

# PARLIAMENT OF ZIMBABWE

*Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2009*

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

## PRAYERS

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MR. SPEAKER

### BREAKFAST MEETING FOR FEMALE

### PARLIAMENTARIANS

**MR. SPEAKER:** I have to inform the House that all women parliamentarians are invited to a breakfast meeting with the Women Coalition of Zimbabwe and the Zimbabwe Parliament Caucus at the Harare Holiday Inn tomorrow Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2009 starting at 7am to 8:30am. The bus leaves Rainbow Towers at 6:30am. – [MALE HON. MEMBERS: *Kunongoramba kuchienda vakadzi*] –

Order, order! I just wanted to say that male members of Parliament also are at liberty to constitute yourself into a caucus if you find it unfair.

## **ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

**MR. CHIKWINYA:** My question is directed to the Minister of Mines. There are companies which have been supplying gold to the RBZ and there are also gold mines which have been doing the same. They have since closed because of lack of payment – what measures are in place to resuscitate these mines so that they can open up and also that due payments can be made?

### **THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINING**

**DEVELOPMENT (MR. MPOFU):** I thank the hon. member for raising that matter of great concern to those that are involved. I realize that there is a similar question on the *Order Paper* and I think it will be addressed at the right time. Can I ask the indulgence of the hon. member to wait until that question has been asked?

**MR. MADZIMURE:** My question is directed to the Minister of Justice. On a number of occasions, people have been improperly arrested but your office and the Attorney General have proceeded to prosecute these people. Is it your policy that people

are prosecuted if they are improperly arrested?

**THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**(MR. CHINAMASA):** I am not aware of any persons who were prosecuted after improperly arrested. If there are any, I advise that they have to be referred to the relevant authorities. The institution which comes under the Ministry of Justice and Parliamentary Affairs is responsible for prosecution and the issue of whether the person has been improperly arrested or not is not a matter of the Attorney General. It is a matter concerning the police. I would also advise the people concerned to take the matter to their respective lawyers.

**MR. M.F. SIBANDA:** My question is directed to the Minister of Public Service. What is the condition of employment particularly the payment of vouchers to youths who were employed?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, order! That question is question number one on the *Order Paper* – so can you defer that to the appropriate time.

**MR. MWONZORA:** My question is directed to the Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs and the Minister of Home Affairs.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, can you direct your question to one Ministry.

**MR. MWONZORA:** I will then choose the Minister who is present.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Proceed.

**MR. MWONZORA:** Is it government policy or is it just, to discourage those illegally and forcibly dispossessed of their property and livestock in June to seek justice to recover their property?

**THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**(MR. CHINAMASA):** It is actually our responsibility to accord these people court facilities so that they can lawfully get their illegally and forcibly dispossessed property. We cannot justify illegality with illegality. If your property was taken, you cannot seek to do the same. The law will take its course and you will be

prosecuted.

**MR. MADZIMURE:** Hon. Minister, will it still be illegal if that person who was dispossessed of his or her livestock goes to the Headman and together with the Headman go to retrieve

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the livestock.

**MR. CHINAMASA:** If the matter is resolved amicably with the consent of the person giving up the livestock, that is not a problem, but if you are going to do it forcefully without the consent of the other person, then the police will come up to you.

**MR. MUDARIKWA:** My question is directed to the Minister of Home Affairs. Is the Minister aware that the cost of death certificates is now more than the cost of the casket/coffin.

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (MR MUTSEKWA):** I would like to thank the hon. member for putting the question across. I am not sure whether he could compare the cost of the death certificate to that of the casket. However, my ministry is aware that the cost of these documents is

more than what ordinary citizens can afford. I want to inform the House that the ministry is indeed reviewing these costs downwards.

**MR BHASIKITI:** My question is directed to the Minister of Home Affairs. Can the ministry not find better ways of raising money than disfranchising people by the fees of passports and birth certificates to the extent that you want six thousand Rands (6 000 Rands) to obtain these essential documents. It is the people's right to obtain documents of that nature and not be inhibited by the cost.

**MR. MUTSEKWA:** Again I would like to thank that hon member for putting across that question. I am sure, if he were paying attention, the question would be the same as the one raised by the previous hon. member and adequately answered by myself. I said, the death certificate being one of the documents that are out of reach for the ordinary Zimbabwean, we in the ministry are reviewing all other documents that are relevant to the ministry. That includes the passports you are talking about.

**MR. SARUWAKA:** My question is directed to the Minister

of Justice and Legal Affairs, Minister, how long are we going to wait before court orders issued against land invaders are going to be effected for example, there is the Border Timbers plantation in Manicaland where the invaders were given court orders to vacate the premises but up until now nothing has happened to that effect.

**THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**(MR CHINAMASA):** We are not always aware of court orders, unless these are brought to our attention, there is no way we can make any intervention. So, my advice to you, hon member, is that you bring a specific complaint to the ministry so that we can establish in the first instance the veracity of what you are alleging.

**MR. GUSHAI:** My question is directed to the Minister of Home Affairs. I would like to know what the ministry is doing about the eighteen police officers at Headlands who were discharged from duty for refusing to vote for the sole candidate in that one- man Election.

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (MR.**

**MUTSEKWA):** Let me begin by thanking the hon. member for

Makoni South for raising that issue, but as you can clearly realize Mr Speaker, that is a specific question, we in the ministry need specific details of what exactly happened before we can respond to the question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, order. May the hon. member put the question in writing.

**MR. MUKANDURI:** My question is directed to the Minister of Home Affairs, I would like to know whether the people who caused mayhem and destroying property soon after the funeral of the Hon. Prime Minister's wife in Buhera have been apprehended. If not, what action are you taking against them.

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (MR. MUTSEKWA):** Let me also thank the hon. member for raising that question, but Mr Speaker that question becomes specific and not a policy issue. I would supply adequate information if the question was put in writing.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, order. May the hon. member please put the question in writing.

**MR. KHUMALO:** My question is also directed to the Minister of Home Affairs. I want to ask the Minister to inform the House when the issue of the Anglican Church will be resolved. It is on record that the courts allowed the two groups to use the church premises for their prayers. However, the police are disrupting church services and victimizing members of the congregation led by Sebastian Bakare. I would like the Minister to shed light on when they can be allowed to exercise their right of assemble?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Hon. member, your question is not a policy question and therefore that question does not arise.

**MRS. MATAMISA:** My question is directed to the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare. Hon. Minister may we know whether it is government policy *visa-vis* –[HON.

MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections*]- on allowances especially the Ministry of Mines. Is it a matter of policy that protection is there for the workers?

**THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL**

**WELFARE (MS. MPARIWA):** I would like to thank the hon. member for the question. In terms of labour every worker is protected and no matter which sector that worker belongs to, they have to be protected within the confines of the law. For specific or employment agency where there is a problem, I would invite the hon. member to bring it to the attention of the Minister.

**MR. MATSHALAGA:** My question is directed to the Minister of Public Service. Now that in the Budget Statement the Minister of Finance has banned the use of local currency *visa vi* the multiple currency, what steps has he taken to make sure that the local currency can be used?

**THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC SERVICE (PROF. MUKONOWESHURO):** Thank you for the question. In the first place I do not think it is correct to say that the local currency has been banned, but is currently not in use. The hon. member may recall that what is being paid are allowances. In terms of the Budget the employees are to be paid proper salaries which are being worked out for the workers.

**MR. CHIMHINI:** My question is directed to the Minister of Education, Sports, Arts and Culture. The question relates to the policy of free education; we have noticed that in the past week a number of students have been made to go back because they are not able to pay the US\$2 or US\$3. Can we know whether that policy is being changed or what can be done so that these students are not send back home.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND CULTURE (MR. DOKORA):** Mr Speaker, there is a question that is on the *Order Paper* on Questions With Notice. I am going to take advantage of that to respond to the Hon. Mlambo's question.

**MS. CHINOMONA:** My question is directed to the Minister of Information Communication Technology that, is he aware that most people in the Rural Areas are not able to access the local radio station but only listen to Studio Seven?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (MR. CHAMISA):**

Thank you for asking such a very important question. Of course I realise you want variety apart from Studio Seven; you want to listen to our National Radio Broadcast. The Transmedia that transmit across the country including in most of the parts of Matabeleland and Mashonaland, they are not meeting the capacity that is required and we hope that we shall be able to take the necessary step with time.

**MR. MUDARIKWA:** My question is directed to the Minister of Local Government Mr. Chombo. Are you aware that the City of Harare is charging US\$10 for farmers in my Constituency who are coming to sell their vegetables each day and yet not charging the local people in Harare?

**THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR. CHOMBO):** I will check that with the local authority on the issue that he has raised if they are approved levies and also note that the people have to be charged at Mbare as litter has to be corrected.

**MR. J. GUMBO:** My question is directed to the Minister of

Constitutional and Parliamentary Affairs. Minister are you aware that Members have not been paid their T and S allowances since November last year, and that they have to continue to come without getting any assistance? When do you think they are going to be paid?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Although that is not a policy question, however I recognise the Minister responsible is here and will attend to that as it concerns the welfare of hon. Members.

**THE MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (ADV. MATINENGA):** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I honestly believe that by attending to this House, hon. members are doing a national duty -[HON MEMBERS: *Inaudible interjections*]-

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, can the hon. member resume his seat. Please let us allow the Hon Minister to respond.

**ADV. MATINENGA:** Mr. Speaker, surely hon. members must be aware that these are times that need to be levied in this House and hon. members cannot appreciate that. Maybe we will

all sit here with long drawn out faces but that is not what the position should be.

However, on a more serious note, the issue of Parliamentary salaries and allowances is a matter for the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders and that Committee was announced last week. It is going to meet for the first time, hopefully next week and that Committee will entertain this aspect of non-payment of allowances and salaries.

**MR. CHEBUNDO:** My question is directed to the Minister of Lands and Rural Resettlement, Dr. Murerwa. What is his Ministry's position regarding the new wave of illegal farm invasions?

**THE MINISTER OF LANDS AND RURAL**

**RESETTLEMENT (DR. MURERWA):** Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of any new invasions, but what I am aware of are disturbances which are essentially conflicts between those persons with offer letters and existing farmers on the farms. In some instances, farmers continue to stay on the farms because of various

reasons. Some have gone to the courts; others are still completing their harvesting. So, there have been some conflicts, which my Ministry is seized with at this particular moment. What we have said is that we should not have these conflicts. We should allow for those farmers who are still on the land to finish their business. However, the truth of the matter is that it is those people with offer letters who are now the legal tenants.

**MR. MADZIMURE:** Is the Minister aware that the failure by his ministry to deal with this matter once and for all is another reason why the International Community is not responding favorably to our cry for the removal of targeted sanctions?

**DR. MURERWA:** The hon. member would be aware that in the global political agreement we have agreed that we will have an audit of the land and that in the course of time we will ensure that proper leases and permits are issued to ensure the security of tenure in the land. We will also have a system to ensure that all Zimbabweans, no matter the race, colour or creed will have access to the land. The international community understands that and I do

not think that is the reason why they are not responding.

**MR. ZIYAMBI:** My question is directed to the Leader of the House. I would like to find out when those Ministers who called for sanctions will be leaving the country to go and ask for the removal of the illegal sanctions?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order Hon Ziyambi, can you move forward and ask your question. Those members who are making noise – I do not want to mention you by name, otherwise you will be the first one to be removed from this House and this is the last time.

**MR. ZIYAMBI:** My question is on when those Ministers are going to leave the country to go and ask for the removal of illegal sanctions? Are they going to ask for their removal as well as for the removal of the restrictive measures against Zimbabwe?

**THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (PROF. MUTAMBARA):** Mr. Speaker, hon. members are aware that we are here as Ministers of an inclusive government of the three political parties. We are one government and we have a plan. We

are setting up an engagement Committee from Cabinet from the three political parties so that they address the issue on how we are going to engage the international community.

Let me emphasize that we are now about building closing ranks as Zimbabweans and hence I want to urge members of this House to remember that *masamba asiyana*. This is now an inclusive government whose *modus operandi vis-a-vis* the international community will be driven by the agenda, the values and principles of the three political parties.

Now, in terms of addressing this matter, I will be making a maiden speech this afternoon and I will be very detailed in my response. We are addressing two matters, the first one is the issue of confidence in this government and the credibility of this government. Mr Speaker Sir, what are we doing as Zimbabweans to ensure that there is confidence and credibility of this government? That is one side and we control this one and we must do something about it. The second one is about the sanctions and measures by external players. So, what we will try to do is to

make sure this Committee addresses those two sets of issues.

When we are ready the Minister of Foreign Affairs will brief the House comprehensively, but I will speak to some of these issues in my maiden speech but as of now it is not only sanctions that are internal but also sanctions that we are imposing on ourselves –  
[HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear]-

**MR. MUSUNDIRE:** My question is directed to the Minister of Local Government, Urban and Rural Development. Is it now the policy of the Ministry that those areas that have been previously reserved for schools, hospitals, crèches and churches are now converted to residential areas? I am specifically referring to Chitungwiza. If this is not the case, are you going to investigate that and when can we receive the results of the investigations?

**THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR. CHOMBO):** The question that the hon. member has raised is quite pertinent. In town planning each residential area has areas reserved for schools, for clinics, churches but also areas reserved for playgrounds and

other recreational facilities. There is also space left out for future roads expansion, water services and other infrastructural development. Over time, population dynamics change and where you are expected to put up a school or two, you now may need one. Sometimes in those areas, you will change the reservation. However, if the hon. member can give me particular cases in particular locations, we could investigate and advise him accordingly.

**MR. SPEAKER:** May the hon. member concerned put the question in writing for a detailed answer.

**MR. NDAVA:** My question is directed to the Minister of Home Affairs. In Chiredzi North, we have those farmers who were given eviction orders but they are still on the farm and the new farmers who were given offer letters now want to start their farming. They have been waiting for a year, what is the Ministry of Home Affairs doing to enforce the law that these farmers must leave.

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (MR.**

**MUTSEKWA):** Thank you Mr Speaker Sir, in my view the question is misdirected. The question should be referred to the Minister of Lands and Rural Resettlement.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Hon Minister, the question is not misdirected, the member is asking the enforcement mechanism.

**MR. MUTSEKWA:** Thank you Mr Speaker Sir, Why I thought in the first place the question was supposed to be asked to the Minister of Lands was that he would be the complainant if there was lack of enforcement on the part of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Only when the Ministry of Lands give this information to us will we act, at the moment he has not done so.

**\*MR MACHACHA:**I am Hon Machacha from Kariba. The issue I am concerned about is that of rentals and rates. I seek clarification on the explanation given on the said issue with the Councils. We have those staying in the high densities and those in the low densities. It was said that those living in high densities can pay the utility bills using our local currency. This has caused misunderstandings between those selling their wares and the

residents of the area. The question is since the Minister said those in high density suburbs can pay using local currency where are they supposed to get this local currency as it is difficult to get at the present moment? We need an explanation.

**THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR. CHOMBO):** The question raised by the Hon member of Kariba. He wants to know where our local currency can be accessed since we said everyone can not be charged in forex. In Kariba we have tourist resort centres in Kariba. We have those who are into tourism, hotels, safaris who raise their money receiving foreign currency. These need to pay their rates using foreign currency. We went on further to say when you get your utility bill, make sure you obtain two copies, one in local currency and another in foreign currency. It is then up to you as an individual, whether you want to pay in local currency or foreign currency. We went on further to say, if the situation is like this, it is easier and less burdensome for the ordinary person. We also went on to say, a tenant should not have

their services cut off after having failed to pay for rates, he should be given time to settle the bill. This has been done because the rates charged have not yet been officially adopted, but once agreement has been reached and passed into law then those rentals can now apply. At the present moment, the whole country is paying 50 percent of whatever the council has charged because all the councils need to go to the people and explain what they intend to do and how much they want to charge of which there should be an agreement with the people. Then and only then can those levies apply. Currently all the money that is being paid countrywide to councils is very minimal and the majority is pleased with this arrangement.

**MR. DONGO:** My question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture, Mechanisation and Irrigation Development. Is it government policy that farmers have free agricultural machinery? If they pay, how much are they paying? Are they paying in Zimbabwean dollars or in foreign currency? What criteria do they use to select the beneficiary?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Hon. minister, I am not sure whether you want to combine the question with the substantive question that is on the *Order Paper*.

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE,  
MECHANISATION AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT**

**(DR. MADE):** I think I can answer the question in part even though there is a question on the *Order Paper*. The farm mechanisation programme is not for free; the equipment is not given free. Farmers have been invoiced and some farmers already have started paying back. The issue obviously will centre on the issue that you have raised whether it will be in foreign currency or Zimbabwe dollars, but the invoices that were sent were in local currency. The rest of the question is on the Order paper.

**MR. CHITANDO:** My question is directed to the Minister of Local Government. What is the criterion used to select special councillors for the Local Authorities. We have seen that those councillors who lost in the March elections are the ones who benefited from the programme as special councillors.

**THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. CHOMBO):** I wish to thank the member for raising the issue. It is provided for in the Act that 25 percent of councillors can be appointed in order to enrich debate in councils if they have certain skills that are perceived to be relevant to the function of that council. It is also true that the said members are there to contribute to debate and may not vote. They do not have voting powers but they have power to deliberate on the discussions. As to why a particular individual was chosen, if he gave me the list of those he is concerned with, then I can be able to justify why such a member was chosen.

**MR. MADZIMURE:** Minister, did your criteria also include serving civil servants?

**DR. CHOMBO:** The same response applies, if the civil servant has skills that are relevant, yes.

**\*MR. RARADZA:** My question is directed to the Minister of Education. My question is; the rural areas from where we come

from, children are going to school, yes, but teachers do not have chalk to write on the board, they do not even have black board dusters. They do not have any teaching aids. In some schools, there are no teachers at all at the moment. I am also suggesting that since we have children that have completed 'O' Levels and 'A' Levels, can they not be contracted to alleviate the shortage of teachers.

- [MR. MATUTU: *maiisa mabase kuzvikoro maticha akatiza*]

**MR. SPEAKER:** The question that you have raised is Question Number 4 on today's *Order Paper*.

*Questions Without Notice were interrupted by Mr. Speaker in terms of Standing Order Number 33 (2)*

## **ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

### **PRISONERS IN CHIPINGE PRISON**

2. **MR. MLAMBO** asked the Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs what the Ministry is doing about prisoners who are dying of hunger and cholera in Chipinge Prison.

## **THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**(MR. CHINAMASA):** The Zimbabwe Prison Service has qualified health personnel who attend to all health related problems in prisons, Chipinge Prison included. They have been attending to all diarrhoea cases which were investigated at Chipinge District Hospital. The District Medical Officer and his team confirmed isolated dysentery as the cause of diarrhoea. Currently, the situation at Chipinge Prison is reported to be under control and the last death resulting from the dysentery outbreak was on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Zimbabwe Prison Service has a good working relationship with the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare. The relationship includes the training of health personnel, provision and exchange of drugs, logistical support during disease outbreaks as well as assessment of nutritional status during such outbreaks.

Regrettably, Mr. Speaker, Sir, rations for prisoners as provided for in terms of section 50, Second Schedule to Prisons

(General) Regulations 1996, are not being supplied due to inadequate funding. As a result, we have recorded many cases of malnutrition in our prisons, Chipinge Prison included. We are thus currently working on a therapeutic and supplementary feeding scheme through the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare, which should start as soon as all logistics have been finalised. This also involves other co-operating partners such as UNICEF.

The Zimbabwe Prison Service is seeking to mobilise material and financial resources to increase farm produce from its farms and gardens for nutritional support to prison inmates.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in conclusion, allow me to clarify and put on record that cholera outbreaks in the Zimbabwe Prison Service have been recorded at Beitbridge, Harare Remand, Harare Central and Masvingo Remand Prisons. We have not recorded any cholera case over the last five weeks. Malnutrition is the main challenge in most of our Prisons.

**\*MR. MLAMBO:** Does he have figures of the number of people who died in Chipinge since he has admitted that those

deaths occurred due to cholera and other illnesses? Were there also no vehicles to ferry people to the hospitals?

**MR. CHINAMASA:** I need to be honest with the august House that with the economic hardships that are there, there is no transport within the prisons. There are no uniforms and even the food requirements are not being met. There are regulations we are required to meet by the statutory, but because of the shortage of funds we are not meeting them. These hardships are really hitting the prisons and if we apply to the Ministry of Finance for funds, funds being made available, the conditions will improve. If we also speak to co-operating partners such as ICRC and others, funds being made available, I can assure the hon. member that we will meet the requirements.

### **MUTARE REMAND PRISON**

3. **MR. MUCHAURAYA** asked the Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs whether he is aware that in March 2009 inmates at the Mutare Remand Prison spent more than five days in cells with dead bodies and to outline the measures taken to ensure that such

incidents do not occur.

**THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**(MR. CHINAMASA):** Madam Speaker, I am reliably informed that at Mutare Remand Prison, a single death that happened on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2009 was recorded. Unfortunately by then, the Mutare Provincial Hospital Mortuary was not functioning hence they could not accept bodies –[AN HON. MEMBER: Why?]-

I am informed that the Officer in Charge, Mutare Remand Prison tried to lodge the body at Sakubva hospital Mortuary, but the authorities there refused –[AN HON. MEMBER: Why?]- The reason advanced for not accepting the body was that there were other bodies of deceased prisoners which were still to be disposed of. –[AN HON. MEMBER: Why?]- For three days the Officer in Charge tried in vain to reason with them and by then the body was being kept in an unrefridgerated condition in the laundry section of the prison and not in a cell –[AN HON. MEMBER: Why?]-

Madam Speaker, it was not until the Zimbabwe Prison Service, Manicaland Regional Headquarters in Mutare intervened

by engaging Mutare City Council senior officials who then instructed the staff at Sakubva Hospital to accept the body. The body was finally taken to Sakubva Hospital Mortuary four days later.

Madam Speaker, as a way forward, meetings were held with the Mutare City authorities as well as officials from the Department of Social Welfare. Arrangements were then made to bury all deceased prisoners' bodies which were lodged at Sakubva Hospital mortuary so as to create space to accommodate more bodies, as relatives who were expected to claim the bodies could not be found. The City Council authorities promised to accept bodies at their mortuary in future. The Mutare Provincial Hospital mortuary will also continue to accept bodies of deceased prisoners once they have effected the repairs to their mortuary.

Madam Speaker, the situation obtaining at Mutare Remand Prison with regard to the deceased prisoner's body already referred to is not only peculiar to Mutare Remand Prison, but to other prisons countrywide. This is mainly due to the fact that some of

the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare hospitals are not accepting bodies of deceased prisoners who would have died outside their respective hospitals.

The situation has been with us for some time now such that the Zimbabwe Prison Service has embarked in the construction of mortuaries to cater for the prison population inclusive of members of staff and their dependants. It is also hoped that the community at large especially those living within the vicinity of prisons where mortuary facilities exist will also benefit.

**MR. MADZIMURE:** In view of the problems being faced, is the Ministry doing anything to the prisoners who are terminally ill like for instant granting them a parole other than waiting until they die?

**MR. CHINAMASA:** As I speak, the prison population stands at 14 000 and it has never been that low. There is a limit that we can go in providing amnesty or parole as you put it. Some of the terminally ill will be rapists and I have difficulty in recommending to the Cabinet the parole for such persons. Some of

these will be terminally ill with AIDS related problems – I have difficulties to recommend because we all know that if they have enhanced nutrition their condition can improve. They can be very normal like everybody else. I would not want a case of re-rape or rape by a prisoner who has been released after an amnesty.

Naturally, we will look into any cases where persons who have committed less serious offences can be considered for amnesty.

#### SHORTAGE OF TEACHING AIDS/IMPLEMENTS IN SCHOOLS

4. **MR. MLAMBO** asked the Minister of Education, Sport, Arts and Culture to explain what the Minister is doing about the shortage of teaching aids/implements in schools.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE (MR DOKORA):** In response to this question, I take note of the interest of Hon. Chimhini and Hon. Paradza who have placed interest on aspects of this particular subject.

Hon Mlambo asked us to explain what the Ministry is doing

about the shortage of aides/implements in schools. Madam Speaker, the Ministry is providing some guidance towards this challenge. The hon. member should rest assured that in terms of the Ministry's innovative measures to reform the education sector as approved by Cabinet at its 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of 10th August 2006 and in terms of the Ministry's policy and Strategic Plan. It has been intended to achieve a textbook pupil ratio of one is to one (1:1) by 2010. This has not been possible to achieve due to the hyper- inflation that characterizes our economic environment caused by the imposition of external sanctions on our country. This idea of improved books to pupil ratio will be achieved in part through the Tuition fees paid by students that government has approved as of 6th March, 2009.

Such Tuition fees are used to purchase teaching and learning materials such as textbooks, laboratory equipment and chemicals, provisions for practical subjects, stationary, library material, exercise books, other learning and teaching material such as pencils, ballpoints, teachers resource books and related materials

such as cleaning and toiletry. Tuition fees are also needed to pay for utilities such as electricity, water, telephones, rates and refuse collection services. The same fees are also used for the promotion and development of sport, arts and culture. In this regard, fees approved by the Ministry have been arrived at bearing in mind the actual costs involved in purchasing teaching and learning materials.

Tuition fees are used for the direct benefit of pupils and learners. It is not that many schools have emulated the State President's example of acquiring and distributing computers in schools by buying these for themselves. They have used the Tuition fees to acquire computer consumables. A pleasing feature for this development is that a number of schools have started using computers as tools of teaching and learning. That is making up for the lack of adequate and relevant materials in those cases.

There has been a delay between the opening of schools and the announcement on Tuition fees particularly in government schools. This has been fortuitous in that if the fees had been set in

January there would have been slightly higher as the US Dollar has to find its true value in our market. The supply of learning and teaching material in schools will also be achieved through increased *per capita* and equalizations of Tuition Grants paid to non-government and government schools respectively. *Per capita* grants are paid to fund learning and teaching materials in all non-government schools. These grants, last year for example, ran into millions for Primary schools four million one hundred and twelve thousand four hundred and fifty dollars (Z\$4 112 450.00). If you make a rough equivalent to 2009 that is about US10.00 but the list is available – I will put it on the table for members' perusal.

Despite the seemingly phenomenal increase in the *per capita* grants shows or illustrated in the example I just gave. The money falls far short of the minimum requirements.

Currently, government has set aside *per capita* grants for 2009 – the value of which has to be finalized. I am sure the Ministry of Finance will be our source of that information.

Equalisation or Tuition Grants are grants given to government

schools to purchase teaching and learning materials. These have been paid in the past at slightly lower rates to the *percapita* grants because in these government institutions, the Tuition levels are more or less approximate of what we think is the cost of the learning support materials that is required for its pupils. The amounts paid in the past have largely proved inadequate in the face of escalating costs due to hyper inflation. It is hoped that when current allocations for 2009 are given in hard terms this will go somewhere in assisting in the provision of teaching and learning materials in government schools.

Madam Speaker the hon. member will appreciate the importance of mobilizing parents to contribute to the funding of their children's education through the payment of levies. Such levies are used to assist in the operation and development of the school for the advancement of the cultural, moral or physical and intellectual welfare of pupils or students at the schools. The quantum of such levies will depend on the needs of individual schools and the ability of the parent communities. It is appreciated

that school parents' assemblies through their School Development Committees have started to charge each other such levies as book levies on a termly basis to complement governments effort in this regard.

Furthermore, allow me to appeal to all concerned including responsible authorities to help create zones of peace in our schools. Such child friendly schools cannot be created when the responsible authorities themselves are at teachers' throats as witnesses such as St Alberts primary and secondary in Chiweshe and St Johns high school in Goromonzi in recent times where the environment created by the responsible authorities has not complemented the much desired child friendly institutions.

Finally, it is hoped that all concerned will play their part effectively to spare the Education, Sport, Arts and Culture sectors to greater heights that will continue to be the envy of many nations in the region and beyond. And more specifically, on arrival on the request for information on the teaching services in our schools, we did request the employer Ministry that is the Public Service

Commission for an amnesty so that those teachers who had left the service could return. This has been agreed to, since then a Circular has been developed to ensure that they can incorporate that into the teaching force.

However, there are important exclusions such as those that had committed rape or had a criminal misconduct in the schools – those will be excluded. As per Public Service Commission guidance, it may not suffice to make one off payment of US\$20. The payments can be staggered.

Secondly we have also said because we set tuition fees on March 6 that is when the statement was released, most schools had already gone about trying to create working budget. We have said their working budget through the levies that they had created which did not actually pay for tuition fees, booklets or laboratory; that components of their general levy which they were levying themselves should be seen and created to the tuition if the money bought materials for learning and tuition. That is the current acknowledgement that we are working with, that their fees be

staggered with the payments made in the general levies. These are set for second term as well, so the fee statement continues in operation to the second term. We will also try to find other ways to see what we can do to assist by talking to donors and others to see if we can make an impact on the whole process in a global way.

**MR. CHIKWINYA:** In your response to the question hon. Minister, you justified the quantum of the tuition fees as it has to do with the acquisition of teaching aides and implements. However, school authorities have gone ahead to levying all parents on acquiring the same and that again has been acknowledged in your statement. What is your ministry's policy about these school authorities who continue to dismiss children over the failure to pay these other extra tuition fees? The second thing is how can...

**THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order, can you ask just one question.

**MR. DOKORA:** That question gives us the opportunity to clarify these sticking points. We have given the ministry's policy

position to say they shall be no exclusion of learners from the school on account of these other levies that the hon. member is referring to. In the Harare region there were less instances of instant justice where pupils were excluded from school, but were put away in some hall so they could wait the departure time for the rest of the school.

In other cases there was even anxiety created where by the pupil was literally pointed at to say Stella or Mary are the poor ones and I have done a weekly tour of Harare Region to clarify and say you cannot be doing this. We are a country that has led the way in the fight against stigmas of all kinds, there is no reason why we should continue to stigmatise the people in our community.

If an SDC has agreed to some levies, that agreement is voluntary. It cannot translate to the position of force of law to an extent that the child is sent away from school on inability to pay. Hence, the payments have to be staggered to allow those payments to be made because it is in hard currency and therefore cannot lose value. Therefore you have to split the payments. If anything it is

gaining in value. So excluding pupils from school is not acceptable. They can talk to the parents and talking to the parents does not include engaging debt collectors because some SDCs rush to engage debt collectors. Unfortunately when that happens they impoverish further that family unit which is struggling to meet a particular voluntary contribution that you refer to. As a policy you can stagger the payments to tuition and deal with the parents while the pupils remains in school.

**MR. MUDZURI:** Is the Minister aware of the restrictive requirements that were attached to the amnesty especially to the teachers as it was granted concerning, where they reported to and the documents that they were suppose to bring? Were these teachers assured that they were going to be deployed to their former school or that they were going to be deployed to far away schools?

**MR. DOKORA:** I could do a better assessment on the required response if it were to be an original question but I could say off hand the requirements are merely low to prove you have

the requisite papers to serve as a teacher and satisfy the experience that you have. As to the entry point into the system, some are at the provincial or district education centre or your nearest school and it is covered in circular number 2.

**MR. CHINYADZA:** My question relates to the programme of provision of teaching materials especially with regard to communal areas. I would like to say teachers and pupils can be expected to get textbooks, chalk to write with. At the present moment they do not have those tools. What is the ministry doing about it?

**MR. DOKORA:** I had said in my written response that the Minister of Finance would certainly have an interest in this area. It is not for me to speculate as to when our economy is going to be able to sustain the per capita and tuition grants.

**\*MR. MLAMBO:** I am not satisfied with the Minister's answers. We want questions to be answered correctly. Another question is that we have a teacher who was chased away from his school on allegations that he is an MDC supporter. How is he

going to correct that?

**MR. DOKORA:** Madam Speaker, I want to stand guided because I am sure that the hon. member has access to the Ministry, but if I could be the courier to send the document to the Ministry, I have no difficulty in doing that because I do not process papers here, they are processed in the Ministry.

#### GOVERNMENT POLICY CONCERNING WHITE FARMERS

5. **MR. MLAMBO** asked the Minister of Lands and Rural Resettlement to explain Government Policy concerning white farmers who have one farm each.

**THE MINISTER OF LANDS AND RURAL RESETTLEMENT (DR. MURERWA):** I want to thank Hon. Mlambo for the question. It is my hope that my response to his query will help clarify some policy and legal matters that may not have been understood or fully explained.

If a commercial farm is identified and found suitable for resettlement, government will acquire it for resettlement irrespective of the fact that it is the only farm owned by the owner.

This position is provided for in the Land Acquisition Amendment Act, Number 1 of 2004 that seeks *inter-alia*, to make certain declaratory provisions in respect of the Land Reform Programme and to provide for matters incidental thereto.

Section 9 Sub-Section 2(a) reads, and I quote:

“For the avoidance of doubt it is declared that –

- a) The criteria listed in the Land Reform Programme for the acquisition of agricultural land required for resettlement purposes are not binding on the acquiring authority, accordingly the fact that the land to be acquired: -
  - i) Is a plantation farm engaged in large-scale production for the tea, coffee, timber, citrus fruit, sugarcane or other plantation crops.
  - ii) Is an agro-industrial property involved in the integrated production, processing or marketing of poultry, beef and dairy products and seed multiplication;
  - iii) Is within an export processing zone or operated under a

permit issued by the Zimbabwe Investment Centre;

iv) Is an approved conservancy;

v) Is the only piece of land belonging to the owner;

shall not constitute valid grounds for any objection to the compulsory acquisition of the land nor shall such criteria form the basis of any claim or right in law.

From the above it is clear that even in circumstances where a commercial farmer owns one farm that is identified for resettlement, Government can indeed proceed with the acquisition of such farm in terms of the law.

**MR. MADZIMURE:** Why is that the trend has been that only the rich are taking the farms and there seems to be no A1 Resettlement Schemes going on?

**DR. MURERWA:** Madam Speaker, I am not aware that only the rich are getting farms. All Zimbabweans have access to land and as I have indicated earlier on, A1 Resettlement Programmes are ongoing.

#### FARMERS IN THE MIDDLE SABI

**6. MR. NYAMUDEZA** asked the Minister of Agriculture, Mechanization and Irrigation Development when the farmers in the Middle Sabi should expect payment for their wheat sold to the GMB in 2007.

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE,  
MECHANIZATION AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT  
(DR. MADE):** Madam Speaker, I want to appreciate the question raised by the hon. member. I have instructed the GMB to pay wheat farmers who have delivered their wheat to the GMB in foreign currency.

**MR. NYAMUDEZA:** For how long is this money going to be paid in foreign currency?

**DR. MADE:** Madam Speaker, I cannot answer that question off the cuff.

## DIAMOND MINERS

**7. MR. MUDARIKWA** asked the Minister of Mines and Mining Development to explain whether he is aware:-

- a. That diamond miners have to wait six months to be granted authority to export their diamonds.
- b. That the US\$3 000 and US\$ 12 000 currently charged by the Ministry per quarter and annum respectively for export permits have affected the small sector most because they cannot afford to pay these amounts.

## THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINING

**DEVELOPMENT(MR. O. MPOFU):** I want to thank Hon. Mudarikwa for raising the question on the topical issue surrounding the operations in the mining sector. I want to say that I am aware that diamond miners have to wait six months to be

granted authority to export their minerals. The delays in the exportation of diamonds have been happening for more than a year. These delays are due to some hold up in the issuance of necessary CD 1 Forms by the Central Bank (RBZ). As my colleagues are aware, all exports from Zimbabwe have a statutory requirement that they should be accompanied by a CD 1 document. Otherwise, all other export documentation such as the Export Licence (issued by Ministry and Minerals Marketing Corporation of Zimbabwe [MMCZ), issuance of the Kimberley Process Certificate by MMCZ, and relevant documentation by the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA) are issued well on time. Whereas it takes less than a day for registered diamond producers to get an Export Licence they require the CD1 documents from RBZ, which the RBZ is taking longer to issue.

On the second part of the question the Ministry of Mines and Mining Development indeed started charging quarterly levies in United States Dollars for export licences for minerals and metals which had been previously issued free of charge beginning 1<sup>st</sup>

February 2009.

These export charges vary from zero for exports of samples for test work purposes in a bid to encourage and promote mining development to US\$3 000 for the export of the following minerals: Platinum Group Metals, Ferro chrome, Nickel, Unprocessed black granite and unprocessed industrial minerals.

Ordinarily, all the mineral exports attracting a US\$3 000 export charge are exploited by medium to large-scale mining concerns. Additionally, the charges for black granite and unprocessed industrial minerals are in line with current government policy of adding value to the country's minerals before exportation for the maximum realization of critically needed foreign currency. Local value addition of the same minerals undoubtedly results in job creation. Small-scale miners are involved in the mining of the following minerals:

- Gold
- Chrome

- Tantalite; and
- Semi precious stones.

The current charges for the export permits of these minerals are as follows:

- Gold – free
- Chrome - US\$500
- Tantalite – US\$400
- Semi precious stones – US\$500

The pricing levels were formulated after taking into consideration the international prices of these metals and the financial position of most small miners in this country.

These charges are not cast in stone and will be reviewed periodically in response to global market trends of metal commodities. Given the current slump in metal prices, some of the levies might be revised to ensure the continued survival of the mining sector.

**MR CHINYADZA:** In his response to the second part of

the question, the Hon Minister cited levels which are charged under the chrome mining sector. Chrome production and then export – 99% as a foreign market, there is no recourse however to process chrome locally. It will therefore be unfair, how does the ministry do it to then charge so highly the chrome industry when there is no local recourse for the promotion of such developments?

**MR. MPOFU:** The hon. member is correct in his observation of the situation on the ground, but he should also be reminded that all chrome ore exports have been banned. He is also correct that there is no smelting that is being done currently by those who are supposed to be processing that product. That is the situation we are addressing to ensure that all our chrome ore is processed locally to add value as opposed to sending it in raw form where we give jobs to outsiders as opposed to our locals.

You will also recall hon. member that I was in Midlands last week with His Excellency to look at the companies that are actually involved in the smelting of chrome. One of them is ZIMASCO and I think some measures are being done to address

the challenges that they are having.

**MR. MUDARIKWA:** Madam Speaker, I want to find out from the Minister if he has discussed with the Minister of Finance to find out the causes of delays in the processing of CD1. I thought it was his constitutional obligation to look after the interests of miners that he was going to pursue with the Ministry of Finance to ask RBZ why there is a six month delay in the processing of CD1 for miners. The same applies to many other departments because I can not go to the Minister of Finance then next thing I go to other departments. I feel it is your constitutional obligation to represent the miners in this august House and to push everything as this is the issue of turning around the economy. If a miner has to wait six months for a sale then by the time he got the money, that miner will be already liquidated. Everything will be sold and you will now be a Minister of mines without miners.

## CHIADZWA DIAMONDS FIELDS

**8. MR MADZIMURE** asked the Minister of Mines and Mining Development to explain the circumstances surrounding the

engagement of the army by government to drive out illegal miners at Chiadzwa diamonds fields and the high handed manner in which the army handled the situation and whether there were any casualties and if so, how many lives were lost, and who is now legally mining diamonds at Chiadzwa and how much diamond production is realized per month?

### **THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINING**

**DEVELOPMENT (MR. MPOFU):** Since the onset of the diamonds rush at Chiadzwa in 2006, security agents are part of the security plan to facilitate security and accountability in the exploitation of the diamond resource there. Government's desire to ensure security and accountability and Chiadzwa can be confirmed with the formation of a Ministerial Task Force (MTF) in 2006 that included the Ministries of Defence and Home Affairs and the initial endeavors to encourage the illegal diggers to surrender their illegally gotten diamonds to MMCZ in exchange of cash and peacefully leave the diamond field for good. Being an alluvial resource occurring on an extensive area and the challenges

of illegal mining and smuggling security agents have always been alert at Marange with their members and extent of operation varying from time to time depending on the situation on the ground. The endeavor to secure and facilitate accountability on the diamond resource is well in line with the minimum requirements of the country's laws. From time to time illegal diamond diggers and dealers endeavored to re-invade Chiadzwa Diamond Fields.

Besides, in 2006 government declared the diamond field a Protected Area and granted mining rights through Special Grants to Zimbabwe Mining Development Corporation (ZMDC) a mining parastatal.

The Protected Area and granting of Special Grants to ZMDC meant unauthorised persons were restricted from entering the diamond field let alone to mine. In the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2008, the security agents started implementation of an operation to flush out illegal diamond diggers and dealers from the diamond field that were estimated at 30 000. These illegal diamond diggers and dealers were pilfering diamonds from the ZMDC owned mining

area. These illegal acts prejudiced the state of the diamond resource and social integrity as various crimes such as murder, theft, rape and so on were committed among the illegal diggers and dealers as well as to surrounding communities. This compelled the State to act and put an end to this vice and thus the security agents who have always been part of the security at Chiadzwa carried out a special operation that is still ongoing. Operations of the state security agents are guided by the laws of the land and it is my hope and sincere understanding that these were and continue to be honoured during this operation.

The operation by the security agents at Chiadzwa is the jurisdiction of the police. However, on our engagement as an interested stakeholder the police assured my Ministry that the security agents did not kill anyone at Chiadzwa in their operations. Instead, the police say there were murders among the illegal diamond diggers as they scrambled for control of pits, stones and as they robbed one another. The police say murders among the illegal diggers and dealers resulted in three (3) reported deaths

resulting in eight (8) arrests, which were unearthed by the ongoing security operation.

The Zimbabwe Mining Development Corporation (ZMDC) is the legal owner of mining rights at Chiadzwa through Special Grants offered to them in 2006. Because there was no geological information when the illegal diamond diggers invaded Chiadzwa, making the diamond occurrence known, ZMDC's mandate is to undertake assessments for commercial mining. Since 22 April 2007 ZMDC is mining and recovering diamonds at small-scale but needs strategic investment injection to enhance the assessment and enable commercial production.

**MR MADZIMURE:** Can the Minister explain why it took his ministry such a long time before it could secure the Chiadzwa mining fields? Also why he has not been able to tell this House how much diamond is being mined at Chiadzwa?

**MR. MPOFU:** I think Hon. Madzimore is very familiar with the operations in that part of the country. Yes, it is correct, it took the ministry a while to realise that there were diamonds in

Chiadzwa. This has been due to the fact that some people who had sought some claims to do prospecting in that particular area did not reveal or declare that some diamonds had indeed been found in that area. Before an area is declared as such to have a certain particular mineral, you have to do exploration. Those that were doing it realised that there was this commodity and they extended their exploration while at the same time they were actually exploiting the resources. Government quickly moved in and we are dealing with the situation. I think we should be happy that we have now moved in to rectify the situation.

**MR. S. MOYO:** I just want to ask the Minister if the diamonds being mined now are being processed locally and if the process is done by any of our local companies in the country?

**MR. MPOFU:** We are processing applications for companies that are interested in cutting and polishing our diamonds. I can assure this House that very soon we will be engaging some companies that will have gone through that process to do exactly what the hon. member has asked.

**MR. MADZIMURE:** I am sorry to say I am obsessed with issues of corruption. I had asked the Minister particularly to look at his figures. My question was, what levels of production are we realising from Chiadzwa on a monthly basis because we want the money for this ailing economy? How much diamonds are we producing?

**MR. MPOFU:** The hon. member has raised another fundamental question. The current operations at Chiadzwa, to say the least are rudimentary. We are exploring this resource using equipment that is not producing the amounts that we would want to realise. What we are realising from that operation is averaging 50 000 to 60 000 carats per week. This is quite small in terms of the resources that are there. Plans are on course to acquire state of the art equipment which we have identified, depending on the resources that will be sourced from the relevant authorities, we will make our production amount to more than US\$600 000 a day.

*Questions With Notice were interrupted by Mr. Speaker in terms of Standing Order Number 34.*

## **MAIDEN SPEECH BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER**

**THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (PROF. A.):** Mr

Speaker Sir, I rise to make my Maiden Speech. Mr. Speaker Sir, Members of Cabinet and hon. members I am here to discuss matters affecting our nation. But before I do so let me start by saying that what we have achieved in this country is only a workable arrangement. Zimbabweans have been encouraged to work together to salvage their country. You hon. members voted 184 out of 184 to endorse Amendment Number 19. In the Senate the number was 72 out of 72. This is unprecedented unanimity in this country. We are at the juncture in this country where we are finding each other and pull together. We should work together and deliver our policy of revolution in our country. I am going to say things that are going to challenge and provoke us. It is important that I do so because they say a problem realized is a problem solved. This august House is about rationale disputation and it is about dialogue and disagreement. I will not be doing justice if I give you a no-hold bar discourse in this House.

Hon. members, Mr. Speaker Sir, the government of which I am part is a creature of abnormal circumstances lest we forget. We are here because we had problems with our elections in March. To put it bluntly and brazenly, we had fraudulent elections in March and a fuss in June. This is what gave birth to this creature. We went into dialogue because of a fraudulent election process in our country. So whatever we do in this government we should make sure that...

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, order please address the Chair.

**THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (PROF. A.**

**MUTAMBARA):** What it means Mr. Speaker is that the core output of this government of this country, we must create conditions for free and fair elections acknowledged by both winners and losers. We seek to achieve this Mr. Speaker Sir through a national healing programme. This country went through trauma and brutality in June. We need to heal this nation and make sure we say to our people it is okay to belong to a different political party. We need to say to Zimbabweans we should never ever shun patriotism because of political affiliation. If we fail to

do so we will never have free and fair elections in our country. We should be able to say to Zimbabweans, never victimize each other because of political affiliation. We have put in place and we are working towards a people driven constitution. Most of our problems in this country arise from a dysfunctional and ineffective constitutional standing. We must seek to establish and adopt a people driven democratic constitution. There must be total input from the civil society, NCA, labour movement, students and the patriotic society. The constitution should be a document of concern. The process of the constitution is as important as its outcome. Let us make sure that there is buy-in from the business community, civil society and all political parties who do not have representation in this Parliament. This is what we need in this country so that come the next election, we have a free and fair election, which both the losers and winners can acknowledge. We cannot hold a free and fair election when our people are being brutalized. We need to resolve to humanitarian attitude. Food, health care and education should improve. We need to recover this

economy and that is why we have STERP in place. We must have a vision for this country and make sure that we develop a long term vision shared by all political parties and civil society. This is important for us to lay a foundation for building a peaceful and prosperous Zimbabwe.

For your own information Mr. Speaker Sir, Mozambique Renamo and Frelimo now have a common twenty-year vision. When they started, Renamo was very skeptical but after they went through the process, they now have a twenty-year vision, which they share. What I am saying is that we should work on a long term vision for the country and then a global strategy to achieve the vision.

On major impact projects like Chiadzwa, methane gas, platinum and also private sector mining – this is the foundation, this is the agenda of this government so that come election time people are fed and ready to vote. This is the agenda of the government Mr. Speaker Sir.

There are three things I want to lay aside and discuss with

you hon. members in this House. The first one says change must come to Zimbabwe – *masamba asiyana manje*. There are now three centers of power in our country. Before there was one center – the President was the only center. Now it is different – power is now shared between the Prime Minister, President and Cabinet. We must take cognisance that the nature of power in our country has changed and it required a paradigm shift. We must take cognisance of the fact that the nature of power in our country has changed. There is the President with the executive authority, there is Prime Minister with executive authority, and there is a Cabinet with executive authority.

We need a paradigm shift in the way we think in this country. We need a paradigm shift in this House and I will illustrate why I think like that. Now we have a Cabinet of three political parties coming together, they are going to Caucus, to debate and come up with an initial position and policy document to bring to Parliament. When a Cabinet Minister comes to Parliament with a position/policy the three political leaders in Cabinet would have

agreed. How are we going to debate in this House Mr Speaker?

There is no longer opposition benches in this House, there is no longer ruling side in this House because we are in a coalition inclusive government, so how do they debate? You can no longer take the easy way out where you can take a partisan position on an issue because when Minister Mbengegwi or Minister Biti comes in this House, they are coming with the position which has been bought into by the three political parties. So, how are you going to speak on those matters? You have got to become creative, you have to put on your thinking caps and argue on the issues. No longer on party agenda because the three political party leaders and their Cabinet are on the same page *masamba asiyana* within this House.

This is the first theme I am pushing that we need a paradigm shift in the country, we need to think differently in this country because of the nature of power in our county. Consequently, we can no longer have the politicization of national institutions. Before the transition there was a military government. Now we

have an inclusive government of three political players, for example, you can not have the organ of one political party declare a national hero that is a travesty of justice in our country. What we need to do is to make sure Cabinet comes up with the new policy of the allocation and declaration of heroism and then set up a sub-committee of Cabinet to do the determination.

Mr Speaker, if you use an organ of one party to declare national heroes – two things happen. The first being, you undermine the heroism of the person you have declared a hero because you make them a partisan hero, you make them half a hero. The second thing that happens is that you miss out on other heroes. I will give ample illustration, a demonstration of the thinking that I am expressing in this House. Two weeks ago, we lost the soldier of soldiers, the commander of commanders Zvinavashe Gava. None of us in this House questioned the heroism of Gava Zinavashe, he is as soldier of soldiers and the commander of commanders, but when you have him declared a hero by an organ – the Politburo of one party – you are undermining and

devaluing his heroism.

Secondly, in the same week, we lost Susan Nyaradzo Tsvangirai. By any measure and judgment in heroism, Susan Nyaradzo Tsvangirai is a heroine of heroines, mother of the struggle in Zimbabwe but she was not declared a national heroine. If you go by those who are affected, those who mourned her in the region, in Africa and in the international community, there is absolutely no way you can justify denying Susan Nyaradzo Tsvangirai heroine status. What more do you want in terms of demonstration of the absurdity of having an organ of some party! The moral of the story is that we no longer accept in this country the politicization of national institutions because it does not help anybody- it is dysfunctional to our society.

Moving on the thematic change, change has come to Zimbabwe. It can not be businesses as usual, we are going to bring to this House changes to Media and Information Acts – changes to AIPPA and POSA. We seek to make this country a democratic lesson, we seek to make sure come next elections- we have free

and fair elections. So, we need to have media reforms, to POSA and AIPPA to enable the environment in our country. This is coming through Mr Speaker, this is the agenda of this government.

The second theme that I am going to push is what I call, taking charge of our lives. Mr Speaker, this country must not depend on what others do to fix our country. This country must learn from Gandhi or from Kennedy. When we look at our vision and strategies, we must depend on ourselves, fund those projects ourselves, and ask ourselves what must we do to help our country? Ask not what other nations can do to salvage Zimbabwe rather what you can do collectively as Zimbabweans to help our country. Improve exports, generate income, get taxes – we must find steps from our own creativity we must fund our programmes from our own sweat and become masters of our own destinies. We must become agents of change in our country, we must become the change we seek to see in our country.

Sanctions, I would want to say this to you Mr Speaker that there are two types of sanctions. I will speak on both but I will

start by the one that I control, the one that I am in charge of. I am the Deputy Prime Minister of this country – understand that very clearly. Consequently, I must take charge of the affairs of this country.

The first type of sanctions we have in this country are sanctions we imposed upon ourselves. We have done that for the past ten years and we are still doing it today as I speak – imposing sanction on ourselves. How? We impose sanctions on ourselves through corruption, mis-governance, forging elections, violence and brutality during elections. This is how Zimbabweans have imposed sanctions on themselves for the past ten years. Our duty and obligations as Zimbabweans is to remove those sanctions and be in control. To remove those sanctions we have imposed upon ourselves – charity begins at home.

Right now, I said I am going to be tough on Zimbabweans – on myself – because I am the Deputy Prime Minister of this country. Farm invasions, disobedience of court orders, outstanding issues of the Agreement, Governors- not settled; Permanent

Secretaries – not settled; Ambassadors – not settled. These are matters in my purview as a leader in this country.

Perception becomes reality, you must address and correct that perception - if you do not address that perception, you are shooting yourself in the foot. So, this Cabinet has a duty and obligation to address these ideal matters on the farm invasions; the court systems; violence amongst our people and the outstanding issues of the agreement – Governors, Permanent Secretaries, Ambassadors and also the Reserve Bank Governor.

We are a creature of SADC, a creature of the dialogue – we must be men and women of integrity and address all the matters that are outstanding. If we do not, we are imposing sanctions on ourselves, if we do not, we have no moral authority even to ask others to remove sanctions. I move on to the traditional sanctions that we like to talk about. Here is our message to the international community. We understand why you are sceptical, why you are hesitating to remove sanctions. The Americans, the British – whoever you are we challenge the international parties to make this

agreement work. This is an irreversible process in our country.

We are in this government to serve our people. We are determined to address those matters within our control that is why I started by sanctions which are in our control. That is why I started by sanctions I impose on myself.

To the international community we are saying do not give conditions that we are waiting to see signs and progress. The wait and see attitude is not in our interest because you are keeping us from development. If we do not get humanitarian assistance, budget support and investments, this government may collapse and when it collapses the people of Zimbabwe are victims. As Zimbabweans we are clear that we want this agreement to work and we have also accepted that we have a duty to fix those things in our control. Surely, we are saying remove any type of sanction you have imposed on our people.

Mr. Speaker Sir, when you impose sanctions today on Zimbabwe, you are imposing sanctions on Morgan Tsvangirai, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe and undermining the efforts of the

Prime Minister and of Zimbabwe. Grant us the common sense and challenges to know what is good for us. It is not for America or Britain to detect what is good for us as long as we take charge. I am going to speak truth to power and please allow me to do so.

Mr. Obama has extended sanctions by a year and with all due respect this shows ignorance and arrogance and we are saying that our country is going to succeed. We want to see ignorance and arrogance on the part of Obama because we are determined to solve the problems of our country.

There are two types of sanctions Mr. Speaker there is one solution, medicine that we can use to cure the two types of sanctions – the ones we impose on ourselves and those imposed on us by foreigners. The current brand – what are we known for as a country: the break down of the rule of law and farm invasions. Let us change that and be known for unity and inclusiveness and working together. Let us be known as a safe destination and business confidence. Let us make a new brand for our country and have a new understanding and a new identity for our country.

When we do that we will solve the issue of the second type of sanctions. We will also change the perception on us.

The last area is the issue that we cannot survive without creativity and innovation. We have to step up to the stage and think outside the box. Our views and values on our leadership must change. What type of leadership are we looking for in our country – transformational and servant leadership. What is a transformational leader? Leadership is about making others leaders . If you are a CEO of a company for twenty years and you have not produced a CEO you are not a leader. If you are a Speaker for twenty years and you have not produced a Speaker you are not a leader. If you Chamisa have been a President for twenty nine years and you have not produced a President you are not a President.

We are saying in this country we need to have transformational leadership, embrace servant leadership. We will also need to revise our understanding of the role of the state and that of the market. The market as we know, we are looking at

infrastructure, energy and roads. The traditional thinking is that the state is responsible for roads, water, electricity and infrastructure. We need a paradigm shift where we attract private money into roads, infrastructure and electricity. This means attracting private partners, corporate investors and if we do so we must move from controlled to free markets. For example, with energy we can have investors come and put money into energy after a fixed price on tariffs, you put in place power agreement and then ZESA comes in and after the agreement they put 40% of the electricity into the national grid. 60% of that can be exported and thereby solve the issue of traditional market.

We must be possibility seizures. We must do possibility thinking. We do not believe in chance. In Zimbabwe we must start thinking about possibilities and not excuses. Its not enough to have a good plan, strategic connections, directional correctness and strategic policies. The proof of the pudding is in the eating – implementation planning and execution. We want to make sure that when we come up with plans we are quick to come up with

implementation strategies and execute plans. If we do not execute our plans we are stuck. We need to move on in the thinking outside the box to put in place plans for execution.

In conclusion, you have heard of Maslow's hierarchy of needs – he was a physiologist who argued that the human being is about shelter and food. As he moved on with the chain, he put a last stage which he defined as self actualisation which was what Maslow prescribed. But I have news for you hon. members we have changed and moved on to self transgression and leave a legacy. This is beyond us. We are moving on to say by the end of this Parliament let us say you have transcended beyond your partisan and self interest. Let us make a dent to the universe. I do not want to see a dent on Masvingo, Zimbabwe, the SADC and on Africa I want to see a dent to the universe. If this parliament can produce a dent to the universe, it would make a difference and empower people and then we will have a legacy. Let us become players and winners and say that the sky is the limit. Let us move beyond party interests, beyond personal interests and leave a dent,

not through self-transcending but through moving the legacy beyond self-interests. I thank you Mr. Speaker for this opportunity.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you very much Hon. Deputy Prime Minister for your speech.

*On the motion of* **THE MINISTER OF  
CONSTITUTIONAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS,**  
*the House adjourned at Ten Minutes to Five O'clock p.m.*