE SPEAKER: We do not lead; we supervise.

MS KABANDA: You supervise the committees.

THE SPEAKER: Yes.

MS KABANDA: We have not heard from the chairperson of the committee why they have not been able to process this work. Is it not procedurally right, Madam Speaker, that we hear from the chairperson, deputy chairperson or a member of the committee to explain why they have not been able to process the work that was sent to their committee? I beg your guidance.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable member, in the absence of the report – that is why you find that the people responsible: the chairperson and the vice-chairperson - Let us hear from the Government Chief Whip. Those are his chairpersons. Let him finish justifying why he is moving for the suspension of the rule. (*Members rose*) Hon. Nathan! (*Laughter*)

MR OBUA: Madam Speaker, the Rules of Procedure of Parliament are here to guide us and the committees of Parliament process each and every business on behalf of this House. Where the committee, through the leadership, is unable – like I have received information that both the chairperson and the vice-chairperson of this committee are not available and they have not delegated any member of the committee, as required under the Rules of Procedure – I felt it befitting that since committees of Parliament play delegated roles, we move under rule 16 to suspend the rule that requires committees to report, such that the House can consider this matter owing to the fact that this is a known road, a tourism road and we are going to prioritise the roads, starting with tourism roads and this is a multi-year project, where Parliament will still have the oversight role to go and monitor or evaluate the progress made.

Madam Speaker, I beg to move that this House considers my proposal to have the said rule suspended such that the House can take a decision, on behalf of the committee that plays a delegated role. (*Interjections*) I beg to move.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, I want you to listen. This road has been in the process for over two years – six years! Hon. Ecweru has been responding on this road. (*Mr Ecweru rose*) Let us get information.

MR ECWERU: Madam Speaker, I came to the ministry three years ago and found that the question of Kitgum-Karenga Road had been persistent and this House decided to put it in the tourism roads. We are processing it as one of the tourism roads. I would like to tell this House that we are coming back for more tourism roads; this is just the beginning. (*Members rose*)

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, just a minute. Honourable members, first sit. Hon. Ecweru, if you are not going to bring Jinja Expressway, we will do what you want us to do like –(*Members rose*) Honourable members, this is not something crucial.

Honourable members, when you continue talking, we shall, first keep quiet and do the listening. You are bringing – aah, aah! Let us, first wait. Yes?

MR OPOLOT ISIAGI: Thank you, Madam Speaker. We are getting scanty information about the committee.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable, first wait. I know you are my voter. First wait.

MR OPOLOT ISIAGI: The chairperson of the committee is from my district.

THE SPEAKER: Yes.

MR OPOLOT ISIAGI: So, I am interested in knowing.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, it is a tourism road connecting – for the first time, northern Uganda is getting connected. *(Applause)* And you are the same people who have been complaining that there are no roads on that side.

I now put the question that the motion for a resolution of Parliament to authorise the Government to borrow up to - *[Member: "Procedure!"]* – It is suspended – € 110,543,947.52 from Standard Chartered Bank to finance the Kitgum-Kidepo Road upgrading project to be approved by this House.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Report adopted.

MOTION THAT THE HOUSE RESOLVES ITSELF INTO A COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY TO CONSIDER THE SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULE NO.2 FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 156(2) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF UGANDA, SECTION 25 OF THE PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT ACT, 2015 AND RULE 153 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, can we first listen? It is because you are not

listening that I am not giving you a chance to speak. If you were listening, I would give you a chance to speak. *(Mr Ssenyonyi rose)* LOP, first wait.

Honourable members, you recall that on 18 April 2024, the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development tabled the Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.2 for Financial Year 2023/2024 and it was referred to the Committee on Budget for consideration. The committee is ready to report.

As required by Article 156(2) of the Constitution of Republic of Uganda, 1995 and Rule 153 of the Rules of Procedure, I now invite the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to move a motion to that effect.

3.38

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

(Mr Joel Ssenyonyi): Madam Speaker, this housekeeping will be very important for us. Firstly, we want roads in northern, western, eastern and central Uganda. So, on that issue, we are at par. This Kampala in which we operate is a mess; we want the roads fixed. But for the good of our housekeeping, Madam Speaker and you have mentioned, these committee chairpersons are under this august House; we want to make sure there gets to be no repeat of the same.

The Government Chief Whip has told us that the leadership of the committee informed him that they were not available. Madam Speaker, this House is under your leadership, supervised by yourself. When a Member is to be away for one reason or another - if it is a Member on my side, they will inform me but they will inform the Speaker as well. Likewise, for all the leaderships.

Recently, there was a training for one of the accountability committees. Some Members did not show up and you took stern action; you were very angry, and rightly so. Because if something has been prepared and committee members do not show up, action should be taken.

Madam Speaker, the leadership of this committee has taken this Parliament for granted because you have not told us that they wrote to you or informed you and you cleared them. The Government Chief Whip is saying they were not available. What does he mean they were not available? How do we take action? I think we must take action, Madam Speaker, so that we do not keep being taken for granted. The rules, yes, can be suspended - there is a place for that but they should not be suspended just because we have unserious leaders.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable member, the chairman of the committee, Hon. Ikojo John Bosco, is unwell and he wrote to me but then, where are the others? That is number one. Number two, we are crossing over to the next financial year. This is our last sitting; today is our last sitting - we will come back for appropriation on 14 May 2024 and we -

MR ODUR: Madam Speaker, I am raising a procedural matter.

THE SPEAKER: We will take action; I can assure you of that, we will take action. - No, I am still responding to the Leader of the Opposition; we will take action to that effect and I will copy you in. There is a point of procedure.

MR ODUR: The procedural matter I am raising - and I invite your attention to reflect carefully on it. First of all, under Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure, whenever a Member moves that a particular rule of this House is suspended, Madam Speaker, you are duty-bound to put the question on the suspension first. Hon. Hamson Obua moved that we suspend rule 155, but you did not put the question to suspend that rule and it was not carried in this House. Secondly, Madam Speaker -

THE SPEAKER: Hon. Odur, when Hon. Obua requested to suspend the rule, and I asked if it was seconded - I even mentioned Hon. Okwalinga, Hon. Silwany - I put the question. Yes, I did, and they stood up. Even Hon. Faith there did.

MR ODUR: Madam Speaker, my duty as a Member of Parliament -

THE SPEAKER: I am clarifying that I put the question.

MR ODUR: Yes, I admit. My duty as a Member of Parliament of this House is to offer wise counsel where I see there is an irregularity. It can be taken; it can be discarded.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you for the counsel.

MR ODUR: Secondly, I want to draw your attention to rule 155, which is a constitutional matter. You cannot suspend that rule because it draws its mandate - I can read for you, Madam Speaker - Rule 155(1) says: "*The Minister responsible for Finance shall in accordance with Article 159...*" - Hon. Obua cannot suspend the Constitution here and this House cannot proceed.

It also talks about sections 36 and 39 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 and I invite the Clerk to allow the Speaker to -

THE SPEAKER: Continue.

MR ODUR: Madam Speaker, I am drawing your attention to the fact that rule 155, which Hon. Obua sought to suspend, touches on Article 159 of the Constitution; it touches on section 36 and 39 of the Public Finance Management Act. If you read in detail-

THE SPEAKER: Let us go slowly - Article 159(2) of the Constitution reads: "*Government shall not borrow, guarantee, or raise a loan on behalf of itself or any public institution, authority, or a person, except as authorised under the Act of Parliament.*"

Parliament is authorising. Are you not Parliament?

MR ODUR: Madam Speaker, now that we are going that way, read sub-section 3: "*An Act of Parliament made under clause (2) of this Article shall provide...*" - Now, let any Member of Parliament here -

THE SPEAKER: Hon. Odur, I would like to refer you to rule 16 again.

MR ODUR: The rule cannot overthrow the Constitution, Madam Speaker - the rule cannot.

THE SPEAKER: Just a minute - I want to refer you, still, to rule 16(2): “*This rule shall not apply in respect to rules 5, 6, 11, 12, 13(1), 16 and 98.*” The others are not entrenched. Those are the only entrenched rules. The Attorney-General wants to advise.

MR ODUR: I am actually happy he is here and I will be happy to debate with him now.

3.46

THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY-GENERAL (MR Jackson Kafuuzi): Madam Speaker and colleagues, the import of rule 159 is that Parliament shall have a say as far as borrowing is concerned. The import is that the Executive must follow - I am looking at rule 155 - it is actually saying that the Government cannot borrow without approval of Parliament.

I do not need to read the rule verbatim; it is simply saying that if the Government must borrow, under Article 159 of the Constitution, it must seek approval of Parliament. It is not cast in stone; we are here as Parliament. It is okay, give clarification.

MR BASALIRWA: Thank you. Learned Attorney-General, the issue at hand is very simple. Can Parliament proceed to suspend a rule outside these ones enumerated under rule 16? It is really as simple as that, and that is the gist of Hon. Odur’s issue. We must be very clear on that.

Can we suspend? Because you see, there are entrenched and non-entrenched rules. Now, if a rule derives its legitimacy from the Constitution or an Act, can it be suspended? Would it have been the intention of the framers of these rules that there are rules outside here not mentioned that, by nature, are suspendable? I think this is the gist of the matter.

MR KAFUZI: Thank you for the clarification; he has made it simpler. In essence, any rule that is enumerated under rule 16 is not entrenched and is suspendable. That includes rule 155. (*Applause*) I beg to submit.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable members, in the public gallery this afternoon, we have students and teachers from Apac Model Primary School from Apac District. You are most welcome. They are represented by Hon. Patrick Ocan – he is there – and Hon. Betty Awor Engola. (*Applause*) Thank you. They have come to observe the proceedings. *Apwoyo binu.*

MR SSEMUJJU: Madam Speaker, I want to thank you. You had allowed me to raise a procedural issue. In this Parliament, I am the shadow finance minister. By practice, you have been allowing shadow ministers to at least respond when matters are raised.

THE SPEAKER: You are seated far.

MR SSEMUJJU: So, can I raise the issue, Madam Speaker? If the answer is far, then I will take it but let me raise the issue.

THE SPEAKER: No, raise the issue but at times, I do not see you because you are seated far. (*Laughter*) As a finance minister, you are supposed to sit next to the Whip.

MR SSEMUJJU: Thank you, Madam Speaker; I will abide. The issue I am raising for your guidance is that we have a report of the Auditor-General. In that report, we have borrowed Shs 17 trillion in the last 10 years to construct roads. We have not consumed more than Shs 5 trillion and we are paying Shs 434 billion in commitment fees for money unutilised, including what Hon. Asuman Basalirwa was saying, on the Kampala-Jinja Expressway. Reason?

The Auditor-General is not kind to Parliament. You pass loans here without counterpart funding. As a result, that money stays there and we begin paying commitment fees. It is now

Shs 434 billion, including money that was given to you to do the Kampala-Jinja Expressway, which you have not done compensation.

The procedural issue –

THE SPEAKER: It was approved in 2020.

MR SSEMUJJU: Yes, but when money is approved, we begin paying commitment fees.

THE SPEAKER: That is what I am saying. The loan was approved in 2020.

MR SSEMUJJU: Yes. The issue for which I am seeking your guidance is that this institution has been indicted by the Auditor-General for not doing due diligence. We just pass loans because roads are very sentimental and commit this country.

I was not here some two to three days ago when Parliament was complaining that Hon. Musasizi was cutting their budget. Next financial year, we need Shs 25 trillion to repay the debt. As a result, the honourable Minister of Finance issued a corrigendum, cutting over Shs 2 trillion from every vote, including Parliament because the debt servicing has increased. Just by this action, you have now said it can go to Shs 30 trillion as a result because you borrow and then you reduce the amount available to do work.

The guidance I am seeking, Madam Speaker, in the absence of a committee report to interrogate all these issues for us to be able to make a decision - In fact, if you read the report of the Minister of Finance, Hon. Matia Kasaija, he says we should stop committing the future generation. That is his report, which I will be tabling.

So, my procedural issue - because I should have made this as a comment, as a shadow minister, Madam Speaker - is whether we are not scoring in our own net to continue causing a problem every financial year and allowing this shabby Government to bring things here at a terrible speed and then blackmail everybody that this one is time-barred. That is the procedural issue

I would like you, Madam Speaker, to guide me on.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members? Hon. Muhammad Nsereko - Hon. Nsereko has been here, it is actually you.

3.53

MR MUHAMMAD NSEREKO (Independent, Kampala Central Division, Kampala): Courtesy means – (*Interjection*)- I was seated next to you. Do you want to speak first?

Madam Speaker, we are of course all interested in infrastructure development. For me, what the Leader of the Opposition presented was sufficient; that we ought to be smarter in the future, so that the committee takes responsibility to explain to this august House. I feel for the people of northern Uganda because we seek for infrastructure the same way. If we sit here and disregard their plight, it will definitely come back to act against us.

Therefore, as Parliament, we should box ourselves in the corner and realise that as committees, please, take up your responsibility. It is not the responsibility of the whip to come here and explain the position of the committee. You need to carry us together as a House so that we stand together and defend this loan for the people and its importance to the country.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I understand that definitely a question has been put and the matter should now be put to its logical conclusion but aware that in future, we shall not accept to debate any report without the full input of the committee and all of us. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Next item?

MOTION THAT THE HOUSE RESOLVES ITSELF INTO A COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY TO CONSIDER THE SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULE NO.2 FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 156(2) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA, SECTION 25 OF THE PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT ACT, 2015 AND RULE 153 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF PARLIAMENT

THE SPEAKER: Honourable minister, can you move the motion? (*Hon. Aisha Kabanda rose*) Hon. Aisha Kabanda, you will raise the procedural matter, please. No, it is okay, it will not. Minister, bring the motion.

3.55

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (GENERAL DUTIES)

(Mr Henry Musasizi): Madam Speaker, I beg to move the motion that this House resolves itself into a Committee of Supply to consider and approve the Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No. 2 for the Financial Year 2023/2024, in accordance with Article 156 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, Section 25 of the Public Finance Management Act (amended), 2015, and Rule 153 of our Rules of Procedure of Parliament. I beg to move.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Is it seconded? (*Members rose*) It is seconded by Gen. Kavuma, Gen. Elwelu, Hon. Faith, Hon. Menya, Hon. Stephen, Dr Noah Musa, Hon. Gerald Nangoli- I have not said Dr Omona because he does not vote, the Government Chief Whip, Hon. Solomon Chelangat, Hon. Okwalinga, Hon. Peggy Waako, Hon. Iddi Isabirye, Hon. Wanda, Hon. Awas, *Maama* Busia, Hon. Achayo, Hon. Annet Katusiime, Hon. Sylvia Nayebale, Hon. Donald Katalihwa, Hon. Fred Opolot, Hon. Angura, Hon. Opolot-Isiagi, Hon. Isaac Otimgiw, Hon. Rukaari and Hon. Eric Musana.

Would you like to speak to it?

MR MUSASIZI: Madam Speaker, you may recall that Parliament appropriated the total budget of Shs 52.736 trillion for the Financial Year 2023-2024, disaggregated as follows;

Shs 31.263 trillion appropriated budget by Parliament and Shs 21.437 trillion as Statutory expenditure. Section 25 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015, states as follows;

- (1) " Where in respect of any financial year, it is found that the amount appropriated by an Appropriation Act is insufficient, or that a need has arisen for expenditure for a purpose for which no amount has been appropriated by the Appropriation Act, a supplementary estimate, showing the amount required, shall be laid before Parliament, by the Minister through a Supplementary Appropriation Bill.
- (2) For the purposes of Article 156(2)(b) of the Constitution, the total sum of money that may be expended by the Government for any purpose, in excess of the amount appropriated for a purpose for which no money was appropriated by the Appropriation Act, shall not exceed the total of the money appropriated to the Contingencies Fund."

Madam Speaker, in line with the above section of the law, Parliament approved a Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.1 for the Financial Year 2023-2024 amounting to Shs 3.492 trillion.

On 18 April 2024, I laid before Parliament a Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.2 for the Financial Year 2023-2024 amounting to Shs 1.109 trillion.

The drivers of this supplementary are the following;

- i. Additional local revenue;
- ii. Unspent balances for the Financial Year 2023-2024;
- iii. Additional external financing;
- iv. Wage, pension and gratuity shortfalls; and
- v. Critical Government policy commitments.

This Supplementary Schedule No.2 is self-funded. In other words, it is going to be funded from additional non-tax revenue as well as already committed external financing and reallocations within the already existing resources as follows;

- i. Under wage pension and gratuity, the funded savings within the budget amounts to Shs 125.830 billion. This will be reallocated within the already existing wage bill;
- ii. Non-tax revenue, is additional local revenue that has been realised amounting to Shs 31.204 billion. Other reallocations within the budget will amount to Shs 666 billion;
- iii. The unspent Government of Uganda funding is Shs 0.960 billion; and under external financing, World Bank and African Development Bank (AfDB) projects, Shs 277.105 billion, totalling to Shs 1.109 trillion.

With this background information, I beg to move and invite the House to consider and approve this Supplementary Schedule No.2 for the Financial Year 2023-2024 with the above proposed sources of funding. I beg to move.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Chairperson, Committee on Budget-

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I have listened to the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, but before the committee report is presented, he said that we have savings of Shs 1.7 trillion, unspent balances and everything.

Why are we going to borrow to finance a road when we have unspent balances? Parliament should be taken seriously. Is it procedurally right to borrow to go and do something and yet we have unspent money, which we should have just picked and taken to Karamoja?

THE SPEAKER: According to what I heard, it was a pre-financing loan and the grace period was for three years. That is the reason the Budadiri Road is very bad. The other day,

I tried going to Hon. Nandala-Mafabi's home but I failed to reach it because of the road - to my home.

Let us hear from the committee chairman, then we hear from- I am aware that there is a minority report from the Shadow Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

4.03

MR REMIGIO ACHIA (NRM, Piana County, Nabilatuk): Madam Speaker, this is a report of the Committee on Budget on the Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.2 for the Financial Year 2023-2024. With this report are minutes of the committee proceedings for the 25th, 29th and 30th of this month, letters from the Attorney-General.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Uganda represented by the Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation and Dei Biopharma Uganda, a letter from the Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation and other attachments supporting this report, I beg to lay.

THE SPEAKER: Please, lay.

MR ACHIA: There is also a supplementary report-

THE SPEAKER: Is it a supplementary or minority report?

MR ACHIA: Sorry, a minority report- (*Laughter*)- by Hon. Ssemujju Nganda, he gave me-

THE SPEAKER: His handwritten letter-

MR ACHIA: He gave me a copy, giving me notice to present this note here.

THE SPEAKER: The Clerk should give the shadow minister a computer so that he is able to-

MR ACHIA: It would be nice to support his office.

THE SPEAKER: Yes, he should support his office because he cannot.

MR ACHIA: A report of the committee - *(Hon. Ssemujju rose_)*

THE SPEAKER: I am supporting you.

MR SSEMUJJU: Madam Speaker, thank you for the support but the circumstances need to be known. The committee chairperson knows that even as the Parliament Sitting started, they were still signing. Please, do not come here and present me as someone unserious; you know what you have done. *(Laughter)*

MR ACHIA: Madam Speaker, I do not know much about the office of the Shadow Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development; whether there are computers in it or not, but I am confident of the report that is before us.

On 17 April 2024, the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development laid before Parliament a Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.2 for FY 2023-2024 amounting to Shs 1,101.099 billion and referred it to the Committee on Budget for scrutiny.

The Committee on Budget examined the Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.2 for the Financial Year 2023-2024 and now wishes to report.

Methodology

We interacted with the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and brought ourselves to;

- a) The Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.2 for FY 2023-2024;
- b) Submissions by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;
- c) The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995;
- d) The Public Finance Management Act and Regulations;
- e) The Rules of Procedure of Parliament;
- f) The Ministerial Policy Statements and

Approved Budget Estimates FY 2023-2024;

- g) The Third National Development Plan (NDP III) 2020-2021 to 2024-2025;
- h) The Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy 2023/24 – 2025 to 2026;
- i) The Semi-Annual Budget Performance Report for FY 2023 to 2024;
- j) The Approved Charter of Fiscal Responsibility FY 2021 to 2022 to FY 2025 to 2026, among other stakeholders.

Legal compliance

Allow me to first highlight some of the key legal provisions that govern supplementary expenditures.

Article 156(2) and (3) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda stipulates that:

“(2) If in respect of any financial year it is found -

(a) that the amount appropriated for any purpose under the Appropriation Act is insufficient or that a need has arisen for expenditure for a purpose for which no amount has been appropriated by that Act; or

(b) that any monies are being expended for any purpose in excess of the amount appropriated for that purpose or for a purpose for which no amount has been appropriated by the Act, a supplementary estimate showing the sums required or spent shall be laid before Parliament, and in the case of excess expenditure, within four months after the money is spent.

(3) Where, in respect of any financial year, a supplementary estimate or supplementary estimates have been approved by Parliament in accordance with clause (2) of this article, a supplementary Appropriation Bill shall be introduced into Parliament in the financial year next following that financial year, to which the estimates relate, providing for the appropriation of the sums so approved for the purposes specified in those estimates.”

Section 25(3) and (4) of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 stipulates that:

“(3) The total supplementary expenditure that requires additional resources over and above what is approved by Parliament, shall not exceed 3 percent of the total approved budget for that financial year, without approval of Parliament.

“(4) Where funds are expended under subsection (1), supplementary estimates showing the sums spent shall be laid before Parliament within four months after the money has been spent.”

Furthermore, Regulation 18(5), (6) and (7) of the Public Finance Management Act, Regulations 2016, provide as follows:

“(5) Parliament may approve a supplementary appropriation or the Minister may approve a supplementary budget, as the case may be, where the supplementary expenditure is unavoidable or unforeseeable.

(6) For the purposes of this Regulation;

(a) Unavoidable means an expenditure that cannot be postponed to the next financial year through virement;

(b) Unforeseeable does not include an expenditure that was foreseeable by the Vote at the time of preparation for the budget of the Vote, or an expenditure that should have been included in the budget of the Vote.

(7) Any expenditure, which is in excess of the appropriated budget of a Vote and which is not in accordance with this section, shall be treated as a loss of public funds as provided for under section 79(1) of this Act.”

Madam Speaker, Section 20 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 stipulates that Parliament may, by resolution, authorise the minister to reallocate funds from a Vote to another Vote, where the functions of a Vote are transferred to that other Vote.

Rule 153(2) of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament stipulates that the supplementary estimates submitted to Parliament shall

clearly spell out the source of funding for the supplementary expenditure request for each Vote.

Madam Speaker, the committee examined the supplementary expenditure requests currently before Parliament against the legal provisions and observes that the relevant legal provisions have been complied with.

Overview of the Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.2 of Financial Year 2023/2024

The Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.2 of Financial Year 2023/2024 amounts to Shs 1,101,099,000,000 and will be funded as follows:

THE SPEAKER: Procedure -

MR MUWANGA KIVUMBI: Madam Speaker, I have noted that in this House, almost half or a quarter of it is on phone and on WhatsApp –

THE SPEAKER: No, they are using it for reading.

MR MUWANGA KIVUMBI: Secondly, what he is reading is routinely what we go through – the overview, the Rules of Procedure. To save time, he could go straight to the committee’s observations and recommendations.

THE SPEAKER: Okay. The Chairperson of the Committee on Public Accounts (Central Government), for your information, is the one talking. Go to your observations and recommendations.

MR ACHIA: Thank you, Madam Speaker. In this budget of Shs 1.101,099 trillion, the recurrent expenditure is Shs 811.512 billion, while development expenditure is Shs 289.587 billion, which is about 29.3 per cent.

Madam Speaker, this is a very small report. It is 13 pages. So, my brother, Hon. Kivumbi, should not be threatened. The others are attachments. I am about to come to the end.

Committee observations

a) Savings within the wage bill, worth Shs 125.83 billion, were a result of the findings of a special payroll audit by the Auditor-General.

b) Shs 666 billion was reallocated from Vote 130 (Treasury Operations). Inclusive of the above funds, Shs 2.2 billion has so far been reallocated from Vote 130 (item 352884 - Security Redemption) to cater for budget shortfalls in the Financial Year 2023/2024.

c) Additional external financing of Shs 277.105 billion represents additional disbursements by external partners and are not new borrowings.

Observations Vote by Vote

Vote 002 - State House: Shs 18.6 billion for classified expenditures

The committee recommends approval of Shs 18.6 billion for classified expenditures.

Votes 003 - Office of the Prime Minister: Shs 9.471 billion –

MR NSEREKO: Madam Speaker – please, do not move us like a train. Tell us the observation and justification. We need to know the justification for giving Shs 18 billion.

THE SPEAKER: Take us back to Shs 18.6 billion for classified expenditure. Honourable members – Hon. Meddie, first understand what “classified” is – okay, for national security. There is a committee that looks at those classified things and it will ably make a report to that effect. *(Laughter)* So, committee chairperson, continue.

MR ACHIA: Thank you.

Vote 003 - Office of the Prime Minister: Shs 9.471 billion to undertake the pending activities before closure of the Development Response –

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, you need to tell the Chief Executive of this

country that, even as we prepare for his supplementary budget, only six ministers are in the House, out of the 83 ministers. Then, they go back and start saying that we are being bribed and being tribalistic by taking coffee to Bugisu and Buganda - we are doing this and that. The Executive should know that there are no ministers who are supporting his projects in the House. I have seen Hon. Kasolo there. Come to the front bench so that we know who is here and who is not.

Honourable members, this is a serious matter. These are the same people who go bad-mouthing us instead of being here to defend their position. They are leaving my Member just suffering alone here - go ahead.

MR ACHIA: Vote 003 - Office of the Prime Minister: Shs 9.471 billion to undertake the pending activities before closure of the Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project (DRDIP). The funding will cater for the completion of already started sub-projects and operational activities following the approval of extension of the project implementation period from 31 December 2023 to 30 June 2024.

The justification for this supplementary arises as follows:

- i) There are balances of the sub-projects of Shs 7,044,309,088.
- ii) Foreign exchange gains of Shs 2,426,693,964 totaling to Shs 9,471,003,052.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 9.471 billion to Vote 003 – Office of the Prime Minister to undertake the pending activities before the closure of the Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project.

Vote 008 - Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development: Shs 37.36 billion. The justification is that this is additional external financing for the implementation of the Competitiveness and Enterprise Development Project (CEDP) activities, including settling outstanding obligations such as payment

of interim certificates and completion of construction activities of the Uganda Wildlife Education and Conservation Centre (Entebbe), Uganda Wildlife Research Institute (Kasese) and Uganda Hotel and Tourism Training Institute (Jinja).

It should be noted that the World Bank has disbursed funds into the Designate Account for financing of the outstanding works. Therefore, the committee recommends approval of Shs 37.36 billion to Vote 008 - Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, for the implementation of the outstanding Competitiveness and Enterprise Development Project activities.

Vote 010 - Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries: Shs 9.12 billion. This money is to cater for external financing for the Agriculture Cluster Development Project (ACDP) following the 100 per cent release of the project's approved budget in quarter one by the World Bank.

The funding is meant to facilitate project closure activities across the project districts, including evaluation studies, closeout meetings, infrastructure commissioning and documentation. The details, Madam Speaker, are in the table as outlined in the report, totalling to Shs 9,121,689,812.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 9.12 billion to Vote 010 - Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, to cater for external financing for the Agriculture Cluster Development Project following the 100 per cent release of the project's approved budget in quarter one by the World Bank

Vote 012 - Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development: Shs 232.387 billion. It is broken down as follows:

- i) Shs 66 billion to be transferred from Vote 103 - Treasury Operations, to facilitate part payment of the outstanding compensation obligations under the Ranchers Restructuring Programme. These funds were provided under Supplementary

Schedule 1 and approved under Vote 130 - Treasury Operations, for direct payment to the verified beneficiaries and bona fide owners of the ranches. It should be noted that the current, as of April 2024, outstanding compensation award is Shs 372.297 billion.

- ii) Shs 135.103 billion, which is external financing for clearing contractual obligations under the Competitiveness and Enterprise Development Project (CEDP). It is required to finance the land component. This is required to facilitate the implementation of the land information system under Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development. The annexure is attached as "Annex 2" for the details of the activities.
- iii) Shs 31.284 billion is external financing for Uganda Support to Municipal Infrastructure Development (USMID) to meet the contractual obligations. This supplementary is meant to clear contracts and avoid accruing arrears that could arise out of the project closure. The details are in Annex 3.

Therefore, the committee recommends the following:

1. Approval of Shs 66 billion to facilitate part payment of the outstanding compensation obligations as per Annex 1 under the Ranches Restructuring Programme.
2. Approval of Shs 135.103 billion under the Competitiveness and Enterprise Development Project to meet the contractual obligations.
3. Approval of that Shs 31.284 billion for Uganda Support to Municipal Infrastructure Development Project to meet the contractual obligations.

Vote 018 - Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development: Shs 3 billion. It is required to facilitate the commemoration of the Uganda Martyrs' Day celebrations. Table 4 gives the details:

- i) Support to the Catholic Diocese of Nebbi, which is leading the celebrations in

- Namugongo. They are going to receive Shs 1,087,915,708.
- ii) Support to the Anglican Church (Mid-Western Uganda Cluster Diocese): Shs 1,087,915,708.
 - iii) Support to the Uganda Muslim Site in Namugongo Shs 200 million.
 - iv) Co-ordination by the National Organising Committee: Shs 100 million.
 - v) Ministry of Health: Shs 103,514,000.
 - vi) Kira Municipality: Shs 66,340,000
 - vii) National Water and Sewerage Corporation: Shs 204,314,584.
 - viii) Security during that day Shs 150 million, totalling to Shs 3 billion.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 3 billion to Vote 018 - Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, to facilitate the commemoration of Uganda Martyrs' Day celebrations this year.

Vote 019 - Ministry of Water and Environment: Shs 11.559 billion. This money is funding for farm income enhancement and forest conservation programme funded by the African Development Bank that had been planned to end on 30 June 2023, but was extended to 30 June 2024 to enable completion of the activities. These activities include:

- i) Construction of the remaining works for gravity-fed irrigation schemes, infrastructure and facilities for Wadelai, purchase of farm tractors to five schemes, procurement of assorted tree seedlings distributed to Mubuku-2, Manafwa, Ngenge, Tochi, and Wadelai for sustainable forest management watershed areas. Procurement of apiculture value-addition equipment and post-harvest handling equipment, that is the rice equipment and to distribute them to farmers.

Facilitating promotion of aquaculture and horticulture practices in the five schemes, including training and equipping farmers to train in agribusiness skills on use, operation and maintenance, facilitating linkage between farmers to market in the five irrigation schemes.

Madam Speaker, the committee recommends approval of Shs 11.559 billion to Vote 019 - Ministry of Water and Environment, for Farm Income Enhancement and Forest Conservation Programme funded by the African Development Bank.

Vote 122 - Kampala Capital City Authority, Shs 13.69 billion from stronger performance of the Non-Tax Revenue(NTR) activities. They were returning their collections. This is to cater for the wage shortfalls of the city cleaning casual workforce.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 13.69 billion to Vote 122 Kampala Capital City Authority to cater for the wage shortfalls of the city cleaning casual workforce.

Vote 114 - Uganda Police Force. Shs 9.156 billion is arising out of compensation for Uganda Police property affected by the Kampala flyover construction and road upgrading project. This is to enable the Vote to procure land and settle the affected staff to other sites. The details are in Table 5, Madam Speaker. Shs 9.156 billion- Vote 144 for Uganda Police Force *-(Interjections)-* Yes, the flyover land.

The committee recommends approval of that money for compensation of Uganda Police Force property affected by the Kampala flyover construction and road upgrading project.

Vote 167 - Science, Technology and Innovation. Shs 578.4 billion to support the Strategic Pharmaceutical Industrial Investment under DEI Biopharma Ltd to enable them to complete the business production and ensure it comfortably meets its debt obligations and operational requirements.

The Government has embarked on the process of acquisition of equity in DEI Biopharma Ltd as a strategic intervention to increase the production of pharmaceutical drugs locally.

It should be noted that the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation provided a written commitment and a copy of the letter is attached

as annexure 9 to the committee that no funds would be disbursed to the company until the evaluation process is completed and the Government's stake in the company is formally established.

In addition, the Attorney-General provided to the committee an affirmation that his office will take the lead in ensuring that the Government acquires the equity in the company, which is equivalent to the money expended to the company by the Government of Uganda and that at all times, due regard will be for the public interest. A copy of the letter of the Attorney-General is attached as annexure 10.

Lastly, Madam Speaker, the committee received a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Uganda and DEI Biopharma Ltd concerning the acquisition by the Government of Uganda of equity in DEI Biopharma Ltd and a copy of the MOU is attached as an annexure 11. Therefore, the committee recommends as follows;

Subject to the aforementioned undertakings and commitments by the Government, the committee recommends approval of Shs 578.4 billion to Vote 167 - Science, Technology and Innovation to support the strategic acquisition of equity under DEI Biopharma Ltd.

Vote 406 - Hoima Regional Referral Hospital. Shs 115.657 million is Ugandan Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfer (UGIFT) this is an unspent balance for the construction and equipping of the blood bank at the hospital, that was returned to the Uganda Consolidated Fund at the end of the last Financial Year.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 115.657 million to vote 406 - Hoima Regional Referral Hospital for UGIFT programme to unspent balances for construction and equipping of the blood bank.

Vote 407 - Jinja Regional Referral Hospital. Shs 30.785 million is external financing under Government-to-Government financing from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to cater for the procurement of ICT equipment.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 30.785 million to Vote 407 - Jinja Referral Hospital for external financing under the Government to Government financing from USAID to cater for the procurement of ICT equipment.

Vote 421 - Kayunga Referral Hospital. Shs 579.5 million is an unspent balance to support the hospital during the transitional period from a general hospital to a regional referral hospital that was returned to the Uganda Consolidated Fund at the end of the Financial Year 2022/2023.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 579.5 million to Vote 421 - Kayunga Regional Referral Hospital for unspent balances to support the hospital during the transition period from a general hospital to a regional referral hospital that was returned to the Uganda Consolidated Fund at the end of the Financial Year 2022/2023.

Vote 537 - Uganda Mission in Havana, Cuba. Shs 380 million is unspent balances from the Financial Year 2022/2023 to furnish and equip the official residence of the ambassador. The embassy was not allocated a development budget for 2023/2024.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 380 million to vote 537 - Uganda Mission in Havana, Cuba, for unspent balances from Financial Year 2022/2023 to furnish and equip the official residence of the ambassador.

Vote 600 - Local Governments. Shs 43.060 billion is being provided to cater for the following;

- i) Shs 40.445 billion is external financing for Uganda's Support to Municipal Infrastructure Development(USMID), to be utilised by local governments to meet their outstanding contractual obligations related to urban road construction projects funded by the World Bank. Madam Speaker, the details are in Annex 4 attached.
- ii) Shs 2.615 billion is additional UGIFT unspent balances that were returned to the Uganda Consolidated Fund at the end of the

Financial Year 2022/2023 as per Annex 5 attached. This is funding to enable the local governments to meet their outstanding contractual obligations.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 43.060 billion to various local governments as follows;

- i) Shs 40.445 billion for external financing for Uganda Support to Municipal Infrastructure Development (USMID) to be utilised by Local Governments to meet the outstanding contractual obligations related to urban road construction projects funded by the World Bank.
- ii) Shs 2.615 billion additional UGIFT unspent balances that were returned to the Uganda Consolidated Fund at the end of Financial Year 2022/2023.

Local Governments

Shs 8.35 billion is additionally locally raised revenue as per Annex 6 attached. This is on account of additional local revenue collected by a number of Local Governments.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 8.35 billion for additional locally raised revenue to various Local Government votes. The details are in Annex 6.

Various Central and Local Government Votes

Shs 98.843 billion to meet wage shortfalls as per the findings of the special audit by the Office of the Auditor-General are in Annexure 7.

This shortfall will be funded using savings from within the wage Bill for the Financial Year 2023/2024. The committee, therefore, recommends approval of Shs 98.843 billion to meet wage shortfalls for various central and local government votes.

Various Central and Local Government Votes

Shs 26.987 billion to meet pension and gratuity shortfalls as per the verified submissions from

respective accounting officers. The details are in Annexure 8. This shortfall will be funded using savings from the wage Bill.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 26.987 billion to meet pensions and gratuity shortfalls for various central and local government votes.

In conclusion, I request that the House approves the supplementary expenditure under Schedule No. 2 for the Financial Year 2023-2024 totalling Shs 1,101.099 trillion as outlined in the table below and detailed in Annexure A and B of the proposed supply schedule.

Recurrent is Shs 811,957,952,835
Development is Shs 289,123,211,547
Total is Shs 1,101,099,164,308. I beg to report.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, Vice-Chairperson and the honourable Shadow Minister of Finance.

4.41

THE SHADOW MINISTER OF FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Mr Ibrahim Ssemujju):

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank you. This minority report has been signed by the following members;

Hon. Matthias Mpuuga, Hon. Yusuf Nsibambi, Dr Lulume Bayigga, Hon. Karim Masaba and Hon. Ssemujju Ibrahim. I will not labour to go into what the main report has covered.

The supplementary schedule No. 2 of Financial Year 2023/2024 amounting to Shs 1.1 trillion was laid in Parliament on 17 April 2024 and referred to the committee.

This second schedule follows supplementary schedule No. 1 amounting to Shs 3.5 trillion laid on 30 November 2023 and passed by this Parliament in December. The first supplementary schedule was financed through extra borrowing of Shs 3.6 trillion and the second one is to be financed through reallocation within the budget.

The first supplementary revised the total approved budget the budget from Shs 52.7 trillion to Shs 55.3 trillion if you add that money.

To consider this supplementary, the Committee on Budget held three meetings, one at Speke Resort, Munyonyo on Thursday, 18 April 2024 and at Parliament on Monday, yesterday and today.

Those of us opposed to the Supplementary Expenditure Request have, pursuant to Rule 205 of the Rules of Procedure, written in a minority report. And these are areas of dissent;

1. First, this Supplementary Request does not comply with the law.
2. Second, the dubious and endless State House classified expenditures.
3. Third, we oppose donating Shs 578.4 billion taxpayers' money to Mr Magoola.
4. Non-compliance with the law.

All the activities and items the Government is seeking to finance through the second supplementary request do not meet the requirement of section 25 of the Public Finance Management Act. section 25, 6 and 7 make it categorical that an activity or item funded by a supplementary budget must be unavoidable and unforeseeable.

The law goes ahead to define these two terms.

“Unavoidable” means an expenditure that cannot be postponed to the next financial year. Mind you, the next financial year starts on July 1st, which is hardly two months away.

“Unforeseeable” means an item not foreseeable by the vote at the time of preparing of the budget of the vote or an expenditure that should have been included in the budget of the vote.

The intention of this section is to stop leaders from running a country like a kiosk or a kraal. In fact, even a kraal has rules. Usually milking is done in the mornings and evenings.

The items to be funded here include salaries, wages, gratuity, land compensation, compensation to ranchers, municipal or city infrastructure, State House classified etcetera.

Release of this money, if it is ever released, almost one month to the end of the financial year, will cause a stampede as people are fighting to absorb this it. Agencies will be fighting to beat the end of financial year two-months deadline. Therefore, even if you stretch the meaning of these two words to accommodate the listed items, the time remaining for the end of the financial year cannot facilitate release and absorption of the money, especially where procurement is required.

5. This particular Budget we are processing is increasing the State House budget to Shs 802 billion. In this supplementary schedule No. 2, State House is asking for another Shs 18.6 billion classified expenditure. It is also asking for an additional Shs 2.7 billion for wages.

And if approved, this will bring the total State House budget for this financial year to Shs 802.6 billion. Remember, that the budget was passed in May 2023 and the State House was given Shs 421.9 billion.

Five months later, in December, the State House requested an additional Shs 353.3 billion in classified expenditure, which this Parliament approved bringing the total budget for the residents of President Museveni to Shs 775.2 billion. The President is now demanding another Shs 21.3 billion in supplementary schedule No.2.

This, as noted above, will bring the total State House budget for this financial year to Shs 802.6 billion. State House budget has since the passage of the budget grew by 46 per cent, it has turned into a bottomless pit.

What this means in real terms is that the country is spending Shs 2.1 billion per day on maintaining the residence of its revolutionary leader. *(Laughter)* This is a huge cost for

Uganda, where 20 per cent of its population is still living on less than a dollar per day.

Kampala Capital City, the same year, is given a total budget of Shs 386 billion, including a miserable Shs 31.1 billion for roads and bridge improvement. It means that while we spend Shs 2.1 billion on maintaining our President and his dear wife per day, we are spending Shs 86 million on maintaining Kampala roads and bridges in the same period. While we spend Shs 91.6 million on maintaining the President per hour, we are spending Shs 3.5 million on Kampala roads and bridges, which is our capital city.

6. President Museveni's classified budget, under his residence, is now Shs 455 billion.

This is the budget classified under the residence. Parliament must interest itself in the ever-increasing State House classified budget. In the 2023/2024 Budget, State House was given Shs 83.1 billion for classified expenditure. State House requested for an additional Shs 353.3 billion, again, for classified expenditure, which this Parliament approved. It is now asking for a third classified budget of Shs 18.6 billion in the same year, bringing the total classified expenditure of State House to Shs 455 billion.

The table below is showing you the requests. First, in the budget we put Shs 83.1 billion as classified. There is a breakdown in the last first supplementary schedule.

Madam Speaker, while State House is a public property, what takes place there is a private matter between the President and his family. That is why our President is given a salary under the Emoluments and Benefits of the President, Vice President and Prime Minister Act. This salary is for him to spend on items like any other human being. A free, fully facilitated house is one of the benefits under this law. What the law envisaged is that the President would perform his public duties and functions through his office and retire to State House to rest.

This Parliament ought to know what classified duties the President is performing in his bedroom. *(Laughter)* By endlessly carrying taxpayers' money to his residence, our President is inviting public scrutiny into his private life. This Parliament must bring the President under the armpit of the law -

THE SPEAKER: There is a procedural matter.

MR ENOS ASIMWE: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to appreciate the honourable member on the Floor for the report. However, just as we did with the first report, wouldn't it be procedurally right that he goes to the recommendations because we know all the details? *(Interjections)* At least, we have the report with us on our iPads. He should, straight away, go to the recommendations and we debate the report.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, in the public gallery this afternoon, we have a delegation of former Ugandan students in Algeria, under the Uganda-Algeria Alumni Association. They met the Committee on Foreign Affairs this morning, for an interaction on the condition of Ugandan students in Algeria. Please, stand up. *(Applause)* The person that was chosen to represent Parliament in Algeria is Hon. Hassan Kirumira. He is here. *(Applause)* You need to interact with him before you go back.

MR KIRUMIRA: Much obliged, Madam Speaker. *(Laughter)*

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. It is in writing; he was sent to Algeria. So, you should interact with the alumni and get their issues.

There was a procedural matter but I think the Member is about to complete. He is flowing and it seems that he likes classified issues in the bedroom. *(Laughter)* Let us allow him to finish. *(Applause)*

MRSSEMURJU: I thank you, Madam Speaker. You see, the reason for this breakdown is that we come from different backgrounds. The constituency where I was born neighbours his

and I know his background as a former Local Defence Unit (LDU) personnel. *(Laughter)*

Madam Speaker –

THE SPEAKER: What have you said?

MR SSEMUJJU: While a free, fully facilitated State House - [Mr Kabanda: “He is a member of the reserve force.”]

THE SPEAKER: Whose reserve force is he a member of?

MR SSEMUJJU: No, I have said it and he knows. Kyazanga is near his constituency. He was harassing us when he was an LDU personnel. *(Laughter)*

Madam Speaker, this is a small report, so, can I be given - Madam Speaker, a free, fully facilitated State House is one of the benefits under this law.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable member, there is no way Hon. Ssemujju would know the other one was an LDU when he was not. So, they are the same. *(Applause)* Please, go ahead.

MR SSEMUJJU: Madam Speaker, Parliament must bring the President under the ambit of the law. He should choose between the Entebbe and Nakasero residences. *(Mr Kajwengye rose_)*

THE SPEAKER: There is a point of order.

MR SSEMUJJU: But this one keeps disturbing me.

MR KAJWENGYE: Madam Speaker, you designated me to chair the Committee on Defence and Internal Affairs. I know the role of LDUs. They actually do not harass people. What they do – they actually harass thieves; they harass criminals and I do not think the honourable member is one of them.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, I do not know why you are distorting the report. Can we move and finalise on this report? *(Applause)* At least one thing - if he had said

he is a homosexual, it would be something very offending, but LDU! Go ahead.

MR SSEMUJJU: I think – Madam Speaker, I remember the first time I came to Parliament –

THE SPEAKER: You read.

MR SSEMUJJU: I am reading. The first time I came here, we were told, in a seminar, to think before we speak. *(Laughter)*

Madam Speaker, this Parliament must bring the President under the ambit of the law. The law provides for one State House. The President must choose between the Entebbe and Nakasero residences. He should also stop operating lodges in other towns. *(Interjections)* That is what the law provides –

THE SPEAKER: Can I first ask before you go ahead?

MR SSEMUJJU: Then, you will be interfering with the report reading. *(Laughter)*

THE SPEAKER: No, I just want it to be cleared. Which one is a home and which one is an office?

MR SSEMUJJU: Madam Speaker, the law on the President, Vice President and Prime Minister define these things. I am not the one defining them. Maybe, I will need to bring a copy here for my colleagues to appreciate. All the benefits of the President are given by the law. He does not give himself – including a salary, educating his children. In fact, the law limits him to four children; he is not supposed to produce more. That is what is in the law. *(Laughter)*

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, listen. I was seeking clarification from Hon. Ibrahim because I do not know where the office is. I have been imaging the office is in Entebbe, so I have just gotten to know now that it is here.

MR SSEMUJJU: Incidentally, Madam Speaker, I am lucky I have been here both as a Member of Parliament and as a journalist. I

know when money was passed here to build State House, Entebbe. The President, at that time, was calling the State House at Nakasero a State Lodge. The law allows him one State House; it is even defined. He also operates state lodges, that is what I am saying.

THE SPEAKER: There is a point of information.

MR SSEMUJJU: In a report reading, Madam Speaker? There cannot be a point of information in report reading.

MR DAVID KABANDA: You are not the Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: No, he wants clarification.

MR SSEMUJJU: Madam Speaker, the President should follow the law. This Parliament has a duty to bring him under the armpit of the law.

THE SPEAKER: Hon. David Kabanda, you can wait. You will respond to him.

MR SSEMUJJU: He should also stop operating lodges in other towns because the law provides for one State House. Madam Speaker, that is the first point of dissent; that we cannot continue sending money -

THE SPEAKER: I am not sending Hon. Kabanda to the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline because he has not made any mistake - *(Interjection)* - which one?

MR SSEMUJJU: Madam Speaker, can I now move to Magoola, having finished with State House? Maybe that will create some comfort. I volunteer - if you allow me, I am going to give a copy of the law on the President's benefits to every MP, at my cost.

d) Shs 578.4 billion to Mr. Mathias Magoola

The Government is also seeking to finance -

THE SPEAKER: The Bill is putting Magoola or pharmaceuticals? What I am saying is; is

there the name Magoola in the report or it is the -?

MR SSEMUJJU: Madam Speaker, we have spent three days looking at this supplementary. Information came including documents showing that Magoola is the director, Kelen Kamurungi is another director. If I can be allowed to go down -

THE SPEAKER: So, you say, Shs 578.4 billion to Mr. Magoola, Kelen, and others?

MR SSEMUJJU: Madam Speaker, what you are suggesting will come during the debate.

THE SPEAKER: You see now, Hon. Ssemujju, I am helping you on this. When you mention only Magoola, Hon. Asuman will say, "Is it because he is a Musoga; why are you not mentioning another person?"

MR SSEMUJJU: I can mention another person; Kelen Kamurungi. They are the proprietors.

The Government is also seeking to finance, through Supplementary Schedule No. 2, DEI Pharmaceuticals, a private pharmaceutical plant being set up by Mr Magoola, a Ugandan biochemist.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable, when they are giving a supplementary to Abubaker in Buganda, why don't you complain?

MR SSEMUJJU: Madam Speaker, Mr Magoola came to prominence in March 2022 when he claimed that he had discovered a cure for the Coronavirus that causes COVID-19. I was here. The then Speaker of Parliament, Rt Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, broke the good news to Parliament that this cure for the Coronavirus would be available within a fortnight. To quote her, she said: "The treatment will be made here."

Rt Hon. Kadaga said an American scientist from Illinois University, Prof. Sarfaraz Niazi, had donated the patent to manufacture the Coronavirus drug to Magoola and work was progressing in Luzira.

Uganda Medical Association denounced this news, and the Minister of Health, Dr Jane Ruth Aceng, politely advised the country to listen to the World Health Organisation more.

The Rt Hon. Kadaga with Magoola and the American professor even secured a meeting with President Museveni who bought into this idea. This is the day they were meeting – if you do not have this picture – Magoola and President Museveni – this one here. I want to lay it on the Table. In this photo, there is President Museveni, Magoola, the American professor and former Speaker Rebecca Kadaga.

THE SPEAKER: Where did you get it from?
(Laughter)

MR SSEMUJJU: The Rt Hon. Kadaga with Magoola and their American friend even secured a meeting with President Museveni who bought into the idea and now became its main driver.

President Museveni then advised Magoola to think of a cure for other viruses because his medicine would become irrelevant once COVID-19 was over. Like Lubowa Specialised Hospital, you can see there is minimal participation of the Minister of Health and other health experts in this venture.

Magoola begins to swim in free money – I am reading the report. President Museveni, accompanied by the then Kenyan Deputy President – and now President – William Ruto, inaugurated DEI pharmaceuticals on July 6, 2021.

Since that inauguration, Government has injected in Shs 145 billion. The first batch of this money, totalling Shs 70 billion, was included in the budget of 2023/2024 – this budget that we are running. You can find this information on page 42 of the President’s 2024/2025 Policy Statement.

This DEI of Magoola again benefited from another Shs 75 billion cash through the Supplementary Schedule No. 1 passed in December. Mr Magoola’s company has

returned now with an additional Shs 578.4 billion request in this Supplementary Schedule No.2.

In a presentation to the Committee on Budget during our Munyonyo retreat, a staff of the Ministry of Science, Dr Cosmas Mukirize - his title, Superintendent, Industrial Value Chain Development – said that the reason this supplementary is being rushed is because DEI is troubled by the \$100 million loan it borrowed from the Equity Bank.

Remember, colleagues, when we were handling Atiak, again this Equity Bank came into the picture that they had lent them money and now they are harassing them – that all the money Government is extending is being used to clear the loan. That is why Government now wants to inject in another Shs 578.4 billion.

The decision of the Cabinet was that this money being injected in this company be converted into shares. For this to happen, the following must be fulfilled – and this is what we are demanding in the Committee on Budget:

- i) There must be a special Board resolution granting Government shares in the company. This resolution, you can only pass it after a 40 days’ notice. That is why they came here waving a commitment, but the information was very clear - have a resolution because you can wake up one day and Magoola says I no longer want you. You remember during Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM); Government gave Sudhir Shs 12 billion and later, Sudhir said that who asked you to come and invest in a private company when he appeared before the committee on PAC chaired by Hon. Kassiano Wadri.
- ii) Evaluation of the company by the Chief Government Valuer

This is to ascertain the worthiness, viability of the company and price of its shares before you commit public resources. Memorandum and Articles of Association to know who

the real owners are. There must also be a disclosure of beneficial owners, a new requirement in the Company Act to curtail money laundering. There must at least be a Memorandum of Understanding or Agreement spelling out key issues; all these documents have not been brought. What has been brought is a commitment. The absence of these and other documents made it very difficult for the Committee on Budget to sanction this supplementary.

Slowly, the Ministry of Science began to send some documents to the secretariat of the committee via WhatsApp, including during some of our meetings, some small documents were coming through WhatsApp. As far as we are concerned, there is absolutely no ground upon which even a loyalist of Mr Museveni can base on to give Magoola money.

This Parliament must learn from its earlier mistakes and stop giving away taxpayers' money just like that. Remember Atiak Sugar, we have now invested Shs 555 billion with no tangible results. We have injected Shs 476 billion in Lubowa but the infrastructure is not there. That is why they cannot allow you to go there because there is nothing to see. Otherwise, even by the roadside, you can see a structure. But the one of Lubowa, you have to sneak in to see. Remember Kiira Motors? Over Shs 300 billion and they have only produced just about a dozen buses. There must be a cut-off for these kinds of risk ventures.

Money for Magoola is being diverted from debt service; this is very critical for this Parliament. The Government – and you have seen the main report – does not have money to give Magoola. What it has done is to divert Shs 666 billion from our public debt servicing vote 130.

During a committee meeting, the Director Budget, Ministry of Finance told us that the money being diverted was meant to clear a debt with the Bank of Uganda; you know, we owe the Bank of Uganda Shs 7 trillion, and it is charging us a lot of fees. For example, the Auditor-General notes on page 44 of his report that BoU charged the Government a penalty fee of Shs 405 billion last financial year for failure

to pay debt. We are again postponing that payment in favour of Magoola; it is ridiculous.

Moreover, our debt servicing obligation has now hit Shs 25 trillion, which is 43 per cent of our next financial year's budget. It is the reason finance issued a corrigendum on 3 April 2024, announcing a budget cut of up to Shs 2.7 trillion. That has affected every vote including this Parliament.

There are many things we aspire for in life. If you cannot get them, you cannot go and break the bank. A pharmaceutical to manufacture drugs is a very important and good venture. But it found us already servicing loans for energy, for roads, for this and that. It is good, but you cannot afford it, at least at the moment. I actually now think this is not Magoola. Someone who can make us remove money from debt servicing in order for us to pay his debts. It is not this Magoola. It is another Magoola hiding under this Magoola. *(Laughter)*

When Mr Magoola appeared to defend the first allocation of 70 billion, he told the Committee on Budget that the total cost of his project would be \$ 1 billion, which is Shs 3.9 trillion. The Government will continue charging the Consolidated Fund for a private undertaking for a very long period at the taxpayers' expense.

This is what former shadow minister, the Hon. Muwanga Kivumbi told us last year, "A biotechnology firm, Moderna, was setting up a similar facility in Kenya at a cost of half a billion US dollars (\$500 million)." You remember the troubles we had with Bujagali? In Ethiopia, it was a quarter of the price setting up the same thing.

Madam Speaker and honourable members, you will not say that we did not warn you. Thank you very much. *(Applause)*

THE SPEAKER: Thank you very much for the warning. Hon. Okwalinga?

5.12

MR SIMON OPOLOT (NRM, Kanyum County, Kumi): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to thank the Committee on Budget

for the report they have presented and also the shadow minister for his elaborate report.

I support entirely the main report, but less the issue of Magoola. I am aware that to build and construct and fully equip a pharmaceutical industry can cost not more than Shs 100 billion.

I am aware that even in the entire region and Africa as a whole, the most expensive – just look at the one we have in Luzira. It did not cost that much. I would really like the Government to come clean on this issue and tell us where this money is heading. *(Member timed out.)*

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, let us use two minutes.

MR SIMON OPOLOT: May I just conclude? Some of us who are really highly committed to this Government would like to maybe first have an in-house discussion before some of these things come in so that we know what the underlying issue is. But without that – *(Member timed out.)*

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, I like people who like living small. If I build a house of Shs 2 million, I do not want my neighbour to build one of Shs 5 million. Yes, Dr Omona?

5.14

THE MINISTER OF STATE, OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (NORTHERN UGANDA) (Dr Kenneth Omona): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to thank the Minister of Finance and also the shadow minister for their presentations.

I want to limit myself to the response. First of all, I want to say I support the report and I support the submission of the Minister of Finance. However, I want to limit myself to two areas raised by the honourable gentleman, who is also the Shadow Minister of Finance, Hon. Ssemujju Nganda.

I would like to begin with the one about the State House. I am not mentioning this because I used to work there. I would like to say that –*(Interruptions)*

THE SPEAKER: Procedure on what? Just leave him to –

MR SEKABIRA: Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Member on the Floor, the minister, is a former PPS.

THE SPEAKER: Which rule stops him from speaking on the Floor? Quote the rule.

MR SEKABIRA: Rule 39.

THE SPEAKER: Please read it for me verbatim. *(Laughter)*

MR SEKABIRA: Madam Speaker, meanwhile I want to submit –

THE SPEAKER: Read it for me. Read what the rule says.

MR SEKABIRA: It is Rule 49. Sorry. Rule 49: “*A question shall not be asked without notice unless it is of an urgent nature relating either to a matter of public interest...*”

THE SPEAKER: How is this related to that?

MR SEKABIRA: I am going to ask a question, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: No. Did you hear what Hon. Ssemujju said? He said that when they had just come, they were told to first think before saying something. First think before you say something.

Honourable members, listen!

DR OMONA: Madam Speaker, my contribution towards the Honourable Member’s submission is that the State House is an institution of Government. It has never been the property of a President who is there.

President Museveni is not the first president who has lived in the State House; so when this House appropriates for the State House, it actually appropriates for the Government. It is a facility of the Government not of President Museveni and his family. *(Applause)*

I would also like to inform the Honourable Member that State House also has other facilities that are run under it, called the state lodges. They are scattered all over the country for the purpose of the service to the people of Uganda. *(Applause)*

In fact, some of them were built way back during the regimes of President Idi Amin and others. These are properties of the Government of Uganda which we must maintain.

I also inform the Honourable Member that the running of State House is not necessarily about the President and his wife. This is quite ridiculous. You may, one day – God willing – become the President of this country. Does it necessarily mean that when you live in State House, all that is appropriated there will be for the running of – this is quite ridiculous. What we appropriate here is not necessarily for the occupant of the State House and his wife. And this brings me to the definition of the classified expenditure. I really hope that this House-

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, let us have decorum.

DR OMONA: Maybe the Minister of Finance may tell this House what classified expenditure is. Classified expenditure does not mean-

THE SPEAKER: It is in the law.

MR OMONA: ...the expenditure for the President and his wife. I will also respond to what the Honourable Member referred to as a rejection of Shs 57.84 billion to Mr Mathias Magoola.

We are very aware of the policy of this Government to promote import substitution and the money being allocated to Dei Group of Companies is not for free. It has just been mentioned here that the Government will have a stake in Dei BioPharma Uganda Ltd.

However, it is important to understand the policy of the Government. As I speak now, the pharmaceutical market of Uganda is \$301 million, meaning that if we have to import, that is the money we will be giving out to the world.

The thinking is that the Government should support those who can manufacture here so that we increase our substitution to imports. Imagine, \$301 million taken out. Suppose the Government invests in this? It is not for free.

Again, you need to know that we can take big advantage of this other global market. Imagine, the global market for pharmaceuticals is \$1.6 trillion. It is also true that Uganda is beginning to export pharmaceutical products, which is good for our country. We should be kind. However, I agree – *(Hon. Nsereko rose)* Let me take the clarification.

MR NSEREKO: I have a lot of respect for Dr Omona. The statistics he is quoting, rightly – no one objects from this side. We are only stating that the Government talks about prioritisation.

The question is very simple; with all the burdens that we have – we had the presentation recently of the Committee on Health and it said that it needed only Shs 3 billion to put in place and activate the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) in Masaka Regional Referral Hospital. If a patient needed to be put in ICU – all the way from Mbarara to Kampala – they definitely need only Shs 3 billion to fix the ICU. But you are saying that we should sit here as countrymen to appropriate Shs 576 billion to an individual?

THE SPEAKER: Hon. Nsereko, we have budgeted for that ICU.

MR NSEREKO: We are talking of now. What is more critical? The infrastructure -

THE SPEAKER: When this was sent to the committee, you ought to have gone there and said that instead of giving Shs 576 billion, you would have suggested that let us use part of it for the ICU.

MR NSEREKO: Madam Speaker, now we are debating as the Whole House. Dr Omona is moving a good justification of the global demand for pharmaceuticals and the placement of Uganda to improve its balance of trade and balance of payment.

However, what are the priorities of our countrymen? Is it to invest Shs 576 billion in an individual's company? Or, if it was the call for the nation, why not create the Ugandan National Pharmaceutical Company which is owned by Ugandans? Rather than debating in anticipation and saying that in the future we intend to acquire shares. You are appropriating money without doing the first things first. Why not acquire shares first, cement the position of the Government in that company, and then appropriate taxpayers' money?

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, we need to finish this and go to the tax Bills because Hon. Nandala is going away and I need him to be around. Yes, Doctor?

DR OMONA: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I thank the Honourable Member for proposing that in the future Uganda should – these are good proposals, but that does not justify that Uganda should not promote investment in this huge market, I agree.

However, one thing I take very seriously is that the Government must be very serious and ensure that we have value for money in this investment. but it does not take away the justification.

When we talk about shares or buying a stake, that is what we mean in essence. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: You speak but not on point of order because he has gone away.

5.25

MR JONATHAN ODUR (UPC, Erute County South, Lira): Thank you, Madam Speaker. The first point of clarification that should come from the Government is that in the narrative in the schedule, it is said that the Shs 578 billion is for an “offtake” arrangement. An offtake arrangement in business means that when I advance money to a producer, that producer will give me the products and I will become the seller. Therefore, are they saying the Government of Uganda is now going to be an agent of that factory? It is in the narrative.

THE SPEAKER: First answer that, because it is a very serious matter – No, if he has information, let him give. Doctor, give it.

DR OMONA: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will respond to the Honourable Member on the offtake arrangement. I am not an economist but this is basic economics. “Offtake” means that you commit yourself to buy off a certain percentage produced, but do not necessarily pay upfront.

Indeed, offtake –(*Interjections*)- no, this is in writing. The Government of Uganda gives offtake arrangements to producers to motivate them to produce. Some of these investments are so huge that someone may not put his money in it to produce in such large volumes when they are not assured of the market.

However, if the Government assures the producers of the market for what they produce, they are motivated. And it is a good idea for the Government to make offtake arrangements with the manufacturers.

THE SPEAKER: When you look at what off-take is, it means “a party who buys the product being produced by the project or uses the service being sold by the project”. So, who will get –?

MR ODUR: Madam Speaker, I do not intend –

THE SPEAKER: Go to the next one.

MR ODUR: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I raised that because this House cannot approve without certainty. What they are telling us is that they would like to acquire equity, meaning that they want to be the owner of the company. However, in the narrative of the document they are bringing here, they are telling us they are just advancing so that, later on, when the product starts coming out, they guarantee the market. This House cannot proceed without certainty on what exactly the Government wants to do.

I do not intend – they will respond – to block it, but as a legislator, I want a Parliament that

makes legislation that can be defended and we are not taken for granted.

MR TEIRA: Thank you, Madam Speaker -

THE SPEAKER: Just a minute. He is also giving information.

MR TEIRA: Madam Speaker, I am a member of the Committee on Budget and this information came up *-(Interjection)-* That is why I am declaring my interest. This information came up, Madam Speaker. The Government is acquiring a stake, which is an equity stake and that is not in dispute. However, the Ministry of Health has made a commitment of up to Shs 35 billion to purchase the first line of drugs that shall be produced by the company. I beg to submit.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Yes, they did.

MR MUWANGA KIVUMBI: Madam Speaker, I would like to give information. This Parliament ought to be consistent. Where we have wanted the Government to acquire equity, we have channeled the money through Uganda Development Corporation (UDC). The Government set up an investment vehicle and wherever it wants to venture into investment, it goes through UDC. Whenever you talk about equity, and Parliament is to commit the Government to acquire equity, the vehicle is UDC. That is an Act that Parliament passed.

So, we cannot stand here in this Parliament and say that we want to acquire equity and then we want to pass it directly – through the backdoor.

Consistency is key. When we wanted to acquire equity in ROKO, Atiak and everywhere, it was through UDC. Therefore, for anyone to come here and say we want to give money to Magoola directly, through off-take, without going through UDA, is itself inconsistent with what we have been doing, and that speaks of a wrong motive of this venture. *(Applause)*

MR ODUR: Thank you. Just to conclude on that, for people who know, equity is quantifiable. If you talk of shares anywhere,

you will know it at the beginning that, the shares that are available are these and this is the amount at which we are selling and we can then evaluate whether Shs 578 – what if the Government is given one share, would it be worth this amount?

The second point I am coming to, Madam Speaker, is that in financing this supplementary, one of the sources has been stated as reallocations of Shs 666 billion. When we budget, Madam Speaker, we budget and it becomes an Act of Parliament. If you are going to tamper with any provision of that Appropriation Act, you can only come to this House and tell us that “we are now reducing from Vote 130 – similar to an amendment – an amount of Shs 666 billion and taking to this other one. That is the procedure that should have come here. The moment you are tampering with a budget made by Parliament, it is like you are amending a law. How do they come with Shs 666 billion and then say, “We are moving –”?

THE SPEAKER: Let us hear from them.

MR ODUR: Then I conclude.

MR MUSASIZI: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Indeed, the Public Finance Management Act provides that reallocations from one Vote to another requires the approval of Parliament. I moved a motion and requested Parliament to give us authority to reallocate and spend under the items clearly defined under schedule No. 2. So, Hon. Odur, what you are asking for shall comprise what we shall resolve.

My point number two, before you come in, is that you are raising an issue of equity. Yes, after we have done the valuation, we shall come to equity. Right now *-(Interjection)-* please, I beg your indulgence, honourable colleagues.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, when you were speaking, everybody was quiet.

MR MUSASIZI: Right now, this company is sick *-(Interjection)-* listen -

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, listen.

MR MUSASIZI: Right now, Madam Speaker, the company is sick and we do not want the company to die –

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members!

MR MUHAMMAD NSEREKO: It is not in bad faith –

THE SPEAKER: Let him finish.

MR MUHAMMAD NSEREKO: It helps him. I am not shooting it down.

THE SPEAKER: You get what he is saying.

MR MUHAMMAD NSEREKO: The only question that we are posing – it is not personally to you. Do not worry. The only questions we are asking and the only question posed by the minority report is, one, for you to come here and seek a supplementary, it must be in two circumstances; unforeseeable and unavoidable.

Two, what Parliament wants you to help this country to understand are three things;

- i) Was this company valued and how many shares will we be acquiring by saving them? Even if you walk to microfinance, these questions would be asked of you.
- ii) What is the risk analysis of what we are indulging in so that we see whether, within the next one month when this financial year closes, it is possible to postpone this matter or, whether if we do not do it now, the company will close in three weeks? You have to explain why you have presented a supplementary budget.

THE SPEAKER: We are now closing.

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: Madam Speaker, I want to tell the Minister of Finance –

THE SPEAKER: No, we are coming to a close because, now, both sides are understanding each other.

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: Mr Musasizi, I think the first thing you should do is to say you have made a mistake –(*Interjections*)- the problem is that you do not want to listen. We are talking –

THE SPEAKER: You leave the senior to explain.

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: That is where we get the problem. Madam Speaker, you have to do another induction. (*Interjections*) The mistake you have made – first of all, you needed to amend the Appropriation Act which we passed because you are getting money from another Vote that was approved.

Secondly, this money that you are getting has an interest component, because we are supposed to pay the Bank of Uganda. If we do not pay them, they charge us interest. You should also tell them this is a provision for the interest which we shall pay to Bank of Uganda due to the delay.

Thirdly, because we want to give money, we must follow the Constitution, under Article 159. It is very clear here. That is why people are asking the question. It says:

“(1) Subject to the provision of this Constitution, the Government may borrow from any source.”
(2) Government shall not borrow, guarantee or raise a loan on behalf of itself or any other public institution, authority or person except as authorised by or under the Act of Parliament.”

Again, you need to get authorisation to raise money for that entity. You do not come to use a budget supplementary to raise –(*Interjection*)- just one minute. This one would come with terms.

The terms are very clear;

1. You are talking of equity. Members are asking: what is the amount of the equity?
2. How much are we going to get out of this? And because you have not come out with equity, that is where the mistake is. What you would have done is to come and say, “I

want you to allow me put money aside, or guarantee –”

MR MUSASIZI: Thank you so much, honourable senior. *(Interjection)* Yes, he is senior in all respects. One, he qualified much earlier than me in the accountancy profession. Two, he was here much earlier than me; I found when he was already 10 years old. And three, in terms of age, he is slightly far above me. Therefore, he qualifies to be a senior.

Madam Speaker, I wish to inform the House that the borrowing he mentions was presented to this House when I laid - when I moved a motion to approve supplementary schedule No. 1. We are not seeking new money; we are seeking money which is already in the Budget. And whatever money is in the Budget has been approved by this House, including the resource side of the Budget.

On point two; the unforeseen and unavoidable. Madam Speaker, in May last year, when this Parliament considered the budget for Financial Year 2023/2024, I did not know that Dei was to get into this problem. I did not know that this company would get sick and need to be rescued. Therefore, this transaction clearly fits in the unforeseen criteria.

Madam Speaker, point three - *(Member rose)*

MR MUWANGA KIVUMBI: Order!

MR MUSASIZI: I have never put you on point of order.

MR MUWANGA KIVUMBI: Yes, I am going to put you on point of order – and you are my friend. I am very careful.

Madam Speaker, is it in order for the honourable minister – whom I have a lot of respect for – he was aware during budgeting process that Dei was a sick company.

When he came to brief the Committee on Budget, he was aware that they needed a total funding of Shs 2 trillion. And he is aware that they are taking us – what we call “process by process”. We even allocated Shs 77 billion to Dei. He made a commitment that they will need

Shs 2 trillion funding from the Government for them to be – So, is he in order to stand here and claim ignorance when he came to the Committee on Budget then and said Dei would need Shs 2 trillion funding from this Parliament?

Even the partial funding is a “process by process”. After this they will need more; they will come for more until it is Shs 2 trillion. Is he in order?

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, you said Dei is sick and needs treatment urgently and the Members are asking – I want to read for you a letter that was written by the Attorney-General, Hon. Kiryowa Kiwanuka, to Dr. Monica Musenero Musansa:

“Re: Request for Guidance on Government’s Investment in Dei Biopharma

Reference is made to your reference S11/4/53 dated 29 April 2024 on the above subject by which you sought advice and guidance on this matter by the Government’s ongoing investment process in Dei Biopharma Company.

As you are aware, the Government of Uganda has executed a Memorandum of Understanding for the Acquisition of Equity in DEI Biopharma Limited.

Under the above framework, it is envisaged that the parties of the agreement shall execute a share subscription, an allotment agreement, and a shareholders’ agreement to provide for, among others, the rights, obligations, and the relationship between the parties.

However, before the acquisition of the shares, the Government will need to ascertain the value of assets through a joint valuation of assets of the company...” (Members rose) - Please, honourable members, sit down – “...Please be advised that in valuing the assets, due regard will be heard to be the monies advanced to DEI Biopharma by Government of Uganda.

This is therefore to affirm that this office will take the lead in ensuring that the Government acquires the equity in the company equivalent

to the monies extended to the company by the Government of Uganda and that all the times due to regard will be heard in the public interest.

Signed by Kiriyowa Kiwanuka, the Attorney-General of the Republic of Uganda.”

The agreement is here signed, the Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U) is here signed.

And then the letter from Hon. Musenero, to the Chairperson, Budget Committee:

“Re: Progress Update and Assurance on the Valuation Process for Government’s Equity Acquisition of Ms Dei Biopharma Ltd.

I write to update you on the significant steps we have taken concerning the Government’s planned equity acquisition in M/S DEI Ltd. This strategic investment is aligned with our goals to enhance our nation’s capabilities in the economy.

You have embarked on a comprehensive evaluation process for the company. This is a critical process focusing on fiscal assets, the huge portfolio of intellectual property that is, IP, capital structure, and the prospects of the company. This will inform the extent of the Government’s equity.

The process requires a team of experts and various technical people to ensure that the evaluation process is thoroughly done and is in conformity with the highest standards of accuracy and fairness. I assure you that the process will be completed promptly.

Given the strategic importance of this investment to our nation, I kindly request that the Budget Committee approves the required funds with our assurance that all funds shall be recovered...”

That is a letter from – Honourable members, one thing that we must put in mind is that the Government must give us a commitment. That is what we needed – a commitment. We have seen a letter from the Attorney-General, *vis-à-*

vis the letter from the Minister of Science and Technology, and they are signed. And it should not be just commitment only; we need value for money.

People should be able to go and see what this money is doing. We disbursed the money to ROKO Construction Company, we expected it to have finished our building after getting the money, but it has never moved even an inch. So, we need a value-for-money audit on that. Do you need to say something, the Leader of the Opposition?

MR SSENKYONYI: Madam Speaker, two things – maybe three. One, the Government needs to learn to do business the right way. You know, generally, the Government is not very good at doing business, but it must learn now that it is dealing with taxpayers’ money.

Madam Speaker, you have given a very good classical example of ROKO – Shs 202 billion, and up to date, we do not know what exactly that money did. The new Parliament building is not moving. I inspected it together with the Deputy Speaker a couple of weeks ago and we were bothered about what we saw.

Returning to this issue, the documents that you have read, the commitment – I do not know if the committee did interrogate these because they have not attached them as part of the committee report. Information from my Shadow –

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, leave the Leader of the Opposition to – I am going to make the final ruling.

MR SSENKYONYI: The Shadow Finance Minister – who I do rely on a great deal – as of this morning, was telling me that all of these issues have not been discussed with the committee. But you see, Madam Speaker, equity is both quantity and quality.

Now, quantity – number of shares – and quality is the extent of the value. All of which has not been interrogated. Madam Speaker, the letter that you are reading from the Attorney-General

is saying there must be valuation and I agree with the Attorney-General. What do we do first? Because we cannot inject money first and then say, “Go and value.” In that case, how much stake do we have? Because we have not interrogated the extent of the equity. Why do we want to put the cart before the horse? We should have done this first and that is what I am saying is the right way of doing business.

As a private investor, before you invest in anything, you want to first examine the extent of the value of this company.

The finance minister is disturbing the Speaker –

Madam Speaker, as I was saying – because I also needed the finance minister to pay attention to this critical issue because this is our money collectively. This is taxpayers’ money that we are talking about. It is wrong and problematic; it is bad business manners for you to want to invest money into a company whose value you do not know yet.

I do not know why – as the Attorney-General did advise you because the Attorney-General generally advises the Government. The Attorney-General’s advice is not binding on Parliament. Why do you want us to pass money to a company whose valuation you have not done? What happens is that if you do that valuation tomorrow and you realise- as you have said, honourable minister, that this company is sick and you want us to inject Shs 578 billion into a sick company. *(Applause)* Why? What exactly is the issue? Whose value we do not know exactly? Honourable minister, think about these things critically like the ordinary taxpayer who would be extremely bothered.

Madam Speaker, as I wrap up in a minute – I am trying to get the attention of the Minister. Honourable minister, you need to help your Government because it sends you here to Parliament to get approval for money such as this. Now, I do not know if it is your government that is not very organised or yourself as Minister.

THE SPEAKER: “Our” Government; the Government is formed of the people.

MR SSENKYONYI: I have actually been very deliberate with my words, Madam Speaker because Hon. Musasizi represents the Government. They sit in the Cabinet and determine we need to get this money to bail out this company. How? By acquiring equity. Once you are given those instructions, you do your homework. The Attorney-General tells you to do a valuation. You have not done valuation because you have not tabled it.

What is the value of this company? How much equity are we getting when we inject this kind of money? And that is the issue that we have.

Madam Speaker, this should not even be a partisan issue between the Government and the Opposition; no, it is all of us because the people who are watching out there – on whose behalf we are deliberating – this is their money.

They are going to be asking us; “You people have injected Shs 578 billion into a company; what is the value addition to the taxpayer?” We are not answering that question and we must be able to answer that question, honourable minister, for all of us.

I want to implore colleagues even in the National Resistance Movement (NRM), because your voters are going to be asking you, saying, “This money, if it had built a road, we would see the road.” If that money had been injected into your health centres, they would see that value immediately. Here you are, telling us to inject Shs 578 million into a sick company. It is wrong, Minister.

THE SPEAKER: What is the validation of Quality Chemicals to Ugandans? No, we have supported it.

MR SSENKYONYI: Madam Speaker, you can give many other examples of entities we have injected money in and we are saying our fingers have gotten burnt. You just gave us the example of ROKO Construction Company. Our building as Parliament has not happened yet.

Honourable minister, I dissuade you. Please, back down on this issue. It is problematic. Because tomorrow, you will come back here and we shall be asking you, “We injected this amount of money; what has been the return?” Because there must be a return – and you will not have an answer.

THE SPEAKER: Chairperson-

MR ACHIA: Madam Speaker, and colleagues, the questions that the Leader of the Opposition is raising are valid and were brought by the members of the Committee on Budget. The question of valuation and what is the Government’s stake in equity? We also wanted to see what is in place to enable the Government to acquire the right stake. Obviously for those who know this valuation, when you want to buy into a company, you must ascertain the value of the company and its leverage before you pull out one shilling.

We also wanted to know what the savings are in terms of import substitution. We wanted to know also in terms of tax contribution, how much would it be and the employment?

We asked all these questions, but at the end of the day, we said yes, this is very important, but we wanted to see the process –(Interjection)- Yes.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, this is an ongoing process. We found out that there was an ongoing valuation and we wanted to see the documentation and it was presented to us. We had a commitment from the Attorney-General to see that it is ongoing. We had a letter from the Minister of Science and Technology and said that it is ongoing. We had a memorandum of understanding (MOU). We even asked what the MOU was, between the Government of Uganda and DEI BioPharm Ltd and it was given to us.

Incidentally, although we thought the first Shs 75 billion was a grant, according to the Attorney-General, that was not a grant and it is going to constitute part of the equity that we are going to acquire from this company. So, the process is ongoing.

The committee –(Interjection)- it is not a grant. According to the letter from the Attorney-General that we got this morning-

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, can I hear from the Attorney-General?

MR ACHIA: Let me just conclude, Madam Speaker. When we received the documents and personal commitments from the Attorney-General, from the Minister of Science and Technology and again presenting these matters to us, the Committee on Budget, this morning.

We are confident that this cannot all be lies and we saw the due process that has been going on and that is why we have recommended that money be approved, subject to the evaluation that is being done. That will actually ascertain our level of participation, including our equity in this. We recommended it not only for this, but for others.

THE SPEAKER: Attorney-General-

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: Madam Chairperson, I would like the chairman to help me. The Shs 570 billion is from Equity Bank, which must have valued those assets before they gave you the money. Did you look at the evaluation report of Equity Bank, which led them to give that money to Dei Group and Mr Magoola?

Two, as a committee, you are recommending but what safeguards do we have in place? Suppose we pick this money tomorrow and give them and they run away because you have paid them even extra and they say, “We have left the country” The committee should give us a guarantee on what we will hold onto, as soon as we give them the money.

5.57

THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY-GENERAL (Mr Jackson Kafuuzi): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am glad that the chairperson of the committee who read the report laid on the Table the Memorandum of Understanding by which the Government intends to buy equity in Dei BioPharma Uganda Ltd.

Last week, when we were doing RAPEX here, remember Hon. Ebwalu and Hon. Okot Ogong complained about how much or how little money the Government gives to local investors. We entered into a Memorandum of Understanding, on behalf of the Government to acquire equity in Dei BioPharma Uganda Ltd.

As the Minister of Finance has said, Dei BioPharma Uganda Ltd needs to be saved. In addition to being saved, if it is saved, it is likely to be one of the biggest pharmaceuticals in East and Central Africa. *(Applause)* We import a lot of medication, just like Dr Omona said, yet Dei BioPharma can produce those medications here and save us money – *(Hon. Aisha Kabanda rose_)*

THE SPEAKER: Let him finish, let me guide the House this way.

1. Much as we have received a letter of the commitment on valuation, the Government of Uganda must do a valuation, and the chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Committee on Budget must ensure that they continuously see that this valuation is done, for and on behalf of this Parliament and report;
2. We need a full valuation report both from where you are paying the money - like what Hon. Nandala said - the bank and evaluation of the assets that are in the area;
3. No disbursement of these monies before the valuation is done. *(Applause)* I know you have a debt with the Government but listen to me; and
4. Upon the valuation and this money is paid, the security, which is; the land titles and whichever, must be kept with the Treasury not with the owner.

I now put the question that the House resolves itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the supplementary – *[Hon. Aisha Kabanda: "Motion, Madam Speaker."]* I have given the orders which are for the benefit of this country.

(Hon. Ssemujju rose_) Hon. Ibrahim, sit. Hon. Aisha Kabanda, this is not you. Sit, you will

raise your issues. We are not going to disburse the money.

HON. AISHA KABANDA: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: No, I have not given you time to speak.

MS AISHA KABANDA: But if we do not disburse the money, what is the urgency in approving it?

THE SPEAKER: Attorney-General, you need to come back. We are approving this report but the ministry will wait for the evaluation report. It is out of courtesy that you listen to me, just like I respect you, it is the same way I expect any other person to respect others. I have given my ruling and I will not withdraw it. *(Hon. Betty Nambooze rose_)*

Honourable members, if you have issues with the process – *(Hon. Aisha Kabanda rose_)* First sit. There is a motion. Let us get some clarification from the Leader of the Opposition.

MR SSENKYONYI: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I heard you say that we try and find a middle ground so that this Shs 578 billion, which is plenty of money, does not go and then after it has gone, we realise we have lost it. So, you are guiding that the money either stays held onto somewhere, do the evaluation first, on an escrow account of sorts.

I am worried, I do not know how we get to trust these people because many times. Parliament has resolved on issues and the Government has reneged or not followed through on resolutions that we have passed.

How do we make sure that they do not abuse the trust we are trying to give them because they have abused it before?

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Member, do you know why I have given them three weeks? The money is in the Consolidated Account. In about four weeks, the money will have gone back. That is why I was giving them the three

weeks and within that period, they should have finished their transaction and the valuation is already ongoing, as per Hon. Musenero. [Hon. Otimgiw: "Motion."] Yes, motion?

6.05

MR ISAAC OTINGIW (NRM, Nebbi Municipality, Nebbi): Thank you, Madam Speaker. We have heard the committee report, and further guidance and information have also been received. I would like to move a motion that we move to the Committee of Supply to process this. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: I put the question that the House resolves itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.2 for Financial Year 2023/2024, pursuant to Article 156(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995, Section 25 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 and Rule 153 of the Rules of Procedure.

(Question put and agreed to.)

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

THE SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE NO.2

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members, we are going to read the totals; one of the recurrent, development and then the overall total, but the Hansard will have to capture all the details.

MR ODUR: Madam Speaker, if we adopt that procedure, it will be defective. Each item must be called and the question is put. When we reach a Vote, any Member of Parliament -

THE CHAIRPERSON: Including for the Central Government?

MR ODUR: Yes, all the Votes will have to be called and any Member is free to move that the Vote is reduced or increased.

THE CHAIRPERSON: I have no problem. We can reduce, but not increase.

MR ODUR: Let the minister put on record to confirm that. *(Laughter)*

MR MUSASIZI: Madam Chairperson, Hon. Odur is asking that we can go line by line or Vote by Vote. I do agree because this is normally what we do at appropriation; this is the right procedure.

In this process, if you can convince the House, you can adjust as long as you do not affect the total resource envelope upwards.

Recurrent Expenditure

Vote 002: State House

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 21,388,163,568 be provided to Vote 002: State House as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 009: Ministry of Internal Affairs

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: Madam Chairperson, I want your help. We have schedules A and B. Are we totalling both or we are going to read schedule by schedule?

THE CHAIRPERSON: It is schedule by schedule. I wanted to total, but you rejected it.

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: It does not matter because Schedule A may have something for State House and Schedule B might also have something for State House. Are we doing a sum or -

THE CHAIRPERSON: No.

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: It should have been a sum.

MR KIBALYA: Madam Chairperson, if I pick from what the senior is saying, we are going to have items – maybe State House has one, but we are going to find items that are appearing in both schedules. Should we add so that we –?

THE CHAIRPERSON: It is not possible.

MR KIBALYA: Do we add the recurrent in A plus the recurrent in B so that we supply one at once?

THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. What I have given is a sum.

Vote 009: Ministry of Internal Affairs

THE CHAIRPERSON: I now propose that the total sum of Shs 66,283,974 be provided for Vote 009: Ministry of Internal Affairs as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 012: Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development

THE CHAIRPERSON: Yes?

MR OKUPA: Thank you, Madam Chairperson. I want to suggest an amendment on that figure. This money relates to the compensation of ranchers under the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development. The issue that has been hot is the issue of the compensation of the people of Acholi, Lango, Teso, and West Nile.

I propose that this money be shared with these other regions. We can put Shs 20 billion to go to the ranchers and then the other covers the other areas because it is something that has been left out year in, year out. I propose that Shs 20 billion goes to the ranchers and Shs 46 billion goes to Acholi, Lango, Teso and western regions for compensation.

The argument would have been - because this is unforeseen, it should have been put in the main budget but now that it has been brought as a supplementary, the people from those regions must also be able to benefit from this money. Let us share it, then the rest we can budget for it in the next financial year. I beg to move.

MR MUSASIZI: Madam Chairperson –

THE CHAIRPERSON: Which region did you say should benefit? We have West Nile, British American Tobacco (BAT), cotton, Bugisu and Sebei also lost. Unless you are going to distribute to all the areas. Honourable members, we are in a budgeting process. Can't you budget for this money in the budget?

MR OKUPA: Madam Chairperson, if we are to budget, then let all the compensations be moved to the budgeting season but let others not be taken under supplementary because it is not urgent, so we rather move this money to something else. If these other regions are not getting, then let us all not get this now and we prepare it for the budget because it is not urgent. The ranchers have always been paid since 1993. I take the information.

MR ACHIA: Madam Chairperson, this matter came before the committee and I had the benefit of listening to my brother here when he appeared there. There was this argument that why not distribute across the country but in a special way, this is Shs 66 billion and we asked for other commitments before. This came with a list of people who were supposed to be paid and it is part payment.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members, I am told this money was already re-committed in Schedule 1. Honourable minister, explain.

MR MUSASIZI: Madam Chairperson, the Shs 66 billion in question is payment for verified ranchers which we committed under Supplementary Schedule 1, but after passing the budget, the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development contested that we should not be the ones to manage it. They said they should be the ones to manage, which we agreed to.

Now what we are seeking Parliament to do is to transfer these funds from the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development - Vote 130, to the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development for relocation. Therefore, there is no new money here. If there are issues to budget for compensations,

as we have always done, I can commit before this House that we shall handle that in the next budget.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Let us not raise this issue of cattle compensation because when you raise an issue of Teso and Acholi, Lango, tomorrow Busoga and West Nile will come and everybody is going to come. Maybe what you need to do, if you are budgeting, you need to look at compensation for all these areas.

MR OKUPA: Madam Chairperson, the issue of equity is very important. The reasons that are being advanced here of saying they are verified, even those compensations for those three regions or four are also verified. Remember, we brought a list to your office and we laid it here.

If we are to handle it, let us handle it in its totality because I know, having been here, that the issue of compensation of the ranches has been ongoing. We even wonder why it is not ending. Since I joined this Parliament, there have been compensations to those individuals regarding those ranches, compensating those people whose land was taken by people who invaded.

For equity, I plead with my colleagues that let us share this money. If it is difficult, then let us hold it and provide money in the national budget, which is just about two weeks from now. What is so difficult with that? I rest my case.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members, I now put the question that a total sum of Shs 66,813,357,167 be provided for Vote 012: Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development – as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 018: Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development

THE CHAIRPERSON: I now put the question that the total sum of Shs 3,236,601,139 be provided for Vote 018 under the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development – as a supplementary recurring expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 106: Uganda Human Rights Commission

THE CHAIRPERSON: What happened to the merger?

MR KAFUZI: Madam Chairperson, the process is not affecting this financial year.

THE CHAIRPERSON: I am asking what happened; I am not asking if it is affecting. What happened to the merger of the Uganda Human Rights Commission?

MR KAFUZI: The Uganda Human Rights Commission falls under constitutional Bills that were temporarily withdrawn by the mover, the Minister of Public Service.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Yes?

MS AISHA KABANDA: Thank you, Madam Chairperson. Whereas the schedule is talking about Shs 3.2 billion, the details in the report are talking of Shs 3 billion. I do not understand the disparity of the Shs 236 million. The details given to us are saying Shs 3 billion and the schedule is talking about Shs 3.236 billion. There is an extra Shs 236 million.

THE CHAIRPERSON: What I have here is Shs 3,236,601,139. What did you process?

MS AISHA KABANDA: In the detailed report of the committee, they break down a total of Shs 3 billion.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Committee chairperson, Vote 018.

MS AISHA KABANDA: That is page 8 of the report.

MR ACHIA: Madam Chairperson, there is Shs 3 billion for Namugongo Martyrs' Day celebrations. Then there is a wage of Shs 236,601,139. All this is recurrent.

THE CHAIRPERSON: For the same Vote?

MR ACHIA: Yes, for the same Vote.

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: We are not against what you are saying but when you come to a ministry, he is only looking at Namugongo. Under it, you would have also put (a), (b), (c) and (d) or (i), (ii) or (iii).

THE CHAIRPERSON: But have you seen the Shs 236 million?

MR OKUPA: Committee chairperson, show us in your report where the Shs 200 million is coming from. The report that we have is showing us Shs 3 billion net. Where is it in the report such that we are able to add to come to that? Just a clarification.

I am talking about the report of the committee, let alone the minister's statement; I mean the report, which is signed by Members. You cannot keep something out from the committee and then want to bring it here.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Check Annex 7.

MR KIBALYA: Madam Chairperson, whether the information is given by the committee chairperson or the minister, our interest is to have the information – *(Interruption)*

MR ACHIA: Wait; it is here.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Have you seen where it is?

MR ACHIA: Hon. Elijah, can you go to Annex 7 – “Wage shortfall supplementary” under the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development in Vote 018. There is Shs 236,601,139.

MS AISHA KABANDA: Thank you, Mr Chairperson, for that information. The confusion that we get is that annexes are

attachments. However, in the general report, is there anywhere that you recommended to the House to approve the expenditure of Shs 230 something million as salaries? Is it a recommendation of your committee or you just forgot about it?

THE CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Aisha, this is part of the report and what he is seeking approval for. When you look at it, you will notice that it states wage shortfalls supplementary for 2023/2024 under the Ministry of Gender, which is added to the Shs 3 billion for Martyrs' Day celebrations.

MS AISHA KABANDA: Noted, Madam Chairperson.

Vote 106: Uganda Human Rights Commission

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 242,491,404 be provided for under Vote 106: Uganda Human Rights Commission, as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 107: Uganda AIDS Commission

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 121,883,603 be provided for under Vote 107: Uganda Aids Commission as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 117: Uganda Tourism Board

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 297,108,600 be provided for under Vote 117: Uganda Tourism Board as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 119: Uganda Registration Services Bureau

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 2,987,100,291 be provided for under Vote 119: Uganda Registration

Services Bureau as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 122: Kampala Capital City Authority

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 13,698,000,000 be provided for under Vote 122: Kampala Capital City Authority as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 123: National Lotteries and Gaming Regulatory Board

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 283,200,000 be provided for under Vote 123: National Lotteries and Gaming Regulatory Board as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 145: Uganda Prisons

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 3,675,347,120 be provided for under Vote 145: Uganda Prisons as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 158: Internal Security Organisation

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 1,152,000,000 be provided for under Vote 158: Internal Security Organisation as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 162: Uganda Microfinance Regulatory Authority

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 1,108,600,000 be provided for under Vote 162: Uganda Microfinance

Regulatory Authority as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 165: Uganda Business and Technical Examination Board

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 1,274,779,996 be provided for under the Uganda Business and Technical Examination Board. Vote 165 as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 167: Science, Technology and Innovation

MR SSEMUJJU: Madam Chairperson, as I noted in the minority report, my proposal is to stay the approval of this money until all the requirements listed are made, including the evaluation.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable member, I am going to put the question. If you are not in support of it - do not, if you are in support of it, you say "Aye". I now put the question that the total sum of Shs 578,400,000,000 be provided for under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation - Vote 167 as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

THE CHAIRPERSON: The "ayes" have it subject to the conditions I gave.

Vote 303: Makerere University Business School

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 7,439,566,647 be provided to Makerere University Business School, under Vote 303, as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 309: Gulu University

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total Shs 1,102,336,197 be provided for Gulu University for under Vote 309 as a supplementary current expenditure, for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 403: Arua Regional Referral Hospital

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 319,149, 072 be provided for Arua Regional Referral Hospital under Vote 403 as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 411: Soroti Regional Referral Hospital

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 262,232,939 be provided to Soroti Regional Referral Hospital under Vote 411, as the supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 417: Kiruddu Referral Hospital

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 613,047,522 be provided to Kiruddu Referral Hospital under vote 417 as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 421: Kayunga Referral Hospital

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 579,500,000 be provided to Kayunga Referral Hospital under Vote 421 as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 502: Uganda High Commission in the United Kingdom

THE CHAIRPERSON: I am going to call you and you start reading -not Hon. Kabanda but the people behind - go back to your seat. Hon. Acon, move away from the soldier -

Vote 502, Uganda High Commission in the United Kingdom

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 1,203,412.776 be provided to the Uganda High Commission in the United Kingdom under Vote 502 as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 506: Uganda High Commission in Tanzania, Dar es Salaam

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 188,800,000 be provided for to Uganda High Commission in Tanzania, under Vote 506, as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 509: Uganda High Commission in Rwanda, Kigali

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 300 million be provided to Uganda High Commission in Kigali, Rwanda, under Vote 509, as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 510: Uganda Embassy in the United States, Washington

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 774,000,000 be provided to the Uganda Embassy in the United States of America under Vote 510 as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 513: Uganda Embassy in China, Beijing

(Question put and agreed to.)

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 298,762,054 be provided for to Uganda Embassy in China, Beijing, under Vote 513, as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 514: Uganda Embassy in Switzerland, Geneva

(Question put and agreed to.)

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 832,000,000 be provided for under Vote 514: Uganda Embassy in Switzerland, Geneva as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 517: Uganda Embassy in Denmark, Copenhagen

(Question put and agreed to.)

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 187,870,858 be provided for under Vote 517: Uganda Embassy in Denmark, Copenhagen as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 520: Uganda Embassy in Democratic Republic of Congo, Kinshasa

(Question put and agreed to.)

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 1,157,550,400 be provided for under Vote 520: Uganda Embassy in Democratic Republic of Congo, Kinshasa as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 524: Uganda Embassy in Iran, Tehran

Vote 525: Uganda Embassy in Russia, Moscow

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 50,000,000 be provided for under Vote 525: Uganda Embassy in Russia, Moscow as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 528: Uganda Embassy in United Arab Emirates, Abu Dhabi

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 733,201,800 be provided for under Vote 528: Uganda Embassy in the United Arab Emirates, Abu Dhabi as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 532: Uganda Embassy in Somalia, Mogadishu

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 82,000,000 be provided for under Vote 532: Uganda Embassy in Somalia, Mogadishu as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 537: Uganda Mission in Havana, Cuba

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 380,000,000 be provided for under Vote 537: Uganda Embassy in Havana, Cuba as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

Vote 604: Hoima City

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 356,000,000 be provided for under Vote 524: Uganda Embassy in Iran, Tehran as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 700,826,363 be provided for under Vote 604: Hoima City as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 605: Jinja City

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 1,760,939,089 be provided for under Vote 605: Jinja City as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 608: Mbale City

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 490,604,849 be provided for under Vote 608: Mbale City as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 609: Mbarara City

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 715,035,199 be provided for under Vote 609: Mbarara City as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 610: Soroti City

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 275,856,299 be provided for under Vote 610: Soroti City as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

THE CHAIRPERSON: There is a point of clarification.

MR OJARA MAPENDUZI: Thank you, Madam Chairperson. My clarification has no contradiction to how it is flowing. However, I would like to get a clarification from the minister in relation to the cities, especially on the Uganda Support to Municipal Infrastructure Development (USMID) programme.

Madam Chairperson, Gulu City, in November last year, communicated to the ministry that the ministry had not released a total of about Shs 2.7 billion, which should have been part of the committed funds, where there were ongoing projects and the money had not been released.

Again, Madam Chairperson, on the 17th of this month, the city communicated to the ministry indicating that a total of Shs 2.7 billion had not been released under the USMID funds. This has not been included in the supplementary.

What I would like to get a clarification on, Madam Chairperson, is whether the ministry is going to have this money released. This is because, as you know, USMID is ending on the 30th of June. Today, we are on the last day of April. We will have just a month to have this programme implemented. So, I would like to hear from the minister on when this Shs 2.7 billion will be released now that it has not been included in this supplementary. If the money is available, why don't you have the money released so that Gulu City can pay the contractor? Otherwise, there will be serious legal implications because there is already an ongoing project. Thank you.

MR MUSASIZI: Thank you, Madam Chairperson. Indeed, it is true Uganda's Support to Municipal Infrastructural Development (USMID) is winding up soon and we are trying to see to it that all the residual activities are concluded. I am going to check because I would like to know the reason why it is not in this supplementary. Perhaps it is part of this financial year's budget and what he needs is release. Let me check.

MR OJARA: Madam Chairperson, permit me to lay on the Table this document which will help the honourable minister to pursue this fact. Thank you.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members -

MR MUSASIZI: Madam Chairperson, the issue that Hon. Mapenduzi is raising is not about -

THE CHAIRPERSON: Go and sort that issue in your office.

MR MUSASIZI: It is about release and not budget. Release means that the money is provided for in the budget. What he is asking for is release, which we are going to handle.

THE CHAIRPERSON: That is okay but then the Members are asking why town councils are getting more money than municipalities.

MR SSEMUJJU: You can see a trading centre like Ibanda getting Shs 3.4 billion – Yes, compared to Kira, a city and it is getting Shs 1.2 billion.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Aren't you a member of the committee? Why didn't you handle it in the committee?

MR SSEMUJJU: It is in the minority report.

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 219,843,204 be provided for Apac Municipal Council, under Vote 701, as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 702: Bugiri Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question on the total sum of Shs 242,340,974 be provided to Bugiri Municipal Council, under Vote 702, as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 703: Bushenyi-Ishaka Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 90, 623,502 be provided to Bushenyi-Ishaka Municipal Council, under Vote 703 as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 705: Entebbe Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 692, 657,863 be provided to Entebbe Municipal Council, under Vote 705, as a supplementary recurrent for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 706: Ibanda Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 3,444,326,157 be provided to Ibanda Municipal Council, under Vote 703, as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

MS NALUYIMA: Madam Chairperson, for clarification –

THE CHAIRPERSON: Even Bukedea is getting less –

MS NALUYIMA: Yes, you know, it would be better for us to know that after this we have all this. Can we get to know why the variance because given these big numbers - we need to know.

THE CHAIRPERSON: This is recurrent wage.

MS NALUYIMA: So, is it what is pending in some areas?

THE CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

MS NALUYIMA: That is what we needed to be clarified.

THE CHAIRPERSON: I thought you were a shadow Minister of Local Government.

MS NALUYIMA: They should update us as the Committee on Local Government. You see, even my committee chairperson is also asking and wondering. Local government should be involved.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Mugole – Hon. Musasizi, leave Hon. Mugole (*Laughter*)

Vote 707: Iganga Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs – listen Hon. Mugole, 1,468,322 be provided to Iganga Municipal Council under Vote 707, as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members, you will find that some municipal councils have fewer problems. Maybe this one is just for collecting garbage. This is a recurrent expenditure for wages and you will find somebody's wage, like those sweepers in town, get Shs 50,000 or Shs 100,000. You are the same people who will complain when we give more money and the absorption is low.

I am reading, honourable members, a report that I was given by the committee. My work is clerical.

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: Madam Chairperson, this is a supplementary. It could be that one person missed out on the budget when they were making it or they are trying to recruit staff, yes, this is supplementary, it is not the main budget.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Maybe they missed something.

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: Or they missed something small, so if you are going to look for figures, Sironko is not there. Should we who are not there complain? Therefore, they are capturing those who have small issues. Please, this is a supplementary.

Vote 708: Kabale Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that a total sum of Shs 525,304,774 be provided for under Vote 708 for Kabale Municipal Council as supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 712: Kira Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question a total sum of Shs 1,207,645,072 be provided for under Vote 712: Kira Municipal Council Vote as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 713: Kisoro Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 560,653,198 be provided for under Vote 713 for Kisoro Municipal Council as supplementary recurrent expenditure for the financial year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 717: Kumi Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 58,908,275 be provided for under Vote 717 for Kumi Municipal Council as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for FY 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 720: Masindi Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 118,971,220 be provided for under Vote 720 for Masindi Municipal Council as supplementary recurrent expenditure for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 721: Mityana Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 314,531,954 be provided for under Vote 721 for Mityana Municipal Council as supplementary recurrent expenditure for FY 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 723: Mubende Municipal Council

(Question put and agreed to.)

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 184,580,580, be provided for under Vote 723 for Mubende Municipal Council as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for FY 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 724: Mukono Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 1,428,111,958 be provided for Vote 724: Mukono Municipal Council for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 725: Nansana Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 214,886,694, be provided for Vote 725: Nansana Municipal Council for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 726: Nebbi Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that Shs 226,560,953 be provided for under Vote 726 for Nebbi Municipal Council for Financial Year 2023-2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 727: Njeru Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that Shs 246,415,215 be provided for under Vote 727 for Njeru Municipal Council for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 729: Rukungiri Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that Shs 753,389,477 be provided for under Vote 729: Rukungiri Municipal Council for Financial Year 2023/2024.

Vote 730: Sheema Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that Shs 385,191,754 be provided for under Vote 730: Sheema Municipal Council for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Vote 731: Tororo Municipal Council

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 118,822,426 be provided for under Vote 731: Tororo Municipal Council for Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: We are doing very well, but procedurally what we have been doing is that when it comes to municipalities we combine all and give once. They say number this to this. When it comes to districts, we combine and give. When it comes to town councils, we combine and pass. It is only the Central Government and those central votes – so, wouldn't it be procedurally right that we do those totals and move once?

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members, let us finish the municipal councils, then we will get the total for districts' development expenditure - yes, you mean I am not tired?

MR OKUPA: Madam Chairperson, there is a reason why the rules were made that way. It is because previously when the figures were not included some people would go and change them but with the trust now, possibly generated by the Minister of Finance here, we can relax, have it that way, and test his trust.

MR EKANYA: Madam Chairperson, the practice, which is tested is that once we read the total, the Appropriation Bill comes, it is always checked by your office and then sent to the President for assent. Nobody can change anything because the figures are part of the *Hansard*.

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: Madam Chairperson, is Hon. Geoffrey Ekanya, my brother, in order not to say that things were not being changed when we know they were being changed? Hon. Okupa is right, but since – (*Interruption*)

MR ODUR: Madam Chairperson, we were moving very well. Let members not lose patience because we are following the law. The reason is that for many people who come from districts, you can never know how much less your district is getting as compared to others if you do not listen to the figures here. You may be passing, thinking you are passing a wholesome figure and your district is taking nothing.

Therefore, I ask the minister to allow us to proceed and the Chairperson will at some point do the needful.

MR MUSASIZI: The practice has been that with Central Government votes, we read line by line. For districts, we come from say Vote 100 to Vote 500, total, and pass them at once.

I would like to invite my good friend, Hon. Odur, to persuade him to see what all these members have seen so that we can move in support.

MR OKUPA: Honourable minister, can we conclude this first? Then we look at your proposal. Because we are about 90 per cent of the reading, let us conclude this.

MR MUSASIZI: I agree with you. The Chairperson has suggested that we first get done with municipalities and then we come back to the practice. I thank you.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members, I am happy that you are the ones who are now tired. (*Laughter*) Because I was ready and I am ready to move. We are now moving on to districts, and they are from 804, that is Alebtong to 935, which is Zombo.

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: There are districts, which are missing. Tomorrow, they will say, “they counted all the districts, where

is ours?” I think – (*Interjections*) - listen to me, just quickly. I would ask, my brother, Hon. Musasizi, to allow the Chairperson to permit the Clerk to just read the districts.

THE CHAIRPERSON: With the amounts?

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: Yes, with the amounts.

THE CHAIRPERSON: No amounts.

MR NANDALA-MAFABI: No amounts, so that everybody knows that the district they have not read is among those, which are coming for supplementary.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members, let me read:

Vote 804 – Alebtong District;
Vote 805 – Amolatar District;
Vote 807 – Amuria District;
Vote 811 – Budaka District;
Vote 812 – Bududa District;
Vote 813 – Bugiri District;
Vote 816 – Buikwe District;
Vote 817 – Bukedea District;
Vote 818 – Bukomansimbi District;
Vote 819 – Bukwo District; and
Vote 820 – Bulambuli District. Is that what you want? When I say, Alebtong is Shs 848 billion, there is no difference between that and what I was doing before.

MR EKANYA: Madam Chairperson, colleagues need to understand that our rules –

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members, this is part of the record of Parliament. We are going to upload all this on our *Hansard* but if you feel that you are ready to sit, we can go one by one.

MR EKANYA: Madam Chairperson, I would like to inform colleagues that the tax Bills are about revenue that finance this budget and we need to give it adequate time.

Secondly, our rules are part of the Commonwealth rules. The Chairperson here

is the Chairperson of the Speakers of the Commonwealth. Our practice is embedded - our report forms part of the *Hansard*, which is a public record, and therefore, Madam Chairperson, the procedure you are moving with is one of the best; you should read district by district.

THE CHAIRPERSON: They are putting you to order.

MR ODUR: Madam Chairperson, our Rule 154, on the rules governing Committee of Supply when considering annual or supplementary estimates - from sub-rule (1) up to sub-rule (2)(h) - gives all the details including when a vote is called and how you can amend it.

Is Hon. Ekanya in order to come and quote a non-existent rule in this Parliament yet this Parliament has the Rules of Procedure? We do not have anything in this House called Commonwealth Parliamentary Rules. Is he in order to come and mislead the House?

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members, can I read the districts, which are included? Hon. Ssekikubo is that okay? With the amounts. Honourable members, listen. Read:

Vote 804 – Alebtong District – Shs 848,733,704;
 Vote 805 – Amolatar District – Shs 220,815,010;
 Vote 807 – Amuria District – Shs 76,091,072;
 Vote 811 – Budaka District – Shs 569,774,320;
 Vote 812 – Bududa District – Shs 871,310,151;
 Vote 813 – Bugiri District – Shs 80,000,000;
 Vote 816 – Buikwe District – Shs 634,351,309;
 Vote 817: Bukedea District - Shs 557,998,824;
 Vote 818: Bukomansimbi District - Shs 138,976,150;
 Vote 819: Bukwo District - Shs 3,457,961,447;
 Vote 820: Bulambuli District – Shs 237,021,273;
 Vote 823: Bunyangabu District – Shs 371,453,937;
 Vote 825: Busia District - Shs 2,493,045,786;
 Vote 830: Buyende District - Shs 325,110,681;
 Vote 831: Dokolo District – Shs 1,200,052,179;
 Vote 832: Gomba District – Shs 132,794,807;
 Vote 834: Hoima District – Shs 663,105,613;
 Vote 835: Ibanda District - Shs 2,181,084,002;

Vote 837: Isingiro District – Shs 3,142,687,738;
 Vote 838: Jinja District - Shs 2,158,144,238;
 Vote 840: Kabale District - Shs 122,770,149;
 Vote 841: Kabarole District – Shs 413,457,210;
 Vote 842: Kaberamaido District - Shs 1,189,601,445;
 Vote 846: Kalangala District – Shs 499,303,936;
 Vote 848: Kalungu District – Shs 1,919,206,727;
 Vote 851: Kanungu District - Shs 2,355,337,661;
 Vote 855, Kassanda District – Shs 1,076,055,328;
 Vote 856: Kasese District - Shs 1,428,572,362;
 Vote 858: Kayunga District - Shs 886,274,114;
 Vote 861: Kiboga District – Shs 877,544,449;
 Vote 862: Kibuku District – Shs 55,309,755;
 Vote 864: Kiruhura District - Shs 1,272,038,110;
 Vote 866: Kisoro District – Shs 1,147,709,409;
 Vote 867: Kitagwenda District – Shs 292,329,260;
 Vote 868: Kitgum District - Shs 260,346,061;
 Vote 869: Koboko District – Shs 1,346,133,500;
 Vote 870: Kole District - Shs 508,409,292;
 Vote 872: Kumi District - Shs 2,856,532,203;
 Vote 875: Kyankwanzi District - Shs 280,000,000;
 Vote 876: Kyegegwa District - Shs 2,218,090,875;
 Vote 877: Kyenjojo District - Shs 1,050,288,984;
 Vote 878: Kyotera District - Shs 1,273,322,749;
 Vote 879: Lamwo District - Shs 403,256,222;
 Vote 881: Luuka District - Shs 931,990,097;
 Vote 882: Luwero District - Shs 5,365,516,069;
 Vote 883: Lwengo District – Shs 1,967,438,860;
 Vote 884: Lyantonde District - Shs 253,488,082;
 Vote 885: Madi-Okollo District - Shs 676,404,553;
 Vote 887: Maracha District – Shs 416,761,385;
 Vote 889: Masindi District – Shs 84,336,637;
 Vote 890: Mayuge District – Shs 930,316,165;
 Vote 891: Mbale District – Shs 1,720,742,693;
 Vote 892: Mbarara District - Shs 455,148,176;
 Vote 893: Mitooma District - Shs 505,896,701;
 Vote 894: Mityana District - Shs 471,519,063;
 Vote 895: Moroto District – Shs 165,753,246;
 Vote 896: Moyo District - Shs 1,293,741,625;
 Vote 899: Mukono District – Shs 2,529,351,767;
 Vote 900: Nabilatuk District – Shs 1,252,915,918;
 Vote 901: Nakapiripirit District – Shs 30,000,000;
 Vote 902: Nakaseke District – Shs 933,060,184;

Vote 903: Nakasongola District – Shs 116,719,304;

Vote 904: Namayingo District - Shs 11,900,000;

Vote 905: Namisindwa District - Shs 1,118,779,694;

Vote 907: Napak District – Shs 716,142,230;

Vote 910: Ntoroko District – Shs 200,000,000;

Vote 911: Ntungamo District – Shs 1,578,281,727;

Vote 914: Omoro District - Shs 945,418,871;

Vote 915: Otuke District – Shs 140,384,222;

Vote 916: Oyam District – Shs 686,642,360;

Vote 918: Pakwach District - Shs 1,194,282,483;

Vote 919: Pallisa District - Shs 153,095,758;

Vote 920: Rakai District - Shs 2,454,394,511;

Vote 922: Rubirizi District – Shs 1,826,796,820;

Vote 923: Rukiga District - Shs 147,370,222;

Vote 924: Rukungiri District - Shs 885,488,277;

Vote 925: Rwampara District – Shs 770,470,627;

Vote 927: Serere District - Shs 311,478,920;

Vote 928: Sheema District – Shs 1,953,424,896;

Vote 932: Tororo District - Shs 91,205,614;

Vote 933: Wakiso District – Shs 5,194,470,980; and

Vote 935: Zombo District - Shs 819,580,024.

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum read for these district Votes -

MR SSEKIKUBO: I have been listening in -

THE CHAIRPERSON: Actually, why is there no Ssembabule?

MR SSEKIKUBO: I have been listening; I was attentively waiting for Ssembabule. We had budgetary shortfalls and we thought the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development would address our concerns but I have waited in vain; I am not seeing anything here.

Madam Chairperson, I was at the district; the district is doing badly; we are waiting for the supplementary yet nothing is forthcoming.

MS NYAKATO: Madam Chairperson, this is a supplementary budget, and so, we do not expect all districts to appear on the list.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members, Rubanda District, where the minister

comes from, is not here and maybe they did not have a shortfall.

MR SSEMUJJU: Madam Speaker, this is a supplementary budget. We are not budgeting. Hon. Ssekikubo has been here for two decades. Is this his first time to interact with a supplementary budget?

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members -

MR SSEKIKUBO: Madam Chairperson -

THE CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Ssekikubo -

MR SSEKIKUBO: With due respect to Hon. Ssemujju -

THE CHAIRPERSON: Find out if there is a shortfall in the district.

MR SSEKIKUBO: There is.

THE CHAIRPERSON: No, we have another supplementary.

MR SSEKIKUBO: There is, only that I am surprised that Hon. Ssemujju, every moment he rises, he trashes other people's concerns and aware that we are all interested in Wakiso and Kira for that matter. Is he in order to trash other people's concerns without any feelings and he stares at the microphone? *(Laughter)*

THE CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Ssemujju, can you say sorry to Hon. Ssekikubo?

MR SSEMUJJU: I am sorry, Hon. Ssekikubo.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Leave Hon. Ssekikubo alone. *(Laughter)*

MR ANGURA: Madam Speaker -

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable members, I put the question that a total sum of Uganda shillings read for each district Vote be considered as a supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Development Expenditure

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF
SUPPLY

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 289,123,211,546 be provided for under the various central and local government votes as Supplementary Development Expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Overall Total

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the total sum of Shs 1,101,099,164,381 be provided for under the various central and local government votes as supplementary development and recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

(Question put and agreed to.)

MOTION FOR THE HOUSE TO RESUME

THE CHAIRPERSON: Honourable minister - Honourable members, that is why Hon. Nathan was saying that we need a re-induction. There is a point that you do not stop, especially when you are supplying or when you are at the Committee Stage. That one - okay, Adyeri, *webale munno*. *(Laughter)*

7.40

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (GENERAL DUTIES) (Mr Henry Musasizi): Madam Chairperson, I beg to move that the House do resume and the Committee of the Whole House reports thereto.

THE CHAIRPERSON: I put the question that the House resumes and the Committee of Supply reports thereto.

(Question put and agreed to.)

(The House resumed, the Speaker presiding.)

7.41

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (GENERAL DUTIES) (Mr Henry Musasizi): Madam Speaker, I beg to report that the Committee of the whole House has considered the Supplementary Schedule No. 2 amounting to Shs 1,101,099,164,381.

MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF THE
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF
SUPPLY

7.42

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (GENERAL DUTIES) (Mr Henry Musasizi): Madam Speaker, I beg to move a motion that the report from the Committee of the whole House be adopted.

THE SPEAKER: I put the question that the report of the Committee of Supply be adopted by this House.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Report adopted.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, I want to thank you so much. We have Tax Bills that we will handle on Friday at 10.00 a.m. I am saying Friday at 10.00 a.m., not Thursday but Friday at 10.00 a.m. We are going for the International Labour Day celebrations so we shall come back tired.

So we shall start at 10.00 a.m. on Friday.

The House is adjourned until Friday at 10.00 a.m.

(The House rose at 7.45 p.m. and adjourned until Friday, 3 May 2024 at 10.00 a.m.)