PARLIAMENT OF ZIMBABWE

Tuesday, 12th February, 2019

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

PRAYERS

(THE HON. SPEAKER in the Chair)

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE HON. SPEAKER

NON-ADVERSE REPORT RECEIVED FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY LEGAL COMMITTEE

THE HON. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that I have received a Non-Adverse report from the Parliamentary Legal Committee on the Tripartite Negotiating Forum Bill [H. B. 5, 2019]

ADVERSE REPORT RECEIVED FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY LEGAL COMMITTEE

THE HON. SPEAKER: I also have to inform the House that I have received an Adverse Report from the Parliamentary Legal Committee on Statutory Instrument 247 of 2018, the Agricultural
Marketing Authority (Command Agriculture Scheme for Domestic Crop, Livestock and Fisheries Production) Regulation 2018.

CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

THE HON. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House of the following changes to the membership of Committees;

Hon. Rwodzi will serve on the Public Accounts Committee,

Hon. Madiwa will serve on the Portfolio Committee on Environment and Tourism and Hon. O. Sibanda will serve on the Portfolio Committees on Transport and Infrastructural Development and Local Government, Public Works and National Housing.

*HON. TEKESHE: I rise on a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker; there seems to be discrimination between the people in the urban areas and the rural areas. In the urban areas, when prices of goods skyrocketed they were advised to go to particular shops like OK and yet in rural areas such favouratism was not done to them and yet they both shop from the same places, why - [Laughter.] -
THE HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Tekeshe, *matekeshera chaizvo* – 

[Laughter.] – Your point of privilege is better dealt with tomorrow, during Question Time, then you will be able to interrogate the responsible Minister accordingly. So, reserve your energy for tomorrow.

HON. SIKHALA: On a point of information Mr. Speaker Sir.

THE HON. SPEAKER: Information! There is nothing like that in our Standing Orders – [Laughter.] –

HON. SIKHALA: I know Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to inquire …

THE HON. SPEAKER: I am saying there is nothing like that in our Standing Rules and Orders – [Laughter.] –

HON. SIKHALA: I rise on a point of privilege Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to inquire from the Chair, whether the Chair has now overruled his first ruling in terms of Hon. Members changing Committees. I still remember Mr. Speaker Sir, when you made a ruling
that there would be no any other changes that will happen on the movement of people into different Committees when I was changed from the Portfolio Committee on Youth, Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment to one of Defence, Home Affairs and Security Services. Some of us expect that when a ruling is made it becomes *functus officio*, to which that ruling cannot be overturned because it has been made by the Chair.

Mr. Speaker Sir, have you now changed your ruling as it is now *functus officio* because as Hon. Members we were not informed.

**THE HON. SPEAKER:** I also want some point of information – [Laughter.] - Did the Hon. Member not transfer to the Portfolio Committee on Defence and Home Affairs, did you? I thought you did transfer to the Committee on Defence and Home Affairs.

**HON. SIKHALA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, I did change but on that particular day you made a ruling saying that this is final and the last where Hon. Members would move from one Committee to another. I
believe as a lawyer that the ruling is now *functus officio*. It cannot be changed.

**THE HON. SPEAKER:** The Hon. Member will have to educate other Members who are not lawyers about “*functus officio*” because that is a legal term. Be that as it may, any ruling is subject to review depending on circumstances. Even the most sacred document, the Constitution, does submit itself to amendments. Circumstances do dictate that from time to time you make adjustments accordingly.

When you rose Hon. Member, I thought you had been prejudiced and I was a bit worried about that. In essence therefore you have lost nothing and the Chair reserves the right to amend the ruling whenever it is possible to do so. I thank you.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. SPEAKER**

**VISITORS’ IN THE SPEAKER’S GALLERY**

**THE HON. SPEAKER:** I recognise the presence in the Speaker’s Gallery of students and staff members from Sandringham High School,
Norton Constituency, Mashonaland West Province. You are welcome –

[HON. MEMBERS: *Hear, hear.*] -

**MOTION**

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**HON. O. MGUNI:** I move that Order of the Day, Number 1 on today’s *Order Paper* be stood over until Order of the Day, Number 2 has been disposed of.

**HON. KWARAMBA:** I second.

Motion put and agreed to.

**MOTION**

**PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH: DEBATE ON ADDRESS**

Second Order read: Adjourned debate on motion in reply to the Presidential Speech.

Question again proposed.

**HON. RWODZI:** Mr. Speaker Sir, it is with great sense of humility that I rise before this House today to present my maiden speech as the elected ZANU PF representative for Chirumanzu Constituency in
the National Assembly. I am cognisant of the historic significance of this auspicious moment both at the personal and political levels...

**THE HON. SPEAKER:** Order Hon. Members! Let us not get excited with the presence of cameras here. Let us be ourselves accordingly. I thank you.

**HON. RWODZI:** I would like therefore at the outset to register my indebtedness and gratitude to the revolutionary party ZANU PF for according me the honour to hoist their colours during the 2018 harmonised elections that I won resoundingly. In the same vein let me thank the people of Chirumanzu for entrusting me to represent them in this House. This victory was not an outcome of individual brilliance but a culmination of multi-faceted collective efforts within our esteemed party ZANU PF led by the visionary leader His Excellency President Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa.

Madam Speaker Ma’am, it is in this regard that I salute His Excellency the President and congratulate him on winning the 2018 free and fair elections. Madam Speaker, let me also congratulate you and our Speaker for your appointments and also congratulate our two sets of
chief whips for their appointments. May I implore that you continue the
good work you are doing. Let me take this opportunity Madam Speaker,
to pay a tribute to my predecessor Hon. Pedzisai Munhanzvi for serving
the constituency in the past term and all the work he did for the
constituency.

Madam Speaker, I want to commend our President eloquent and
robust articulation of our legislative agenda as summed up in our nation
building trajectory during the opening of the First Session of the Ninth
Parliament on 18 September, 2018. His Excellency the President sign
posted the road to national economic recovery by pin-pointing those key
areas that require expedited attention. He highlighted that the
Government through the RBZ, has negotiated a number of foreign
exchange facilities amounting to US$500 million that intend to meet the
growing demand for foreign currency by the local business and the
public in general. This is just one of the many deals he has structured
since November, 2017. However Madam Speaker, there is need for us as
a nation to work extra hard towards generating our own foreign currency
through growing and improving our export business.
Madam Speaker, I had a great opportunity of attending an awareness workshop on the Africa Continental Free Trade Area just yesterday and I was happy to learn that our country is amongst the first 49 countries that have already shown interest by way of signing for the agreement. This is a move in the right direction in supporting our President’s vision and mantra ‘Zimbabwe is Open for Business’. We need to take heed and be one of the first 22 countries to ratify the agreement and even His Excellency our President has assured his colleagues at the just ended AU Summit in Addis Ababa that Zimbabwe is on course for ratifying the treaty.

As a Parliament, let us play our role and push this agenda to expedite the process of ratification even if it takes to nag our Government and indeed, notwithstanding the fact to be diligent with the process to protect our local industries, our competitiveness and comparative advantages. Let us not hesitate to participate in the inception of the treaty and let us stop procrastinating, citing various and unnecessary excuses and I quote our Hon Speaker, ‘Let us have faith and
ratify for the sake of a better country and a better continent picture’. Our Hon. Speaker, during the workshop alluded to what the Parliament is supposed to do to ensure the ratification of the treaty;

i. Putting in place export promotion policies - Right now, we do not have a trade policy and through our Committees; Foreign Affairs and International, we have to put the trade policy in place.

ii. Revamp development institutions – His Excellency the President established among other ministries, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade though up to now the Department of Trade is still housed under the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. It is our duty to make sure that the grey area is cleared.

iii. Technological and industrial development – Zimbabwe must embrace industrial technological advancement through our universities and as such, our Committees of Higher and Tertiary Education and that of Foreign Affairs and Internal Trade have a task to bring the agenda to fruition.
iv. Involvement of the stakeholders in negotiating trade agreements is also exigent and according to Section 327 of the Constitution, it is the duty of Parliament to approve, ratify, domesticate and monitor all these international protocols.

v. Our Parliament must back Hon. Mguni’s motion on forming SADC Parliaments to back the SADC economic grouping and effectively set up common markets. The other four African blocs which are the West, North and the Central have this economical grouping.

Madam Speaker, the above cannot be achieved for as long as corruption is rampant in our country. We have to support the President’s fight against corruption. I therefore hope this time around, the President will appoint men and women of integrity in the Anti-Corruption Commission and establish anti-corruption courts for every province that we keep open for longer hours. By so doing, we will bring back confidence to our nation.
I speak about ratification of this treaty Madam Speaker, so passionately because Chirumanzu Constituency is a rural constituency that suffers in many rainfall seasons like the current one. Chirumanzu Constituency will be saved from the predicament of the current and future drought if the African Continental Free Trade Area Treaty is ratified and domesticated. Our soils are good for small grains – groundnuts and all types of beans that are drought resistant crops which have a significant market in other parts of the continent. Chirumanzu will need intervention and support from the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water and Climate and Rural Resettlement in revamping and installing new technology in the form of centre pivots around the six irrigation schemes in the constituency, repairing of our dams and boreholes to support the community gardens we have already embarked on will be very essential.

Ministries of Transport and Infrastructural Development and Local Government, Public Works and National Housing will have to revamp our road network and at least Madam Speaker, now that Government is dualising Beitbridge – Chirundu Road which passes through my
constituency, it is my hope that my constituency can also benefit from having a tarred road linking Chaka Business Centre and Mashava, a mining town next door. With this only Madam Speaker, Chirumanzu and its livelihood will never be the same again.

The youth population in the country is over 50%. As such, I plan to prioritise youth development projects in mining and agriculture over the next five years. I am happy it has been discovered that there are gold and chrome deposits in my constituency which we shall leverage on for youth development activities together with agricultural activities.

It is common knowledge that out of political expediency, some of our countrymen and countrywomen in the recent actively, directly and indirectly agitated for the imposition of sanctions in the country. The ripple effect has been the suffering of ordinary masses and the stagnation of the economy due to the economic exclusion from super powers of the world who happen to be our former trade partners. It is my sincere hope that this counter violent forces within our society have realised that the embargoes hurt the ordinary men and women who voted for us both in
the cities and in the rural areas. As such, the raft of measures including re-engagement efforts outlined by His Excellency the President will yield tangible results if and when all Zimbabweans tow one line of thought guided by unity while tapping into our rich resource base human and natural. Sanctions must be called off.

Madam Speaker, education is a key driver of our economy. It is in this regard that I wish to call upon the Minister of Primary and Secondary education to prioritise the welfare of our rural teachers. I wish to extend my profound gratitude to the Minister of Finance and Economic Development for prioritising the education sector in his 2019 Budget. I am also happy Madam Speaker, to note that this august House will debate on Government’s consideration to extent free education, a development that will relief many parents particularly those from the rural areas such as Chirumanzu.

Health delivery, Madam Speaker, is also at the centre of my key result areas for Chirumanzu Constituency. During my tenure as a Member of Parliament and beyond, maternal health is an area that needs
continued unwavering support as we have lost mothers and children during birth.

**THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, may you wind up; you have got five minutes left.

**HON. RWODZI:** Thank you Madam Speaker. So, diseases like HIV and cancer have also continued to ravage our communities. I therefore implore the Minister of Health and Child Care to ensure that each time the National Budget is presented, it complies with the Abuja Declaration that provides for at least 15% of the budget allocation to the health sector.

It is encouraging to note that His Excellency the President is resolutely seized with issues of gender related constitutional provisions, children’s rights, effective health care provisions, eradication of corruption in our society which is key to the success of this country, ICT based programmes and other key programmes that seek to improve the lives of the general populace. This is evidenced by the Bills that will be presented before this Parliament and I will gladly contribute, among
them the Child Justice Marriage Bill, Cyber Crime and Cyber Security Bill.

In conclusion, I congratulate all the Members of Parliament in this august House and make an appeal to all of them to take heed of the fact that the election period is decisively behind us. It is time and it is time Madam Speaker, like His Excellency the President said in his speech, to exert our efforts towards delivery on the pledges that we made to the electorate. They look up to us and the promises we made, and for me it is taking their vote and their trust for granted to be coming to this House and demonstrate our egocentric traits, selfishness, lack of wisdom and showing off. They are our voters who voted for us as individuals and our political parties in good faith and hope for the better. So, let us come together and show them love and care through being united in this House and working hard in our constituencies, tough as it may be.

Madam Speaker, I have observed with concern in the recent events that women and children have been used as shields against law enforcers by the rogue demonstrators. I say it should be condemned in all the
spheres of the world. Madam Speaker, let me uphold the First Lady of this country, Her Excellency Amai A. Mnangagwa for the efforts she is doing in defending abuse of women and children and the fight against cervical cancer. May her efforts be supported by all of us in this august House, particularly my fellow women Members of Parliament?

Zimbabwe is seized with re-engagement drive and it is indeed everyone’s role to sell brand Zimbabwe, be it at home, in another political party and abroad in the interest of attracting investment and seeking attraction in the global village.

**THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Your time is up Hon. Member! – [HON. MEMBERS: Inaudible interjections.] - Order, order! Order Hon. Members on my left side!

*Hon. Chibaya having entered the House.*

**HON. T. MLISWA:** On a point of privilege! Madam Speaker, I would like to welcome Hon. Chibaya back – [HON. MEMBERS: Inaudible interjections.] - I know how it feels when you have been
persecuted not prosecuted against – [HON. MEMBERS: Inaudible interjections.] -

**THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order, order! Hon. Mliswa may you take your seat!

**HON. T. MLISWA:** I also want to welcome the Sandringham students who are here [HON. MEMBERS: Inaudible interjections.] - I thank you.

**THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order Hon. Members. Please may we behave ourselves?

+++**HON. PHUTI:** I thank you Madam Speaker for giving me an opportunity to make my contribution in this august House. To start with, I say congratulations to Hon. President Mnangagwa for the resounding victory, during the Harmonised Elections which were held last year and won. I am also saying congratulations to you Madam Deputy Speaker Hon. Tsitsi Gezi and Hon. Adv. J. Mudenda. The Speaker was re-elected to come again to lead this House. You were elected by the people because they saw that you were capable individuals to lead the House.
On my third point, I would like to say congratulations to Members of Parliament who were elected to come and represent them in this august House and we know that this is an honest work and we need to represent them. I also want to thank the people of Bulilima who elected me to come and represent them in this National Assembly. When His Excellency was addressing this House, he talked about a lot of things and this included the saying that this august House is a real House and it should be taken with the aura it deserves.

Whenever we are debating, we should engage in constructive debates. The President also said Zimbabwe should also be going towards the development and improvement of the economy and also have a healthy nation. Up to now, we have seen the President walking the talk. Roads and houses are being constructed and when we look at the budget of 2019, it is a budget which is aimed at developing the economy of the country.

Hon. P. D. Sibanda having been walking and talking to some Hon. Members.
THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order Hon. Sibanda, take your seat, you are making a lot of noise.

HON. PHUTI: Thank you Madam Speaker for allowing me to continue with my debate. We know that the President has said we need to develop our schools and roads. In my constituency Bulilima, our roads are so bad especially the road from Plumtree to Maitengwe. We want that road to be repaired and constructed because it is a commercial road and because it is a money spinning venture, I thank the President for encouraging Government to develop this road. When the Minister of Finance and Economic Development was talking about road rehabilitation, he said roads are an economy. The Maitengwe Border Post is a money spinner.

It is very painful to see when you are at Maitengwe and you compare the two sides, the Zimbabwean side and the Botswana side, the Botswana is sophisticated and it is developed. The Maitengwe side is a wreck. When we look at what is happening in Botswana, it is really modernity. I am begging the Government that the projects which are
aimed at developing the Maitengwe Border Post should be completed this session. We also want people to access the radio channels of Zimbabwe because if we do not do that, we have our people in Zimbabwe listening to programmes and news from neighbouring countries and that is very destructive. That is bad for the people of those areas. They are not up to date with what is happening in their country.

They need to see the television of their country and they need to communicate using the networks of their country, but these people are in poverty. They are being tormented because they rely on airwaves and net waves from bordering countries. Madam Speaker, I am so glad to know that Government is developing.

HON. T. MLISWA: On a point of order Madam Speaker. What is being debated is very important to the nation but we do not have any translation and it is unfortunate. I do not know what Parliament is doing to ensure that we all understand what he is saying. Section 6 of the Constitution talks about the languages and it is mandatory that each language is covered and people are represented. We cannot just have this
because how do we debate when we do not understand the language? There is no translator. – [HON. MEMBERS: Inaudible interjections.] -

THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. T. Mliswa, there is an interpreter translating the language. Your point of order is noted and please may you take your seat. Order Hon. Members, please do not be excited by the cameras. May you take your seat? Hon. Mliswa please! – [HON. MEMBERS: Inaudible interjections.] -

+HON. PHUTI: Madam Speaker, in the year 2013, we had a new Constitution in Zimbabwe and this gave me the power to stand up and debate in my mother language, which is Kalanga. It is a language which is understood by the people who elected me to come and represent them in this House.

I thank you again Madam Speaker for affording me the opportunity to continue debating in my language. I am grateful to other Members who have supported me to communicate in the language I know better. In Zimbabwe we have 16 languages which include the sign language –
[HON. MEMBERS: *Hear, hear.*] – I am grateful to you Hon. Members for the support given.

The President also talked about the construction of dams. We know when we have the dams, we have the water and we will undertake irrigation in our farms. When the President suggested that we work towards these dams, he knew that there were Ministries which were capable. He also said we need to have de-siltation of dams. Some of them were there long back but because of siltation, they had now been covered by sand; such dams such as the Maitengwe. Just in a few days, I will be leading a team of engineers to go to these dams and work on how they can be de-silted. We know that some of these dams were constructed long back during the Smith regime and we now have to look forward to the de-siltation of these dams. What we would like to see is the introduction of irrigation in the area of Bulilima because as a region which receives low rainfall.

Madam Speaker, I would also want to thank the Head of State for talking about the health of the nation. My request is that each district
should have a district hospital so that people do not travel long distances or people moving into other districts to seek medical attention. My constituency Bulilima is one of the few districts which are still using one hospital, which is the Plumtree Hospital but I am saying there is a hospital which is there which has to be upgraded.

Let me now turn to education for the youngsters. When we are deploying our teachers and we are sending them to areas like Plumtree, send teachers who can speak the Kalanga language, teachers who can talk to the children and they understand because we are building their foundation. That way, we will be upholding our culture because if learners are being taught by somebody who does not know the language, they end up poisoning these youngsters. We also need these children to be introduced to computers.

Madam Speaker, let me continue and still talk about the address to the nation by the President. The President talked about some Bills which have to be passed by Parliament. As far as I am concerned, I think these Bills will soon be passed and I am begging my fellow
Parliamentarians, let us work hard and work on them item by item so that we pass these Bills. Let me talk about the Traditional Leaders Act. We want this Act to be brought into this august House so that the status of the leaders is upheld. This should also include those traditional leaders especially in my area, the Kalanga chiefs who were dethroned by the Smith regime need to be reinstated.

In conclusion, when we are talking about laws, we should interrogate the Constitution. We should know that there are provinces which are cities. The two metropolitan provinces are Harare and Bulawayo. These provinces are given names of people in those areas but some of them are named after the regions and they are discriminatory, which means when we have such names for our provinces, we are saying these are superior languages and yet they are supposed to be equal. I think it is better to have provinces with names such as Masvingo and Midlands. It does not lead to the superiority of any language but when we hear of Matabeleland North, Matabeleland South, Mashonaland East, Mashonaland West, it only shows that this
area belongs to the Ndebeles, this area belongs to the Shonas. Other languages are not included because they are not mentioned in that. Therefore I am saying let us change the names of these provinces.

Madam Speaker, I thank you for allowing me to debate in Kalanga.

**HON. E. NCUBE:** Thank you Madam Speaker for affording me the opportunity to contribute to the motion moved by Hon. Kwaramba and seconded by Hon. Musabayana in response to the State of the Nation address delivered by His Excellency, President Emmerson Mnangagwa on 18th September, 2018. Madam Speaker, let me start by congratulating His Excellency, President Emmerson Mnangagwa on his resounding victory on 30th July Harmonised elections. Once more, I also want to extend my congratulations to the Speaker of the House and yourself Hon. Gezi on being elected to lead this august House.

Madam Speaker, in response to the State of the Nation address delivered by His Excellency, President Mnangagwa during the Official Opening of the First Session of the Ninth Parliament in the Second Republic of Zimbabwe, I compliment the President for his consistency
and determination in addressing the socio-economic and political challenges facing our Second Republic through his foremost programme, Zimbabwe is open for business.

Madam Speaker, Rutenga Business Centre is one of the areas earmarked for a dry port in this country. However, it has no infrastructure and poor road network. I am therefore appealing to the Government for the construction of infrastructure and improved communication systems through provision of all network service providers by setting up boosters in the entire constituency.

In addition, poor road networks have negatively impacted the education levels in my constituency. For instance, school children in areas like Sovelele, Chingwizi and Mateke Hills areas travel long distances for about 15 to 20 kilometres to attend school. This consequently results in an increase in school drop outs and most children on completing their primary education do not proceed to secondary levels. Also, due to the long distance, pupils attend classes already tired and this affects their performance and results overally. Some of these
children will end up crossing the border to South Africa in search of employment. Thus on the above mentioned areas, I appeal to the Government to construct both primary and secondary schools adjacently and the construction of roads for easy access to transport in order to achieve the President’s vision of making Zimbabwe a middle class economy by 2030.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to comment that it is prudent for the Government to provide easy access to health services and prevent occurrence of epidemic diseases such as cholera and malaria by speeding up the construction of health facilities and road networks in my constituency, especially the aforementioned areas Sovelele, Chirikuzhe and Mateke Hills....

*Hon. Matambanadzo having passed between the Chair and the Member on the floor.*

**THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order. Hon. Matambanadzo order!
HON. P. NCUBE: Sovelele, Chirikuzhe and Mateke hills. These are mainly resettlement areas. Madam Speaker, Chivi-Mwenezi Constituency lies in the agro ecological Region 5 which is characterised by constant episodes of dry spells and minimal annual rainfall. On this note, I am proposing for the creation of water harvesting projects such as dam construction, weirs and drilling of boreholes. These water reservoirs facilitate creation and sustain irrigation schemes in the constituency. Harvesting of water will proportionally improve the livelihoods of communities and develop resilience of the communities by addressing their nutritional status and survival of livestock in the surrounding areas, thereby creating dietary diversity and eliminating food insecurity largely. On this bid, the Government will also be holistically addressing the food and nutrition aspect.

Madam Speaker, I would want to comment on the recently discovered diamond minerals in Chivi District. It is my wish that the mining company that operates at those mines would plough back to the community by prioritising employment of local youths ahead of non-
locals as part of job creation. In addition, the mines should incorporate infrastructure development by construction of homes, health facilities, schools and drilling of boreholes to the affected households. Madam Speaker, I cannot conclude my speech without mentioning that Tokwe Mukorsi is poised to be an economic hub and plans are underway to relocate some families around the dam. I therefore appeal for the Government to consider the families to be affected first ahead of outsiders in their master plan by allocating them irrigation plots. Electrification of the entire constituency is one aspect that needs to be considered without delay as this will improve the ease of doing business and improve the e-learning programme in schools.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, I appeal to Government to urgently, drill more boreholes that are deeper than the usual sixty metres due to the decreased water tables in my constituency. Moreso, Madam Speaker, the entire Chive-Mwenezi Constituency is in dire need of food because of the induced Elnino drought in the country. Lastly, I would like to thank the Government of Zimbabwe for rehabilitating Beitbridge-
Chirundu road which had become a death bed for our loved ones through accidents. I also want to thank the people of Chivi-Mwenezi Constituency for electing me to represent them in this august House. I thank you.

**HON. MURIRE:** Thank you Madam Speaker. I stand to give my support to the motion moved by Hon. Kwaramba, seconded by Hon. Musabayana on the State of the Nation Address (SONA) delivered to the joint sitting of the House of Assembly and the Senate on 18th September 2018 by His Excellency, the President and Commander in Chief of Zimbabwe Defence Forces, Hon. Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa.

Madam Speaker, I thank you for affording me this space to join my fellow Hon. Members in expressing my gratitude to his Excellency the President for presenting the direction setting SONA that outlines policies and programmes to turn around our economy. I take this opportunity to warmly congratulate him and the entire ZANU PF family for our resounding victory in the July 2018 harmonised elections, the people spoke. I thank his leadership for appreciating my capability and for
approving my nomination to stand as the Party’s House of Assembly election candidate.

Madam Speaker, Members of the Ninth Parliament respect you as a statesman and with confidence in your leadership resolved to elect you to be Speaker of the House, I congratulate you. Colleagues in this House, I beg you not to be annoyed as I will be approaching you. I need to tap from your valuable experience as it has a direct bearing on my life as a legislator. I urge you Hon. Members and patriotic Zimbabweans to be united for the common purpose of steering our economy to greater heights.

I embrace the SONA as a wake up call to us as national leadership and primarily us as Hon. Members to put our collective and collaborative effort on uniting our people for a common cause. I am convinced by so doing, we lay a strong foundation from which to propel our country to the envisaged middle-income economy. Our possession of critical natural resources, including human capital and balanced climate, should facilitate its building and sustenance.
On this background, it is time to project our internally acclaimed profile of educational achievement, distinguished culture of friendliness hard work and peaceful coexistence by achieving our set national objectives. Madam Speaker, only a shift in our mindset from peddling and promoting foreign interests to priding in and valuing our own can be the biggest challenge. We need to overcome it. Existence of greedy renegades who value personal power and money ahead of collective national interests among us is common in any society.

Like Boko Haram in Nigeria, RENAMO in Mozambique and similar groups elsewhere these renegades pose the greatest threat to Africa’s attainment of its total independence. However, just as their handlers failed to stop the liberation wind as it blew across the continent, uprooting and sweeping away vestiges of colonialism, they too will fail in their bid for establishment of a neocolonised Africa. Our resolute demonstration and determination to have control of our natural resources as Zimbabwe makes our country a prime target for illegal sanctions and systematic sponsored destabilisation.
Madam Speaker, the United States dollar has turned out to be a weapon for the advancement of neo-colonisation. I disagree with and regard as misplaced and fallacy the belief that the US dollar is a natural indispensable currency for international trade settlements. In fact, it is together with the Bible, an original instrument of colonisation, hence the words ‘In God we Trust’ are deliberately designed biblically and spiritually to entice us to give up our valuable natural resources in exchange for false financial safety and imagined prosperity guarantees. This is what we call mental colonisation. It influences us to despise our own currency, thereby exerting pressure on it to depreciate. The international community should be urged to adopt a universal currency which is not owned and managed by a country that has abused the trust that the world has bestowed on its currency. United States of America takes advantage of this trust and uses the currency to finance regime change agenda and establishment of puppet governments across the globe. This has been the case in the Middle East, Asia, Latin America and North Africa. Currently Zimbabwe, Sudan and Venezuela are prime targets.
Madam Speaker Ma’am, it is my humble submission that “physical natural resources” and the right mindset not the so called financial resources “a paper resource disguised as foreign currency’ are the key valuable and critical capital possession with which we should drive our economic development agenda. All over the world resources are depleting whilst ours are still in abundance, thereby attracting sponsored political and social destabilisation programmes. These programmes are executed by our captured and paid youths who have been initiated to get angry and engage in violent economic destabilisation demonstration on behalf of so called civic society organisations who are bankrolled by United States of America and its allies. Spirited motivation to defend our national sovereignty and concerted effort to preserve and transparent utilisation of our resources is fundamental to the turning around of our economy.

Fiduciary instruments comprising the United States Dollar dominated foreign currency basket we currently use should be
terminated and replaced with our own local currency as a step towards mental decolonisation.

Madam Speaker Ma’am, I propose our curriculum reform should include a component that inculcates in our future generation a culture of upholding our economic heritage and respect for our currency. Of late our *de facto* currency - the bond note, has displayed resistance against all pressures bent on discrediting it. This is certainly a clear demonstration that “in God we also trust”. I am convinced that if we mobilise our skilled manpower which has attracted demand from all over the world and harness our natural resource endowment, nothing will stop us from realising our desired economic status. Our appetite for abstract comfort is a serious weakness we need to overcome.

We are all aware how our people reacted to our own home grown ongoing austerity measures and policy reforms announced by the Minister of Finance in October 2018. This was even before they were implemented, hence the effect had not been felt. Key economic stakeholders went to unexplained speculative drive, started siphoning
fuel from the market, depreciating the bond note and RTGS rates, resultantly putting upward pressure on prices. This is a very unpatriotic and bad culture that should not be condoned in civilised societies such as ours.

We have to borrow a leaf from the Chinese who courageously embraced and successfully implemented their home grown austerity for prosperity polices. They had to forgo luxury and did with just basic food and clothing. The Chinese had to wear one type of dress which colonialists made us to believe was a symbol of communism. By 1976 results of their home frown policies began to bear fruit. Between 1978 and 2007, China’s annual economic growth rate averaged 9.8% compared to the world’s average of 3.3%. China made such achievement despite the illegal sanctions, devastating natural disasters and severe international financial crisis that characterised this period. This was made possible by their culture of resilience, patriotism and commitment to one common national interest.
After years of consolidation pinned on the strength of a culture of collectivism, leveraged on a strong historical foundation, anchored on building of vibrant agriculture and tourism sectors and boasting of committed labour, China opened up its economy and began to attract export oriented foreign direct investment. Within ten years China’s manufacturing industry climbed the crest of development and it caught up with the developed world. It started dominating the world trade arena, boasting of current account surplus and foreign reserves standing in excess of three million US$ as of 2011. China currently holds the highest value of United States Treasury Bills, making it a creditor to USA.

Madam Speaker Ma’am, what we have to learn from the Chinese model as legislators collectively therefore, is to set aside self centred power politics and unite behind our national interest. This requires us now to concentrate on educating our constituents on the need to agree on, respect and embrace economic initiatives and home grown fiscal and monetary policy reforms ensuring effective oversight execution in the
process. Recent price increases are not justified as they are not even a reaction to policy but to ulterior motives, self centred interest and greed.

In this regard the SONA gives us direction in execution of our oversight mandate to take the country from the sorry economic situation it is to the envisioned 2030 status. We can only earn the title “Hon. Member” if we avoid concentrating on trivial issues and display of conduct that is influenced by narrow partisan orientation. The continuing deterioration of our image and profile as parliamentarians, if not managed now, will take away the little honour that remains with us. This will turn the House into a place of public disrespect and certainly diminish our constitutional capacity to exercise the representative, legislative and oversight role. Under your able leadership, which has been proven over the years, a Ninth Parliament of Hon. Members should project a perspective that reflects a new dispensation whose birth we all witnessed on 18 November 2017.

I have heard you loud and clear from the first day I set my foot into this House reminding Hon Members of the need to appropriately
discharge our roles for the benefit of the nation; ensuring results and outcomes are realized.

_An Hon. Member having passed between the Chair and the Hon. Member speaking._

As freedom fighters, we held the doctrine “we are our own liberators”. Indeed, this is the time we should also reflect on this doctrine as we face the regime change crusade head on.

Today we enjoy peace and tranquility that came about through the historic First and Second Chimurenga. We should revere these events and make them the pinnacle of our economic emancipation. Some amongst our people, politicians and civil servants included, fail to appreciate that first and foremost, we are all Zimbabweans with a legacy which cannot be traded for foreign handouts. Consumed in paid traitorous tendencies, brainwashed and skeptic about our self determination capability, we are bound to be doomed collectively as a nation. We risk total loss of our dignity and becoming subjects of colonial exploitation once again.
This would be the biggest betrayal of our fallen heroes’ sacrifices. To those who care to listen to reverberating voices of our fallen heroes and heroines of the First and Second Chimurenga, they are echoing from skeletons scattered deep down in mine shafts, mass graves and in the wilderness calling on traitors to have second thoughts before embarking on their next paid acts of betrayal. Through spirit mediums, our heroes convey their messages “we lay our lives for people’s total independence calling on traitors to have second thoughts before they embark on their next paid acts of betrayal. Through spirit mediums, our heroes conveyed their message. We lost our lives for people’s total independence and, Zimbabwe will never be a colony again”. This is the spirit that united all Zimbabweans in the restoration of our legacy and on the choice of one President at a time. This time around, it is His Excellency President E.D. Mnangagwa, Commander in Chief of Zimbabwe Defence Forces and leader of the new dispensation.

Madam Speaker, after playing with toy guns, the malcontents amongst our youths tell the nation, “they are not gun-trigger happy” yet
their terror loaded language and violent actions expose their true character. They go on rampage fatally attacking State security personnel and putting security institutions and equipment ablaze. Madam Speaker, people should be made aware that our security operates on principles in executing their duties in defence of the nation. Some of these principles may be hazardous and life threatening. Everyone and the world at large understood His Excellency. He has done his best, preaching peace and harmony not sand stones, fire and bullets unleashed on innocent citizens by the toy guns of terror wielding misguided youths. His Excellency’s call is premised on a sacred legacy born out of the armed struggle, a legacy that should inspire us as Honourable Members to focus on the national vision of building a great nation that is anchored on constituencies that we have all been elected to develop, lead and unite. We should not condone violence, terror and loss of innocent lives.

Madam Speaker, turning to our social fabric, His Excellency the President as the number one citizen of this nation, expressed concern about corruption. Corruption seems to have permeated structures of our
financial, business and social systems. It is now engraved as a business cost driver and transaction component in public and private procurement contracts. Suffice to say Government is now haunted by this illicit cost which it has been forced to finance through unwarranted budget overruns and unjustified debt assumptions.

In this regard, the anti-corruption, anti-money laundering and other crime prevention institutions deserve adequate resources and direct support to ensure they are effectively capacitated. People involved in corruption are not small timers. Some of them are people with capacity bankrolling their illicit trade. Support from the highest office in guaranteeing anti-corruption financing and direct intervention where necessary is a prerequisite. A corruption free environment is a necessary condition, not an option if we are to succeed in our agenda of turning around the economy.

Madam Speaker, I turn to Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement, another agenda item reflected in the SONA. My constituency Musikavanhu is very anxious and looking forward to the
rationalisation of imbalances that characterised the Land Reform Programme. There is no doubt the land reform could not have been executed in any other way than it was considering the liberation struggle was a fight against land ownership imbalances which favoured a minority group. Our land reform exercise was therefore a struggle executed as an extension of the same liberation struggle whose legacy was bequeathed to us by our fallen heroes as they lay their lives. We bother to recall colonialists immediately after independence saying, “if only we knew your colleagues died for change of name from Rhodesia to Zimbabwe, we could have handed it to Nehanda long back in 1890”. Today, we hear our misguided youths saying they are engaging in a struggle for independence. “Idzosereyi payanga yakasungirirwa tiisunungurewo” they utter. Which independence? Every country has one.

Madam Speaker, should this be a joke then it is only expected to come from a traitor’s mouth. People of Zimbabwe defined their struggle as Chimurenga constituted of phases for attainment of their national
sovereignty. For the benefit of doubt, we are now on the Fourth Chimurenga which is an economic war and consolidation of our land ownership. The need to remove ownership imbalances based on race was successfully achieved, thanks to veterans of the Third Chimurenga. It should be acknowledged, Government is now ceased with issues of imbalances arising from size and number of pieces of land individually owned by some of our own. Some deserving interest groups including our living heroes, in some cases whole communities, including Musikavanhu Constituency did not benefit from the initial allocation process. My hope is the ongoing audit exercise is going to be conclusive and seriously address the problem to its finality and ensure it does not remain and mutate to become a national security threat.

Madam Speaker, Musikavanhu Constituency is part of the arid areas of Chipinge District and experiences perennial drought. However, it has capacity to accommodate a dam to harness abundant rain that is currently wasted and plenty of underground water that can provide borehole drilling opportunities. I urge Government to speed up
implementation of Kondo Dam project which has been on the cards for too long. Currently, people in the constituency are crowded and rely on only two small irrigation schemes currently under exploitative contract arrangements. It would be greatly appreciated if Government could consider revisiting such contracts so that farmers get value from their land ownership.

Madam Speaker, Musikavanhu Constituency in particular and Chipinge in general, have prospects for mineral resources which may include diamond, gold and salt. Government is urged to consider mineral exploration in areas around the district. Discovery of minerals in the district will have significant impact on employment opportunities and contribution to GDP.

Madam Speaker, livestock rearing was once a thriving source of livelihood for people of Musikanvanhu Constituency. Through this lucrative economic activity, the constituency subsisted on and was one of the key suppliers of quality beef to the Cold Storage Commission. This productive activity was later to be affected by war and ever since it
has not been resuscitated. We implore Government to revive this economic activity and to include the constituency on areas earmarked for support under the Command Livestock Programme.

Madam Speaker, colonialists have given our youths false promises of billions in financial support should they manage to successfully push their regime change agenda. On the basis of this pie in the sky, our poor youths are hallucinating and seeing visions of spaghetti roads constructed overnight. His Excellency’s address therefore highlights the need to speed up development and modernisation of our infrastructure including roads so that we rescue our youths from hallucinations and have them in the near future walking and driving on real life spaghetti roads in a totally independent Zimbabwe.

I am glad Madam Speaker, that rehabilitation of the entire portion of Tanganda-Ngundu highway that passes through my constituency and works on dualisation of State highways around the country is progressing in earnest. I wish to commend His Excellency through the Minister of Transport for communicating through action and results. I
am equally convinced that Government received Musikavanhu Constituency’s five year manifesto agenda including rehabilitation of rural roads, construction of schools, ICT hubs, clinics, mortuaries, borehole drilling, electrification, sand scooping in silted dams and rivers and establishment or irrigation schemes.

We applaud His Excellency for pushing implementation of the constitutional provision on devolution. This requirement has always been central to involvement of our people in the development of their communities. We are already witnessing preparatory activities in our provinces for rolling out structures to operationalise the devolution process; this is welcome.

Madam Speaker, “in God they trust”. They trust their currency that all shall worship it, that all shall abandon their sovereignty and lose their destiny. So, all shall become their colonial subjects. Madam Speaker, in our mind, in our people, in our resources and in our sovereignty lies our destiny!
**HON. SHIRICHENA:** I stand up to make my contribution on this motion which was raised by Hon. Kwaramba and supported by Hon. Musabayana. I say congratulations to His Excellency Cde Mnangagwa for resoundingly winning the 2018 harmonised elections. I also say congratulations to you Members of Parliament for winning these seats and being the representatives of the people in the development of this country. I am so grateful to the womenfolk of Midlands, in particular Mberengwa because they elected me to come and represent them in this august House.

Madam Speaker, the province of Midlands is a very rich province in everything. You talk of cattle ranching, dairy farming and all the minerals you can think of, you find them in the Midlands Province. We have several minerals which include emeralds, gold, copper, coal and asbestos. All these minerals are found in the Midlands Province. We also have some very big mines in the province but it is not very pleasing because we had these big mines paying for the development of this country, but unfortunately because of the current monetary situation
some of these mines have crumbled. We knew of Buchwa, Shabanie and the Gold Chase Mines but these mines are not functioning properly because of the economic condition. My wish is that these mines be resuscitated and empowered to lead to the welfare of the young and women who will develop.

Still talking about the Midlands Province, when we talk about food security, it is said that the province has everything including fertile soils which can sustain agriculture. Because this year we have suffered from climate change, we have areas like Mberengwa, Zvishavane and Chirumanzu Districts which I fear are going to face starvation due to poor rainfalls. As I am talking now, people did not even dare to plant because of poor rainfalls. They are still keeping their seeds in their homes. Like I have said, there is going to be starvation which is painful to the women and men. I am therefore appealing to the Government that they should make appropriate measures that nobody dies of hunger or starvation in the Midlands. This is one of the provinces which have one of the best and biggest dams in the country. My wish is that these dams
be used for irrigation. The dams include Manyuchi Dam, Mundi-Mataga Dam, Sukamini Dam and Mhandamabwe Dam. If only the waters in these dams could be harnessed and we start indulging in irrigation we know we will be food self-sufficient. We will not suffer from starvation because we will have utilised our natural resources in the Midlands Province.

Again still concentrating on the Midlands Province, it is one of these biggest provinces which is very wide. We have roads especially in areas that include Gokwe North and Gokwe South. There is a very poor road network. It is our wish and plea that these roads be repaired. The road again from the Shabani-West Nicolson is one of those roads which is bothering people because it was not completed. Again, the road from Zvishavane to Rutenga has not been completed. The road to Zvishavane to Mberengwa District and to Munene which is one of the biggest hospitals in Munene has a very poor road network and therefore as the people of this province, we have problems in travelling from point A to
point B, hence we are calling for the Government to fund for the repair and re-construction of these roads.

I will now turn to health - we have a lot of hospitals in Midlands Province but most of them are now ghost institutions because there is no medication, there are no health personnel especially nurses hence when people are sick and go to those institutions they do not get the attention which they deserve. We are appealing to the Government to supply these hospitals with medication and human resources. The worst thing is that when somebody dies in these hospitals, the mortuaries are not refrigerated and the corpses will rot. Therefore, I am calling the Government to finance the health programmes in the midlands area. I have stated and I will restate that Midlands is one of the biggest provinces in this area. I thank you.

HON. BVUTE: Madam Speaker, May I begin my maiden address by congratulating you on your election as Deputy Speaker of the House. May I also take this opportunity to formerly congratulate His Excellency the President E. D. Mnangagwa on his election victory and subsequent
inauguration. In his State of the Nation Address, His Excellency eloquently spoke on his vision for our nation, his plans and tasks that he has given his Government, in pursuit of the betterment of life in general for his people.

Having been elected to represent the people of Goromonzi North, it is with delight that I learnt an amount has been set aside in the National Budget for the construction of Kunzvi Dam. The dam will form the basis of future economic development, not only in Goromonzi but in the greater confines of Harare as it seeks to be the future source of potable water, irrigation and entertainment.

From the time we were sworn in as Members of Parliament, I have noted with interest the nature and type of debates that we have that form the basis of conflict and disagreement between us. One thing that remains is that though we may disagree, our collective intention should ultimately be the up-liftment of the lives of the people we represent. Over the last few weeks, our national discussion has focused on the
negative. At the best of times, we have sought to draw the attention of the wider world to our disagreement.

If our goal is to uplift, we must therefore question how much of our time is spent trying to positively influence, how much of our time is spent trying to find common solutions to common problems. We have at times been very harsh on the leadership. We have sought to have them provide instant solutions to decade old problems. It takes nine months for the conception and birth of a child and it takes even more time for that child to sit, walk and crawl. With this in mind, we are therefore guilty of being unduly unfair in our assessment and expectation. We are at the start of our journey. His Excellency has outlined his vision, his desire and the outcome he seeks. Should we therefore not, but for a moment put our differences aside and begin to push and pull in the same direction? How much more would we achieve if we all did that? We highlight all that is bad but have not taken time to celebrate all that is good about our nation. Confusion, malice and conflict is the bad thing of
poverty. Collectivism, dialogue, hard work and a sense of purpose will assure the success of our nation.

Madam Speaker, the Bible is not only a source of inspiration and guidance; it also provides a blue print for success. I will therefore quote Mathew 12:33 – “Make a tree good and its fruits will be good or make a tree bad and its fruits will be bad. For a tree is recognised by its fruit”. Mathew 12:34 – “For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.” I wish His Excellency, the Government and this august House great success in meeting the aspirations of the people of Zimbabwe. At the inception of each session, Madam Speaker, we begin with a prayer. May the Lord speak to each one of us to do the right thing and above all, represent people with dignity, honour, and the desire for them to be better. I thank you.

HON. MUSAKWA: Thank you Madam Speaker. I would like to add my voice to the motion raised by Hon. Kwaramba and seconded by Hon. Musabayana. First and foremost, I would like to appreciate the State of the Nation Address given by His Excellency the President of the
Republic, E. D. Mnangagwa for such a pragmatic and emphatic speech which gave direction to this country –[HON. MEMBERS: *Hear, hear.*] – I think it then goes without saying that he deserved to win and indeed he won.

The first point in his SONA which I and my constituency of Bikita West saw striking, is his emphasis on value addition and beneficiation. Looking at the constituency of Bikita West, we have got Lithium Mine, Bikita Minerals which we believe as a people that it will benefit from beneficiation of lithium the production of batteries and other lithium based products and add to the employment creation emphasised by His Excellency the President.

He also emphasised the issue of scientific research and innovation hubs. These go without saying that they improve efficiencies in our production value chain, thus creating competitiveness for Zimbabwean products which have got an open effect of creating more exports and thus reducing our current account deficit. I also want to applaud the President for his thrust to empower women and the youths through the
empowerment banks which also go without saying that it creates employment.

The mantra of reengagement goes for greater notice as it removes all the toxic relations with other nations which has resulted in some nations imposing sanctions upon us which are illegal and underserved. We believe his reengagement efforts will bear fruits soon so that the sanctions are removed and we also stand on the same footing as other nations who also prosper on the basis of lines of credit, balance of payment support and a lot of innovations and incentives necessary for our social economic development.

In my constituency, emphasis on food security through irrigation development - we have got a number of areas where we can benefit such as the Nharira/Shereni irrigation schemes. We also have the Rozva irrigation scheme and the Siya Dam irrigation scheme which is soon to start. We have Maboke where dams were affected by siltation. So, we stand to benefit from that thrust. We also stand to benefit from the borehole drilling irrigation based schemes in areas such as Ward 22
where we have got areas such as Uchere, Gangarabwe, Maboke which are drought prone.

As we face the imminent drought of this year, we believe schemes such as this will go a long way to alleviate poverty and hunger. I also want to applaud the President for emphasising on infrastructure development. In our area, we stand to benefit a lot as we have got infrastructure requirement such as the Maregere/Silveira/Bikita Road which is being rehabilitated and which we hope will be completed since the tarring ended some years back. We believe now with his thrust, that tar will be completed for it saves to reduce the distance being travelled by people to the district hospital which is Silveira. It will shorten the distance from Bikita Hospital to Silveira by almost 20 km. So, it will greatly help us.

We also have the Mashoko/Makuvaza Road which we hope we will benefit through this infrastructure development thrust. We also have another road, the Pamushana/Hozvi/Shereni/Nharira road which we also believe will benefit from this thrust. Furthermore, we want to applaud
the President for putting a lot of emphasis on health. As a constituency and as a district, we have areas that are greatly deficient from health infrastructure which we hope through this thrust, will benefit the constituency in terms of medical provision and in terms of even the capacity to develop state of the art medical infrastructure. This will even attract medical tourism. So, Madam Speaker, I feel the President gave direction to the nation and he deserves all our support.

Finally, I want to congratulate all Hon. Members for being elected and for representing the people. I thank you Madam Speaker. I will say Asante Sana, Muito Obrigado. Thank you.

**HON. MACHINGURA:** Thank you Madam Speaker. I would like to thank the movers of this important motion Hon. Kwaramba, seconded by Hon. Muysabayana. I call it important because it was the President’s inaugural address to this august House as the President of Zimbabwe at the dawn of the Second Republic. Chipinge Central’s 2018 Harmonised Elections were indeed peaceful, free, fair and democratic. The elections produced our President, myself and those chosen to be councillors. I
want to extend my profound thanks to the people of this great constituency.

**HON. CHINYANGANYA:** On a point of order Madam Speaker. The Hon. Member is not new but he is reading as if it is his maiden speech. Thank you.

**THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Hon. Machingura, you are only allowed to refer to your notes. You are not supposed to be reading.

**HON. MACHINGURA:** Okay, I am referring to my notes. Thank you. It is my desire to carry out my work bestowed on me as a servant leader for the people of Chipinge Central in an atmosphere of love, unity and harmony. Chipinge Central is ready to join other constituencies and other Members of Parliament to make Zimbabwe great through prosperity. I wish to thank our President for the peaceful elections. We had a slight disturbance on the 1st of August, but I thank him for setting up a Commission of Inquiry. His intention was to nip in the bud the kind of retrogressive occurrences such as that one so that we would continue
with confidence on our journey to entrench constitutionalism and
democratic practices and also values.

I also wish to thank Chipinge Central for shunning these practices.
The President is committed to prioritise economic development and play
its part. It has got a number of agricultural produce that comes from that
region. I would start with bananas that are for export and also bananas
for the local market. We have got what we call macadamia nuts. These
are mainly for export. They go outside the country though without being
beneficiated and we have had rumours that the husk or the cover of the
nut is used by the Chinese to make furniture. If we study how they do it,
we can also implement it at home.

We have a milk processing plant in Chipinge which is quite big
and has been recently refurbished to improve its efficiency and
effectiveness. At the moment, it is operating at 30% capacity because of
lack of milk. I will touch on the issue of milk later on. We have dairy
farmers in the constituency and some who are a project of the
Government in what we call Paidamoyo area. These people if they are
given the right breeds of dairy cows, they can increase the amount of
milk that we require and also to make our Dairy Board efficient.

Chipinge Central also produces wild fruits like guavas and
avocados which are for export and some for the local market. Those for
export are also carried out without any value addition at the moment
although they are pegged for the external market. The road network
needs to support the agricultural activities that are done in Chipinge. We
are very thankful to the President Hon. E. D. Mnangagwa and the
Minister of Transport and Infrastructural Development for resuming
works on the Tanganda – Tungundu Road which carries most of our
produce to Beitbridge. When rehabilitation had stalled, it was down, it
actually proved costly to our farmers because the produce would not go
over Birchenough Bridge.

An Hon. Member having passed between the Chair and the Hon.
Member speaking.

HON. MUSHORIWA: On a point of order Madam Speaker. We
have noted that Members from that side, every time you are on the
Chair, they appear to disrespect you – [HON. MEMBERS: Inaudible interjections.] – Every time Madam Speaker, they cross in front of you without respecting you. They do not disrespect the Speaker and it is our view that they are disrespecting you because you are a woman and we will not allow that to happen.

**THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order, there is no point of order.

**HON. MACHINGURA:** Thank you Madam Speaker. I will not comment on the disturbance but I will just proceed. I was talking about the road to Tanganda which we say we are thankful to the President and the Minister of Transport and Infrastructural Development. We also have other essential roads within the constituency which are tributary roads that are used by our people to bring their produce to the main road where they can be transported.

We are also hopeful that the road network and a good SME base will also encourage and stimulate production amongst our SMEs. There are also other roads that we want to be attended to, not necessarily
because of the agricultural produce but for ease of doing business like the one to Mt. Selinda and also another road to Rusitu. If those roads can be attended to, it will be good for our people.

Madam Speaker, we echo the President’s call for ending corruption because corruption is actually very costly. It reduces our GDP. For our social services, we appeal to the councils that we have so that they can do the three activities of collecting refuse in order to make the environment clean. We also want them to provide clean water to drink and provision of roads and health care. Under health care, we have got problems where people are not getting medicine to treat them in the clinics and hospitals and we would want that attended to.

Chipinge Central also hopes that commercial power is always available so that industry is not interrupted. To that end …

Hon. Makoni having passed between the Chair and the Hon. Member speaking.
THE HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Makoni, please may you observe Standing Rules Number 76 (c) which stipulates that we shall not pass between the Chair and any Member who is debating.

HON. MACHINGURA: Thank you Madam Speaker. The constituency hopes that ZESA does its routine and dry season maintenance programmes and also they have got good earthing systems so that repeat faults and lightning strikes may not cause power outages as often as it does now. We are also hopeful that the people of Chipinge Central will continue to be on high alert so that thieves do not steal oil from the transformers which is something that causes outages.

On devolution Madam Speaker, Chipinge Central will definitely play its part towards a provisional GDP. There are Bills that are coming to Parliament that Chipinge Central are interested in. I will just name a few; the Companies Bill, the Regional Town and Country Planning, the Zimbabwe Investments Bill, the Bill to establish and install education research, innovation and development, the Bill on consumer protection and the Labour Amendment Bill. These Bills, when they come, I think
they will go a long way in solving the problems of the people of Chipinge Central. I thank you Madam Speaker.

HON. KWARAMBA: I move that the debate do now adjourn.

HON. CHOMBO: I second.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Wednesday, 13th February, 2019.

*On the motion of* HON. MGUNI *seconded by* HON. N.

NDLOVU, the House adjourned at Thirteen Minutes past Four o’clock p.m.*