ISSN 2225-5273

UNREVISED EDITION

Serial No. 028

PARLIAMENT OF MALAWI



DAILY DEBATES (HANSARD)

Fifty Second Session – 2nd Meeting

Twenty Eighth Day, Friday, 10th April, 2026

Corrections which Members desire to suggest in the report of their speeches should be submitted to the Chief Editor before the next Meeting of the National Assembly

Price: K200.00

CONTENTS

THE PRAYER

GENERAL BUSINESS

Communication from the Chair

Questions on Notice to Ministers for Oral Replies

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Adjournment Formalities

The Honourable Leader of Opposition to deliver his adjournment remarks
The Honourable Leader of the House to move the Adjournment Sine Die Motion.

ADJOURNMENT

THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

CABINET AS AT 5TH JANUARY, 2026

HIS EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR. ARTHUR PETER MUTHARIKA
President and Commander-In-Chief of the Malawi Armed Forces.

RIGHT HONOURABLE DR. JANE ANSAH, SC JA RTD
First Vice President of the Republic of Malawi.

RIGHT HONOURABLE ENOCK KAMZINGENI CHIHANA
Second Vice President of the Republic of Malawi.

HON. JOSEPH MWANAMVEKHA, MP	*Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation*
HON. ROZA MBILIZI FATCH, MP	*Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development*
HON. BRIGHT MSAKA, SC	*Minister of Education, Science and Technology*
HON. CHARLES MHANGO	*Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs*
HON. DR. GEORGE T. CHAPONDA, MP	*Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation*
HON. MADALITSO BALOYI, MP	*Minister of Health*
HON. BEN MALUNGA PHIRI, MP	*Minister of Local Government and Rural Development*
HON. SIMON ITAYE	*Minister of Industrialisation, Business, Trade and Tourism*
HON. JAPPIE MHANGO, MP	*Minister of Transport and Public Works*
HON. PETER MUKHITO	*Minister of Homeland Security*
HON. MARY NAVICHA, MP	*Minister of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare*
HON. JEAN MATHANGA, MP	*Minister of Energy and Mining*
HON. PATRICIA WISKES, MP	*Minister of Natural Resources and Climate Change*
HON. CHIMWEMWE CHIPUNGU, MP	*Minister of Lands, Housing and Urban Development*
HON. JOEL CHIGONA, MP	*Minister of Labour Skills and Innovation*
HON. ALFRED RUWAN GANGATA, MP	*Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture*
HON. SHADRICK NAMALOMBA, MP	*Minister of Information and Communications Technology*
HON. FESTON KAUPA, MP	*Minister of Defense*
HON. NORMAN CHISALE, MP	Deputy *Minister of Homeland Security (Operations)*

HON. MARTHA NGWIRA, MP	*Deputy Minister of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare*
HON. FRANCIS FOLEY, MP	*Deputy Minister of Education, Science and Technology*
HON. THOKO TEMBO, MP	*Deputy Minister of Agriculture*
HON. CHIPILIRO MPINGANJIRA, MP	*Deputy Minister of Natural Resources*
HON. EDGAR TEMBO, MP	*Deputy Minister of Industrialisation, Business, Trade and Tourism*
HON. CHARLES CHILAMBULA, MP	*Deputy Minister of Health and Sanitation*

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF MALAWI AS AT 5TH JANUARY, 2026

	Member of Parliament	*Code No.*	*Name of Constituency*
1.	**HON. ABDUL- KARIM** Ilyas	215	*Chikwawa South*
2.	**HON. ADADAWIZA MKANDAWIRE** Yona M.	013	*Rumphi West*
3.	**HON. ADAMS** Aisha Annie	143	*Mangochi Nkungulu*
4.	**HON. AJIDA** Marium	192	*Mulanje Pasani*
5.	**HON. ALEXANDER** Mwisho Chilikumtima	127	*Ntcheu Central East*
6.	**HON. AWALI** Bester	176	*Zomba City North*
7.	**HON. BAKILI** Tailos Abdul Majid	145	*Machinga North East*
8.	**HON. BALOYI** Madalitso Chidumu	018	*Mzimba Kafukule*
9.	**HON. BAMUSI** John Jackson	155	*Balaka Ngwangwa*
10.	**HON. BANDA** Edward Chileka	095	*Lilongwe Mapuyu South*
11.	**HON. BANDAWE** Patrick Siyabonga	117	*Dedza Mtakataka*
12.	**HON. BANDE** John Francis	205	*BT. C. Nkolokoti Ndirande Matope*
13.	**HON. BEDE** Gerald	212	*Chikwawa Central*
14.	**HON. BELEKANYAMA** Francis Chikumbutso	100	*Lilongwe Msinja South*
15.	**HON. BOKOSI** Samuel Malume	147	*Machinga Central*
16.	**HON. BONGWE** Abigail Shariff	161	*Zomba Likangala*
17.	**HON. BONONGWE** Jailosi Kalenje	046	*Kasungu West*
18.	**HON. BOTI PHIRI** Mphatso Jones	085	*Lilongwe Mude*
19.	**HON. BULEYA** Pilirani Kaphagawani	091	*Lilongwe Nkhoma*
20.	**HON. CHAKANA** Moses Mike	056	*Ntchisi West*
21.	**HON. CHAMBULANYINA** Emmanuel Jere	026	*Mzimba South*
22.	**HON. CHANG'ANAMUNO** Monica Amon	086	*Lilongwe Demera*
23.	**HON. CHAPONDA** George	193	*Mulanje South West*
24.	**HON. CHAUMA** Feston Jameson	180	*Phalombe North*
25.	**HON. CHAZIYA** Lawrence	083	*Lilongwe Chilobwe*
26.	**HON. CHIBWANA** Annie Namani	063	*Dowa Central*
27.	**HON. CHIDOVU** Auzious John	121	*Dedza Chikoma*
28.	**HON. CHIGONA** Everson Thom Dickson	125	*Ntcheu Bwanje*
29.	**HON. CHIGONA** Joe Salvatore	079	*Salima Central East*
30.	**HON. CHIKAFA** Morris Harrison	123	*Dedza Dzalanyama*
31.	**HON. CHIKAONDA** Phoebe Chiku	058	*Ntchisi East*
32.	**HON. CHIKONJE** Dorothy	039	*Nkhotakota Dwangwa*
33.	**HON. CHIKUFENJI** Klaus Clous	173	*Blantyre North East*
34.	**HON. CHIKWANJE** Daudi Aideen	150	*Machinga Central East*
35.	**HON. CHILAMBULA** Charles	038	*Likoma Islands*
36.	**HON. CHIMANGENI** Olipa	057	*Ntchisi Central East*
37.	**HON. CHIMOTO** Skeffa Mlongoti	043	*Nkhotakota Mkhula*
38.	**HON. CHIMPENI** Noah Freeman	033	*Nkhata Bay Chintheche*
39.	**HON. CHIMWAZA** Frank Kingsley	105	*Lilongwe City Chipala- Nafisi*
40.	**HON. CHIMWENDO** Richard William	067	*Dowa East*

41.	**HON. CHIMZEMZE** Maxwell Joshua	081	*Salima South Linthipe*
42.	**HON. CHING'ONGA** Marko Ezra Banda	090	*Lilongwe Machenga*
43.	**HON. CHIPALA** Mike	068	*Dowa Central East*
44.	**HON. CHIPUNGU- MAZABUKA** Chimwemwe	224	*Luchenza*
45.	**HON. CHIRWA** Osward C.	047	*Kasungu North North East*
46.	**HON. CHISALE** Chikondi	050	*Kasungu Central*
47.	**HON. CHISALE** Paulosi Norman	130	*Ntcheu Central Central East*
48.	**HON. CHITHYOLA** Simplex E.D.	053	*Kasungu South*
49.	**HON. CHITONYA** Daniel	011	*Karonga Town*
50.	**HON. CHIUMIA** Paulos	032	*Nkhata Bay West*
51.	**HON. CHIWAYA** Rodrick Clement	144	*Mangochi Municipality*
52.	**HON. CHUNGA** Khadija Leah	112	*Lilongwe City Kamphuno*
53.	**HON. DIMBA** Peter	099	*Lilongwe Phirilanjuzi*
54.	**HON. DOSSI** Susan	209	*Chikwawa West*
55.	**HON. FLETCHER** Tony	186	*Chiradzulu Masanjala*
56.	**HON. FOLLEY** Francis	225	*Nsanje North*
57.	**HON. GAMULA** Peter	059	*Ntchisi South*
58.	**HON. GANGATA** Ruwan Alfred	107	Lilongwe City Ntandile-Tsilidza
59.	**HON. GOMEZA** Mandela Banda	124	*Ntcheu North*
60.	**HON. GULO** Mavuto Mapongo	172	*Blantyre West*
61.	**HON. GUMBA** Deus Texas Ndaziona Banda	075	*Mchinji south West*
62.	**HON. GWENGWE** Sosten Alfred	097	*Lilongwe Msozi*
63.	**RT. HON. HARA** Catherine Gomezgani	019	*Mzimba North East*
64.	**HON. HENDRY** Tiaone	183	*Phalombe South*
65.	**HON. IMEDI** Overton Saidi Saidi	138	*Mangochi North East*
66.	**HON. JAMBO** Myson	163	*Zomba Ntonya*
67.	**HON. JAMES** Silvester Ayuba	041	*Nkhotakota Central*
68.	**HON. JEFFREY** Grelzedar	042	*Nkhotakota Chia*
69.	**HON. JEKAPU** Milliam	052	*Kasungu South West*
70.	**HON. JOLOBALA** Esther	148	*Machinga East*
71.	**HON. JUMBE** Jeremiah	175	*Blantyre South East*
72.	**HON. JUSTICE** Katika	201	*Blantyre C. Mapanga-Mpingwe-Mzedi*
73.	**RT. HON. KACHALI** Khumbo Hastings	023	*Mzimba South West*
74.	**HON. KADUYA** Juliana	109	*Lilongwe City Masintha*
75.	**HON. KADZANJA** Arnord William	055	*Ntchisi North*
76.	**HON. KADZIPATIKE** George Jivason	061	*Dowa Kasangadzi*
77.	**HON. KAFWAFWA** Savel	114	*Dedza Mayani*
78.	**HON. KAGONA** Wilfred Jonasi	027	*Mzimba South East*
79.	**HON. KAIMAPANJIRA** Winston	087	*Lilongwe Chiwamba*
80.	**HON. KAJIYA** Amina	159	*Zomba Msondole*
81.	**HON. KAJOMBA** Hastings	219	*Thyolo Khonjeni-Mangunda*
82.	**HON. KALEKENI** Denis Chalera	102	*Lilongwe City Lumbadzi*

83.	**HON. KALIATI** Patricia Annie	191	*Mulanje West*
84.	**HON. KALITENDERE** Richard Shukurani	152	*Machinga South*
85.	**HON. KALONGASHAWA** Moses Kunkuyu	115	*Dedza Mlunduni*
86.	**HON. KALUA** Fred Penjani Kamlepo	207	*BT. City Soche Zingwangwa*
87.	**HON. KAMBALA** Mossie David	084	*Lilongwe Mphande*
88.	**HON. KAMBAUWA** Madalitso Wirima	049	*Kasungu North East*
89.	**HON. KAMBUZI** Maria	098	*Lilongwe Bunda*
90.	**HON. KAMOTO** Anthony Joseph	166	*Zomba Chikomwe*
91.	**HON. KAMSIYAMO** Steven Baba Malondera	096	*Lilongwe Nyanja*
92.	**HON. KAMWENDO** Kendall Zivile	064	*Dowa Mndolera*
93.	**HON. KANYAMA** Reuben	136	*Mangochi West*
94.	**HON. KAONGA** Duncan	010	*Karonga South*
95.	**HON. KAPALAMULA** Wisdom Edgar	131	*Ntcheu South*
96.	**HON. KARIM** Bilal Abdul	226	*Nsanje Lalanje*
97.	**HON. KASAILA** Francis Lazalo	227	*Nsanje Central*
98.	**HON. KASITOMU** Flaviour	222	*Thyolo Masambanjati*
99.	**HON. KAUMPHAWI** Jacob Joseph	118	*Dedza Linthipe*
100.	**HON. KAUNDA** Simon Vuwa	031	*Nkhata Bay Central*
101.	**HON. KAUPA** Feston	162	*Zomba Changalume*
102.	**HON. KAWALE** Samuel Dalitso	065	*Dowa North East*
103.	**HON. KAWECHE** William Chikweta	037	*Mzuzu City South East*
104.	**HON. KAZEMBE** Gerald	135	*Mangochi Monkey Bay*
105.	**HON. KAZEMBE** Ismail Pawila	132	*Mangochi North*
106.	**HON. KHIMBI** Florence Shapiro	014	*Rumphi East*
107.	**HON. KHOMBENI** Rodwell	060	*Dowa Ngala*
108.	**HON. KHONYONGWA** Gilbert Pilira	190	*Mulanje North*
109.	**HON. KUMWENDA** Aeckim	017	*Mzimba West*
110.	**HON. KUTSAIRA** Bintony	101	*Lilongwe Msinja North*
111.	**HON. KWELEPETA** Grace	158	*Zomba Malosa*
112.	**HON. LINDANI** Dumisani Emmanuel	165	*Zomba Thondwe*
113.	**HON. LIPHUKA** Kingwell	164	*Zomba Matiya*
114.	**HON. LIPIPA** Noel	203	*BT. C. Chilomoni Kabula Nancholi*
115.	**HON. LIWONDE** Lincoln Dixon	110	*Lilongwe City M'buka*
116.	**HON. LUNJI** Thokozire	040	*Nkhotakota Luwaladzi*
117.	**HON. MAHOWE** Rightwell Alex	024	*Mzimba Solola*
118.	**HON. MAKANDE** Chifundo	156	*Balaka Rivirivi*
119.	**HON. MAKWINJA** Redson	174	*Blantyre South West*
120.	**HON. MALANGA** Kenson	003	*Chitipa East*
121.	**HON. MALANGO** Joshua Masanza	116	*Dedza Kasina*
122.	**HON. MALIJANI** Owen	076	*Mchinji South*
123.	**HON. MALINGAMOYO** Joseph	126	*Ntcheu North West*
124.	**HON. MALOLA** Lloyd Laxton Enos	214	*Chikwawa Mkombezi*

125.	**HON. MALOWA** McTimes Pagonanji	188	*Chiradzulu Nguludi*
126.	**HON. MALUKULA** Louis Adini	133	*Mangochi Lutende*
127.	**HON. MAMBALA** Irene	157	*Balaka Mulunguzi*
128.	**HON. MASAMBA** Anthony	070	*Mchinji North East*
129.	**HON. MASAMBA** Franscesca Theula	134	*Mangochi East*
130.	**HON. MATEMVU** Booker Jones	197	*Mulanje south East*
131.	**HON. MATHANGA** Jean Chifuniro	189	*Chiradzulu Midima*
132.	**HON. MAULIDI** Ginford Mabo	213	*Chikwawa East*
133.	**HON. MAULIDI** Mary Khembo	168	*Neno East*
134.	**HON. MAUNDA** McAndrews Mtanga	089	*Lilongwe Mapuyu North*
135.	**HON. MAWINDO** Emmanuel	122	*Dedza Mphunzi*
136.	**HON. MAZOMBWE** Brown	072	*Mchinji East*
137.	**HON. MAZOMBWE** Madalitso Brown	082	*Salima South*
138.	**HON. MAZOMBWE** Rachel Patience	071	*Mchinji North*
139.	**HON. MBAWA** Godfrey Graciano	194	*Mulanje Limbuli*
140.	**HON. MBILIZI** Roza Madaro	137	*Mangochi Central*
141.	**HON. MCHACHA** Charles Thomson	218	*Thyolo Bvumbwe-Masenjere*
142.	**HON. MCHENGA** Aida Chitsosa	066	*Dowa West*
143.	**HON. MFUNE** Jonathan Kabulanda	103	*Lilongwe City Dzenza*
144.	**HON. MHANGO** Jappie	012	*Rumphi North*
145.	**HON. MILLION** George Katunga	182	*Phalombe Machemba*
146.	**HON. MKAKA** Eisenhower Nduwa	094	*Lilongwe Mpenu*
147.	**HON. MKANDAWIRE** Frasco Paul	035	*Mzuzu City North*
148.	**HON. MKANDAWIRE** Themba Menson	037	*Mzuzu City South East*
149.	**HON. MKANDAWIRE** William Peter	036	*Mzuzu City South West*
150.	**HON. MKUBWI** Noel Kaputa	054	*Kasungu Municipality*
151.	**HON. MKUMBA** Ismail Rizzq	202	*BT. C. Ndirande MalabadaNyambadwe*
152.	**HON. MLENGA** Moses Ramsey	004	*Chitipa Chendo*
153.	**HON. MNJEMU** Maxwell Edward J.	077	*Salima North*
154.	**HON. MOSES** Dyless Mbengo	129	*Ntcheu Dzonzi Mvai*
155.	**HON. MOYO** Faless Debrah	001	*Chitipa North*
156.	**HON. MPHANDE** Kelvin	092	*Lilongwe Likuni*
157.	**HON. MPISA** Wilfred	181	*Phalombe North East*
158.	**HON. MPUNGA** James	177	*Zomba City South*
159.	**HON. MPUZENI** Donnex Poison	146	*Machinga South East*
160.	**HON. MSETEKA** Emmanuel Joseph	045	*Kasungu North West*
161.	**HON. MSILIMBA** Golden Chizimba	051	*Kasungu South East*
162.	**HON. MSUNGAMA** Ulemu	111	*Lilongwe City Mloza*
163.	**HON. MTAMBALIKA** Jacob	030	*Nkhata Bay Mpamba*
164.	**HON. MTUMBUKA** Matthews Chinombo	015	*Rumphi Central*
165.	**HON. MULUZI** Tulinje	151	*Machinga Likwenu*
166.	**HON. MUMBA** Vitumbiko Augeans Z.	020	*Mzimba Central*

167.	**HON. MUNTHALI** Chance	005	*Chitipa South*
168.	**HON. MUNTHALI** Martha	022	*Mzimba Hora*
169.	**HON. MUSOWA** Victor Hetherwick	198	*Mulanje Bale*
170.	**HON. MWAKHWAWA** Abraham	007	*Karonga Lufilya*
171.	**HON. MWALE** Beatrice Roseby	044	*Kasungu North*
172.	**HON. MWALE** Jephter Fackson	074	*Mchinji Central East*
173.	**HON. MWAMBANDE** Mungasulwa	006	*Karonga Songwe*
174.	**HON. MWANAMVEKA** Joseph Mathyola	187	*Chiradzulu Thumbwe*
175.	**HON. MWENIFUMBO** Frank Tumpale	008	*Karonga Central*
176.	**HON. MWINA** Robert	184	*Phalombe East*
177.	**HON. MZAMBWEULUEMBA** Howard	119	*Dedza Boma*
178.	**HON. MZUMARA** Catherine	016	*Mzimba North*
179.	**HON. NAMALOMBA** Shadric	140	*Mangochi South West*
180.	**HON. NAMWALI** Maureen Mbewe	217	*Thyolo Goliati*
181.	**HON. NANKHUMWA** Kondwani	196	*Mulanje Central*
182.	**HON. NANKHUNI** Gift	104	*Lilongwe City Centre*
183.	**HON. NAVICHA** Mary Thom	221	*Thyolo Thava*
184.	**HON. NDALAMA** Macpherson Mwayi	185	*Chiradzulu Nyungwe*
185.	**HON. NDALAMA** Veronica Pempho	199	*Blantyre City South Lunzu*
186.	**HON. NDOVIE** Kenneth	009	*Karonga Nyungwe*
187.	**HON. NG'OMA** Mines	021	*Mzimba East*
188.	**HON. NG'OMA** Paul Wongani	128	*Ntcheu Central*
189.	**HON. NGUNGA** Idrissa	153	*Balaka Ulongwe*
190.	**HON. NGUNGA** Kazembe Wilson	142	*Mangochi South*
191.	**HON. NJAWALA** Felix	178	Mwanza Central
192.	**HON. NKHOMA** Felix	048	*Kasungu East*
193.	**HON. NKHWAZI** Fisher Kenani	028	*Mzimba Luwerezi*
194.	**HON. NKHWAZI** Mackenzie Chipalamoto	029	*Nkhata Bay North*
195.	**HON. NSEULA** Maurine Chifundo	179	*Mwanza West*
196.	**HON. NYAMILANDU- MANDA** Walter M.	228	*Nsanje South West*
197.	**HON. NYANDA** Jimion	093	*Lilongwe Central*
198.	**HON. NYIRENDA** Ulunji Fikani	025	*Mzimba Perekezi*
199.	**HON. NYONDO** Fiskani Barnet	002	*Chitipa Central*
200.	**HON. ONSEWA** Geoffrey Mulantinyu	210	*Chikwawa North*
201.	**HON. PADOKO** Dr Fletcher Luka	154	*Balaka Bwaila*
202.	**HON. PHALE** Enock Genasi	078	*Salima Central West*
203.	**HON. PHIRI** Allan Esau	120	*Dedza Golomoti*
204.	**HON. PHIRI** Ben Malunga	220	*Thyolo Central*
205.	**HON. PHIRI** Gerald Synoden	080	*Salima Central*
206.	**HON. PHIRI** Samson Santigo	195	*Mulanje South*
207.	**HON. PHIRI** Young Aubrey Nasson	088	*Lilongwe East*
208.	**HON. PHIRI** Emily	034	*Nkhata Bay South*

209.	**HON. PHISO** Francis Lucky	170	*Blantyre North*
210.	**HON. QOMA** George	211	*Chikwawa Central West*
211.	**HON. RASHID** Ishmael Grant	139	*Mangochi Masongola*
212.	**HON. SALINJENI** Masauko Golden	204	*BT. C. Mbayani Mussa Magasa*
213.	**HON. SANGA** Rhita	073	*Mchinji West*
214.	**HON. SCOTT** Mabvuto Sandram	223	*Thyolo Thekerani*
215.	**HON. SUKALI** Timothy Kumbukeni	216	*Thyolo Mikolongwe*
216.	**HON. SULEMAN** Sameer Gaffar	208	*BT. C. Chigumula BCA-Club Banana*
217.	**HON. SUNGITSA** Arthur Martin	062	*Dowa Mphudzu*
218.	**HON. SUSUWERE-BANDA** William J.	160	*Zomba Chingale*
219.	**HON. TAMBALA** Mutani Elliam	169	*Neno South*
220.	**HON. TAMBULI** Bilal Mussa	141	*Mangochi South*
221.	**HON. TASAUKADALA** Gerald Cornelius	171	*Blantyre Central*
222.	**HON. TEMBO** Nancy Gladys	113	*Lilongwe City Ngwenya*
223.	**HON. TEMBO** Thoko Matengambiri	167	*Neno North*
224.	**HON. VIGARO** Lasken Vinyo	200	*Blantyre City Michiru-Chirimba*
225.	**HON. WISKES** Patricia	106	*Lilongwe City Nankhaka*
226.	**HON. ZAMBA** Hope Tionge	069	*Dowa South East*
227.	*Vacant*	108	*Lilongwe City Bwaila*
228.	*Vacant*	*229*	*Nsanje South*
229.	*Vacant*	*149*	*Machinga Mikoko*

OFFICE BEARERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Right Hon. Sameer Gaffar Suleman, MP
Speaker

Hon. Victor Musowa, MP
First Deputy Speaker

Hon. Esther Jolobala, MP
Second Deputy Speaker

Hon. Jappie Mhango, MP
Leader of the House

Hon. Shadric Namalomba, MP
Deputy Leader of the House

Hon. Patricia Wiskes, MP
Government Chief Whip

Hon. Martha Ngwira, MP
Deputy Government Chief Whip

Hon. Simplex Chithyola Banda, MP
Leader of Opposition

Hon. Moses Kunkuyu, MP
MCP Whip

Hon. Monica Chang'anamuno, MP
Deputy MCP Whip

Hon. Patricia Kaliati
UTM Leader in the House

Hon. Felix Njawala
UTM Whip

Hon. Aisha Annie Adams, MP
UDF Leader in the House

Hon. Ismail Rizzq Mkumba, MP
UDF Whip

OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE

Mrs Fiona Kalemba
Clerk of Parliament

Mr Joseph Manzi
Deputy Clerk of Parliament (PS)

Mr Moffat Makande
Assistant Clerk of Parliament (TO)

Mr Longani Kabitchi
Chief Clerk Assistant (TO)

Mr Frederick Kamwani
Chief Clerk Assistant (CO)

Steve Katawa Banda
Chief Editor of Hansard

Major Sikaloka Kaliati, (Rtd)
Principal Sergeant-at-Arms

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

1. AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE

1 Hon. Anthony Kamoto, MP *(Chairperson)*
2. Hon. Chikondi Chisale, MP*(Vice-Chairperson)*
3. Hon. Dumisani E. Lindani, *MP*
4. Hon. Paulos Chiumia, *MP*
5. Hon. Thoko M. Tembo, MP
6. Hon. Louis A. Malukula, MP
7. Hon. Francis L. Phisso, MP
8. Hon. Tony Fletcher, MP
9. Hon. Jailos Bonongwe, MP
10. Hon. Arnold Kadzanja, MP
11. Hon. Dorothy Chikonje, MP
12. Hon. Joseph Mseteka, MP
13. Hon. Grelzeder Jeffrey, MP
14. Hon. Emily C. Phiri, MP
15. Hon. Aisha A. Adams, MP
16. Hon. Paul W. Ng'oma, MP
17. Hon. Gerald Bede, MP
18. Hon. Madalitso B. Mazombwe, MP
19. Hon. Hope T. Zamba, MP
20. Hon. Redson Makwinja, MP
21. Hon. Alex Felix Nkhoma, MP
22. Hon. Kendall Z. Kamwendo, MP
23. Hon. Abdul Ilyas Karim, MP

2. BUDGET COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Sosten Gwengwe, MP*(Chairperson)*
2. Hon. Emily C. Phiri, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3. Hon. Mutani E. Tambala, MP
4. Hon. Justice Katika, MP
5. Hon. Hon. Everson T. D. Chigona, MP
6. Hon. Veronica P. Ndalama, MP
7. Hon. Lincoln D. Liwonde, MP
8. Hon. Lasken V. Vigaro, MP
9. Hon. Mctimes P. Malowa, MP
10. Hon. Catherine Gotani Hara, MP
11. Hon. Ulemu Msungama, MP
12. Hon. Arthur Sungitsa, MP
13. Hon. Anthony Masamba, MP
14. Hon. Ismail Mkumba, MP
15. Hon. Dr Kondwani Nankhumwa, MP
16. Hon. Kelvin Mphande, MP
17. Hon. Marium Ajida, MP
18. Hon. William P. Mkandawire, MP
19. Hon. Chance Munthali, MP
20. Hon. Fisher K. Nkhwazi, MP
21. Hon. Enock G. Phale, MP
22. Hon. Jacob Mtambalika, MP
23. Hon. Aeckim Kumwenda, MP

3. COMMISSIONS, STATUTORY CORPERATIONS AND STATE ENTERPRISES COMMITTEE

1 Hon. Silvester Ayuba. James, MP *(Chairperson)*
2 Hon. John Jackson. Bamusi, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3 Hon. Rightwell A. Mahowe, MP
4 Hon. Charles Chilambula, MP
5 Hon. Masauko Salijeni, MP
6 Hon. Ginford Maulidi, MP
7 Hon. Mandela Banda Gomeza, MP
8 Hon. Ismail P. Kazembe, MP
9 Hon. Jowas Mnjemu, MP
10 Hon. Nancy Tembo, MP
11 Hon. Auzious Chidobvu, MP
12 Hon. Emmanuel jere Chambulanyina, MP
13 Hon. Maria Kambuzi, MP
14 Hon. Jivason Kadzipatike, MP
15 Hon. Fred Penjani K. Kalua, MP
16 Hon. Hastings Khumbo Kachali, MP
17 Hon. Moses M. Chakana, MP
18 Hon. Godfrey G. Mbawa, MP
19 Hon. Goston B. Mazombwe, MP
20 Hon. Prof. Golden C. Msilimba, MP
21 Hon. Maxwell J. Chimzemze, MP
22 Hon. Vitumbiko A.Z. Mumba, MP
23 Hon. Marium Ajida, MP

4. DEFENCE AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

1 Hon. Monica Chang'anamuno, MP *(Chairperson)*
2 Hon. Mabvuto S. Scott, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3 Hon. Paulos Chiumia, MP
4 Hon. Timothy K. Sukali, MP
5 Hon. George Qoma, MP
6 Hon. Lasken V. Vigaro, MP
7 Hon. Idrissa Ngunga, MP
8 Hon. Marko Ching'onga, MP
9 Hon. Abraham Mwakhwawa, MP
10 Hon. Jowas Mnjemu, MP
11 Hon. Olipa Chimangeni, MP
12 Hon. Bintony Kutsaira, MP
13 Hon. Wisdom E. Kapalamula, MP
14 Hon. Beatrice Mwale, MP
15 Hon. Madalitso B. Mazombwe, MP
16 Hon. Esau Phiri, MP
17 Hon. Howard M. Mzambweuluemba, MP
18 Hon. Alex Felix Nkhoma, MP
19 Hon. Bilal Mussa Tambuli, MP
20 Hon. Maxwell J. Chimemze, MP
21 Hon. Rodwell Khombeni, MP
22 Hon. Mossie D. Kambala, MP

5. EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

1 Hon. Mutani Elliam Tambala, MP *(Chairperson)*
2 Hon. Prof. Golden C. Msilimba, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3 Hon. Kazembe W. Ngunga, MP
4 Hon. Feston J. Chauma, MP
5 Hon. Francesca T. Masamba, MP
6 Hon. Ginford Maulidi, MP
7 Hon. Tiaone Hendry, MP
8 Hon. Madalitso K. Wirima, MP
9 Hon. Dennis C. Kalekeni, MP
10 Hon. Dr Mphatso J. Boti Phiri, MP
11 Hon. Edward Chileka Banda, MP
12 Hon. Juliana Kaduya, MP
13 Hon. Dr Mosess R. Mlenga, MP
14 Hon. Noah Chimpeni, MP
15 Hon. Ireen Mambala, MP
16 Hon. Pilirani K. Buleya, MP
17 Hon. Gerald Bede, MP
18 Hon. Milliam Jekapu, MP
19 Hon. Tailos Baliki, MP
20 Hon. Goston B. Mazombwe, MP

6. GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES COMMITTEE

1 Hon. Samuel Kawale, MP *(Chairperson)*
2 Hon. Juliana Kaduya, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3 Hon. Gilbert P. Khonyongwa, MP
4 Hon. Mary M. Khembo, MP
5 Hon. Louis Aadini Malukula, MP
6 Hon. Frank K. Chimwaza, MP
7 Hon. McTimes P. Malowa, MP
8 Hon. Sosten Gwengwe, MP
9 Hon. Dennis C. Kalekeni, MP
10 Hon. Skeffa Chimoto, MP
11 Hon. Monica Chang'anamuno, MP
12 Hon. Kenneth Ndovie, MP
13 Hon. Dr Kondwni Nankhumwa, MP
14 Hon. Godfrey G. Mbawa, MP
15 Hon. Mwisho A. Chilikumtima, MP
16 Hon. Walter M. Nyamilandu Manda, MP
17 Hon. Noel Kaputa Mkubwi, MP
18 Hon. Jacob Kaumphawi, MP
19 Hon. Joseph Malingamoyo, MP
20 Hon. Annie Namani Chibwna, MP
21 Hon. Donnex P. Mpuzeni, MP

7. HEALTH COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Anthony Masamba, MP *(Chairperson)*
2. Hon. Maureen Nseula Chirwa, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3. Hon. Dr James Mpunga, MP
4. Hon. Rightwell A. Mahowe, MP
5. Hon. Veronica P. Ndalama, MP
6. Hon. Charles Chilambula, MP
7. Hon. Mandela Banda Gomeza, MP
8. Hon. Mackenzie C. Nkhwazi, MP
9. Hon. Reuben Kanyama, MP
10. Hon. Skeffa Chimoto, MP
11. Hon. Maria Kambuzi, MP
12. Hon. Arthur Sungutsa, MP
13. Hon. Deus Gumba, MP
14. Hon. Duncan Kawonga, MP
15. Hon. Ulunji F. Nyirenda, MP
16. Hon. Jeremiah Jumbe, MP
17. Hon. Hon. Mwisho A. Chilikumtima, MP
18. Hon. Dyles Moses Mbengo, MP
19. Hon. Hastings B. Kajomba, MP
20. Hon. Chance Munthali, MP
21. Hon. Dr Faless D. Moyo Mpoha, MP
22. Hon. Aida Mchenga, MP
23. Hon. Morris H. Chikafa, MP

8. INDUSTRY, TRADE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Aeckim Kumwenda, MP *(Chairperson)*
2. Hon. Bilal Mussa Tambuli, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3. Hon. Tony Fletcher, MP
4. Hon. Masauko Salijeni, MP
5. Hon. Daudi Chikwanje, MP
6. Hon. Francis L. Kasaila, MP
7. Hon. Rachel Zulu, MP
8. Hon. Jonathan Mfune, MP
9. Hon. Jephter Mwale, MP
10. Hon. Madalitso K. Wirima, MP
11. Hon. Peter Dimba, MP
12. Hon. Catherine G. Hara, MP
13. Hon. Felix Njawala, MP
14. Hon. Frank T. Mwenifumbo, MP
15. Hon. Paul W. Ng'oma, MP
16. Hon. Moses M. Chakana, MP
17. Hon. Fisher K. Nkhwazi, MP
18. Hon. Emmanuel P. Mawindo, MP
19. Hon. Howard M. Mazambweuluemba, MP
20. Hon. Myson Jambo, MP
21. Hon. Bilal Mussa Tambuli, MP
22. Hon. Aeckim Kumwenda, MP

09. LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

1 Hon. Gilbert P. Khonyongwa, MP (*Chairperson*)
2 Hon. Gift Nankhuni, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3 Hon. Robert Mwina, MP
4 Hon. Ishmael Grant Rashid, MP
5 Hon. Feston J. Chauma, MP
6 Hon. Mary M. Khembo, MP
7 Hon. Kingwell Liphuka, MP
8 Hon. George Qoma, MP
9 Hon. Overton Said Imedi, MP
10 Hon. Jivason Kadziphatike, MP
11 Hon. Richard C. Banda, MP
12 Hon. Rachel Zulu, MP
13 Hon. Jimion Nyanda, MP
14 Hon. Dr Moses R. Mlenga, MP
15 Hon. Florence Shapiro Khimbi, MP
16 Hon. Yona Adadawiza Mkandawire, MP
17 Hon. McAndrews M. Maunda, MP
18 Hon. Rhita Sanga, MP
19 Hon. Khadja Leah Chunga, MP
20 Hon. Silvester Ayuba James, MP
21 Hon. Abigail Sheriff Bongwe, MP
22 Hon. Dr. Faless D. M. Mpoha, MP
23 Hon. Joseph Malingamoyo, MP

10 LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Edward Chileka Banda, MP *(Chairperson)*
2. Hon. Jacob Mtambalika, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3. Hon. Justice Katika, MP
4. Hon. Osward Chirwa, MP
5. Hon. Everson T. D. Chigona, MP
6. Hon. Lloyd Laxton E. Malola, MP
7. Hon. Idrissa Ngunga, MP
8. Hon. Anthony Kamoto, Mp
9. Hon. Daniel Chitonya, MP
10. Hon. Jailos Bonongwe, MP
11. Hon. Gift Nankhuni, MP
12. Hon. Joseph Mseteka, MP
13. Hon. Fred Penjani K. Kalua, MP
14. Hon. Ismail. Mkumba, MP
15. Hon. Beatrice Mwale, MP
16. Hon. Jeremiah Jumbe, MP
17. Hon. Bilal Abdul Karim, MP
18. Hon. Owen Malijani, MP
19. Hon. Hope Tiaone Zamba, MP
20. Hon. William Chikweta Kawete, MP
21. Hon. Myson Jambo, MP
22. Hon. Kendall Z. Kamwendo, MP

11. MEDIA, INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMMITTEE

1. Hon. Kingwel Liphuka, MP *(Chairperson)*
2. Hon. Rhita Sanga, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3. Hon. Robert Mwina, MP
4. Hon. John Jackson Bamusi, MP
5. Hon. Timothy Sukali, MP
6. Hon. Osward Chirwa, MP
7. Hon. Rodrick C. Chiwaya, MP
8. Hon. Dr William Susuwele Banda, MP
9. Hon. Arnold Kadzanja, MP
10. Hon. Mungasulwa Mwambande, MP
11. Hon. Grezelder Jeffrey, MP
12. Hon. Jimion Nyanda, MP
13. Hon. Joshua Malango, MP
14. Hon. Florence S. Khimbi, MP
15. Hon. Kenson Malanga, MP
16. Hon. Pilirani K. Buleya, MP
17. Hon. John Bande, MP
18. Hon. Dyless Moses Mbengo, MP
19. Hon. Tailos Bakili, MP
20. Hon. Ireen Mambala, MP
21. Hon. Phoebe Chiku Chikaonda, MP
22. Hon. Jocob Kaumphawi, MP

12. NATURAL RESOURCES AND CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Tiaone Hendry, MP *(Chairperson)*
2. Hon. Yona Adadawiza Mkandawire, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3. Hon. Chifundo Makande, MP
4. Hon. Flaviour Kasitomu, MP
5. Hon. Ismail Pawila Kazembe, MP
6. Hon. Mackenzie C. Nkhwazi, MP
7. Hon. Nancy Tembo, MP
8. Hon. Auzious Chidobvu, MP
9. Hon. Olipa Chimangeni, MP
10. Hon. Paul Mkandawire, MP
11. Hon. Wilfred Kagona, MP
12. Hon. Bintony Kutsaira, MP
13. Hon. Dr Catherine Mzumara, MP
14. Hon. Hastings B. Kajomba, MP
15. Hon. Donnex P. Mpuzeni, MP
16. Hon. Khadja Leah Chunga, MP
17. Hon. Emmanuel P. Mawindo, MP
18. Hon. Kelvin Mphande, MP
19. Hon. Peter Gamula, MP
20. Hon. Mosie David Kambala, MP
21. Hon. Klaus Clous Chikufenji, MP

13. PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

1. Hon. Steven B. Malondera, MP *(Chairperson)*
2. Hon. Tulije Muluzi, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3. Hon. Noel Lipipa, MP
4. Hon. Samson Santigo Phiri, MP
5. Hon. Themba M. Mkandawire, MP
6. Hon. Bester Awali, MP
7. Hon. Simon Vuwa Kaunda, MP
8. Hon. Samuel Malume Bokosi, MP
9. Hon. MacPherson M. Ndalama, MP
10. Hon. Thomson Kamangira, MP
11. Hon. Winston Kaimpanjira, MP
12. Hon. Eisenhower Mkaka. MP
13. Hon. Gerald Snowden Phiri, MP
14. Hon. Lawrence Chaziya, MP
15. Hon. Dr Patricia A. Kaliati, MP
16. Hon. Booker Jones Matemvu, MP
17. Hon. Godffrey Mulatinyu Onsewa, MP
18. Hon. Young A. N. Phiri, MP
19. Hon. Gerald Tasaukadala, MP
20. Hon. George K. Million, MP
21. Hon. Kajiya Amina, MP
22. Hon. Fiskani Barnet Nyondo, MP
23. Hon. Susan Dossi, MP

14. PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

1 Hon. Felix Njawala, MP (*Chairperson*)
2 Hon. Joshua Malango, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3 Hon. Richard S. Kalitendere, MP
4 Hon. Rodrick C. Chiwaya, MP
5 Hon. Frank K. Chimwaza, MP
6 Hon. Moureen M. Namwali, MP
7 Hon. Francis L. Kasaila, MP
8 Hon. Grace Kwelepeta, MP
9 Hon. Charles Mchacha, MP
10 Hon. Dr. Mphatso J. Boti Phiri, MP
11 Hon. Gerald Kazembe, MP
12 Hon. Moses K. Kunkuyu, MP
13 Hon. Francis Belekanyama, MP
14 Hon. Noah Chimpeni, MP
15 Hon. Mines Ng'oma, MP
16 Hon. Walter M. M. Nyamilandu , MP
17 Hon. Dr. Fletcher L. Padoko, MP
18 Hon. John Bande, MP
19 Hon. Owen Malijani, MP
20 Hon. Bilal Abdul Karim, MP
21 Hon. Phoebe C. Chikaonda, MP
22 Hon. Savel Kafwafwa, MP

15. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

1 Hon. Fransesca Masamba, MP *(Chairperson)*
2 Hon. Frank T. Mwenifumbo, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3 Hon. Charles Mchacha, MP
4 Hon. Richard C. Banda, MP
5 Hon. Moses K. Kunkuyu, MP
6 Hon. Annie A. Adams, MP
7 Hon. Daudi Chikwanje, MP
8 Hon. Francis Belekanyama, MP
9 Hon. Dr Catherine Mzumara, MP
10 Hon. Hastings K. Kachali, MP
11 Hon. Dr William S. Banda, MP
12 Hon. Francis L. Phiso, MP
13 Hon. Peter Dimba, MP
14 Hon. Abigail Bongwe, MP
15 Hon. Mary K. Maulidi, MP
16 Hon. Grace Kwelepeta, MP
17 Hon. Ishmael G. Rashid, MP
18 Hon. Emmanuel C. Jere, MP
19 Hon. Monica Chang'anamuno, MP
20 Hon. Mabvuto Scott, MP
21 Hon. Abudul Ilyas Karim, MP
22 Hon. Reuben Kanyama, MP
23 Hon. Deus Gumba, MP

16. TRANSPORT, LANDS AND PUBLIC INFRASTRACTURE COMMITTEE

1 Hon. Dumisani E. Lindani, MP *(Chairperson)*
2 Hon. Lincoln D. Liwonde, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3 Hon. Richard S. Kalitendere, MP
4 Hon. Dr James Mpunga, MP
5 Hon. Kazembe W. Ngunga, MP
6 Hon. Wilfred Mpisa, MP
7 Hon. Charles Mchacha, MP
8 Hon. Jonathan Mfune, MP
9 Hon. Mungasulwa Mwambande, MP
10 Hon. Marko Ching'onga, MP
11 Hon. Ulemu Msungama, MP
12 Hon. Samuel Kawale, MP
13 Hon. Wisdom E. Kapalamula, MP
14 Hon. Dancan Kawonga, MP
15 Hon. Kenson Malanga, MP
16 Hon. Mike Chipala, MP
17 Hon. Milliam Jekapu, MP
18 Hon. William Chikwete Kawete, MP
19 Hon. Vitumbiko A.Z. Mumba, MP
20 Hon. Esau Phiri, MP
21 Hon. Enock Genasi Phale, MP
22 Hon. Annie Namani Chibwana, MP

17. WOMEN'S CAUCUS COMMITTEE

1 Hon Mary Maulidi Khembo, MP *(Chairperson)*
2 Hon. Annie Namani Chibwana, MP *(Vice-Chairperson)*
3 Hon. Esther Jailosi Jolobala, MP
4 Hon. Aisha Annie Adams, MP
5 Hon. Marium Ajida, MP
6 Hon. Madalitso Baloyi, MP
7 Hon. Abigail Bongwe, MP
8 Hon. Pilirani Buleya, MP
9 Hon. Monica Chang'anamuno, MP
10 Hon. Phoebe Chikaonda, MP
11 Hon. Dorothy Chikonje, MP
12 Hon. Olipa Chimangeni, MP
13 Hon. Khadja Chunga, MP
14 Hon. Susan Dossi, MP
15 Rt. Hon. Catherine G. Hara, MP
16 Hon. Tiaone Hendry, MP
17 Hon. Grelzedar Jeffrey, MP
18 Hon. Milliam Jekapu, MP
19 Hon. Juliana Kaduya, MP
20 Hon. Amina Kajiya, MP
21 Hon. Dr Patricia Kaliyati, MP
22 Hon. Maria Kambuzi, MP
23 Hon. Flaviour Kasitomu, MP
24 Hon. Florence Khimbi, MP
25 Hon. Grace Kwelepeta, MP
26 Hon. Ireen Mambala, MP
27 Hon. Jean Mathanga, MP
28 Hon. Rachel Mazombwe Zulu, MP
29 Hon. Dyless M. Mbengo, MP
30 Hon. Roza Mbilizi Fachi, MP
31 Hon Aida Mchenga, MP
32 Hon. Dr Falesi Mpoha Moyo, MP
33 Hon Martha Munthali, MP
34 Hon. Beatrice Mwale, MP
35 Hon. Dr Catherine Mzumara, MP
36 Hon. Maureen Namwali, MP
37 Hon. Mary Navicha, MP
38 Hon. Veronica Ndalama, MP
39 Hon. Mines Ng'oma, MP
40 Hon. Maurine Nseula, MP
41 Hon. Emily C. Phiri, MP
42 Hon. Rhita Sanga, MP
43 Hon. Mutani Tambala, MP
44 Hon. Nancy Tembo, MP
45 Hon. Franscesca Masamba, MP
46 Hon. Madalitso W. Kambauwa, MP
47 Hon. Patricia Wiskes, MP
48 Hon. Hope Zamba, MP

The House met on Friday, 10th April, 2026 at 9:40 a.m. and the Speaker, Right Honourable Sameer Gaffar Suleman, MP, was in the Chair. The Clerks-at-the-Table were: Mrs F. Kalemba, Mr J.J. Manzi and Ms J. Sikaloka.

THE PRAYER

The Speaker read the Prayer.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Communication from the Chair

The Speaker: Honourable Members, I have no communication to make as of now. Thank you.

Questions on Notice to Ministers for Oral Replies

The Speaker: Honourable Members, we now start our business with questions to Ministers. We will start with Question 103 on today's Order Paper going to the Ministry of Transport and Public Works. The question is coming from Karonga Central.

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS

*103 **Hon. Mwenifumbo (NDP—Karonga Central)** asked the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works whether government plans to upgrade and gravel the ring road from Kambwe Junction to Kasowa via Lupaso and adjoining areas.

The Speaker: Thank you, Karonga Central. Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works.

The Minister of Transport and Public Works (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Mr Speaker, Sir, my ministry acknowledges the strategic importance of the ring-road from Kambwe Junction to Kasowa via Lupaso. Upgrading this road would significantly improve access to markets and social services to the people of Karonga Central.

However, Mr Speaker, Sir, allow me to inform the Honourable Member that being a district road D21 and pursuant to the Public Roads Act of 2023, responsibility for the planning, construction and maintenance of this road has been devolved to local government authorities and in this case, Karonga District Council.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I, therefore, request the Honourable Member to engage the Karonga District Council for its consideration in the upcoming programmes. My ministry is ready to provide any necessary technical support. I thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works. I will be strict today because of time. I will take three Members. First of all, the originator of the question; Karonga Central then Zomba Malosa. I want Zomba Malosa to make all her noise this morning and we get done with her. I will also recognise Rumphi West and Karonga Town. Karonga Central, you have the floor.

Hon. Mwenifumbo (NDP—Karonga Central): Thank you very much, Right Honourable Speaker, for recognising the people of Karonga Central to ask a supplementary question.

Through you, let me thank the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works for his response. Right Honourable Speaker, for many years, the council has failed the people of Chisewe, Malimbalimba, Lupaso, Kasowa, Chibwirikiti and all those along that road. Recognising the cultural socio-economic importance of this road, I do not think the district council has the capacity to rehabilitate this road.

I, therefore, insist and plead with the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works that his ministry should undertake the responsibility to construct and maintain this road simply because of the cultural importance. This road leads to the residences of two important people in Karonga, namely; Paramount Chief Kyungu and Mwakawanga the 24th who at many times has walked on foot because his car got stuck in the mud. The other important person is our parent Mpeta Mwakasungula.

On socio-importance; Karonga Diocese is constructing a very big complex at St. Thomas Parish where it will encompass a secondary school, a technical school and many others. Therefore, we need a very good access road.

Finally, on economic importance, this area, Right Honourable Speaker, is where people are engaged in winter cropping and if anything, they are the ones who are feeding Karonga and other parts of the country with Kilombero rice. Just to buttress the importance that the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works should undertake the responsibility to maintain this road. I thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Karonga Central. We go to Honourable Member for Zomba Malosa.

Hon. Kwelepeta (DPP—Zomba Malosa): Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for giving the people of Zomba Malosa an opportunity to ask a supplementary question. Good morning, Right Honourable Speaker.

Zomba Malosa would like to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works about the road from Chinamwali, which lies within the city boundary where my constituency begins, to Likwenu Bridge. Right Honourable Speaker, the road is in a very poor state, with big potholes. Members of the community have attempted to repair it using bricks, sand and *maduka* but these efforts have not been effective.

We want to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works if he can just remove the tarmac so that, we just use the dusty roads. As you have heard from my colleagues, this is one of the important roads where blessers use when they take queens from Blantyre. They pass through this road going to Mangochi. I am sure during the Easter holidays, all the blessers did not take their queens to Mangochi. Even you, Right Honourable Speaker, if you want to go to Mangochi, you have to pass through that road. *(Laughter)*

The Speaker: Honourable Member for Zomba Malosa, it is *Sine-Die* today. *(Laughter)* I hope you are not putting me in the group of blessers.

Hon. Kwelepeta (DPP—Zomba Malosa): Right Honourable Speaker, you are not a blesser but my Honourable colleagues here, are blessers. *(Noise)* They have to pass through that road, Right Honourable Speaker. During the Easter holidays, they did not use the road. They did not take their queens to Mangochi because of the status of the road. They are aware that once they reach Mangochi, they will be experiencing back pains hence they will not perform in Mangochi due to the potholes. *(Noise)*

I would, therefore, like to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works to help us with that road. The road is in a very poor state. Thank you, Right Honourable Speaker.

The Speaker: Thank you. What has gone out of order, Honourable Member for Blantyre City Chichiri-Misesa? Are you also a blesser?

Hon. Themba Mkandawire (DPP—Blantyre City Chichiri-Misesa): Right Honourable Speaker. I am injured *(Laughter)* with the statement that my colleague Honourable Member for Zomba Malosa has made through her supplementary question, that in this Honourable House, some of the Honourable Members are blessers. So, I want to refute on behalf of my fellow Honourable Members that as Honourables as we are, we only bless our constituencies with developments. *(Interjection: Yes!)* We do not bless otherwise. Therefore, Right Honourable Speaker, my colleague here is out of order. *(Applause)* I would have asked that she should withdraw her statement. However, since we are adjourning *Sine die* today, I do not want to quarrel with her. Thank you, Right Honourable Speaker.

The Speaker: Thank you. I take that as a lighter moment.

Hon. Kwelepeta (DPP—Zomba Malosa): Right Honourable Speaker, as we are adjourning S*ine-die*, let me get a note pad. I will write all their phone numbers and take pictures. In the next Meeting of Parliament, I will bring the evidence to the House. They are blessers. Thank you. *(Applause)*

The Speaker: Thank you. Honourable Members, let us move to Rumphi West. The blesser from Rumphi West. *(Laughter)*

Hon. Adadawiza Mkandawire (Independent—Rumphi West): Unfortunately, I am one of the senior bachelors. I have been trying Honourable Members who are single, but they are saying no to me. They say I am too talkative; they cannot accept me. Unfortunately, I have no one to eat money with.

Right Honourable Speaker, on a serious note, I would like to thank you very much on the way you have handled this House. The Suleman that people knew and the Suleman that is in the Chair, are two different people. *(Interjection: Yes!)* We thank you and pray that God gives you all the strength and wisdom on how to lead this House. We have stayed here for a long time but we have seen you taking care of us. We are going home unharmed. People who are married, their families are still safe; no blesser inside this House. The secretariat, the leadership from the government side and the leadership from the opposition side; we thank you for taking care of us. May God bless you.

In addition to that, God should bless the President of this country, Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika for making sure that Members of Parliament are not suffering as they stay at Parliament.

As I delve into the issues that prompted my supplementary question, Mr Speaker, Sir, I seek an assurance from the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works. By this time, the Roads Authority should have already floated tenders to procure contractors to grade the roads under the Roads Authority in this country. However, today as we are adjourning *Sine-die*, we have not seen the Roads Authority undertaking this responsibility of procuring contractors to grade the roads, especially those which are under Roads Authority. In mind, I have Chikwawa-Bowe; Mphangala-Thazima going towards Nyika-

Nthalire and Bembe-Hewe roads. These roads usually are graded yearly as he talked last time that from 2022, we have had challenges in grading these roads that are impassable.

I want an assurance from the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works, who is also the Leader of the House and the DPP President for the Northern Region. As I return home, I must note that these impassable roads prevented us from receiving fertiliser on time. When is the Roads Authority going to procure contractors to grade these roads? As I am going back home, I do not have a response, especially at this time when CDF is far from me. *Ndikuimvera fungo*. What am I going to explain to my constituents?

I seek an assurance from the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works, who is also the Leader of the House and the DPP President for the Northern Region. As I return home, I must note that these impassable roads prevented us from receiving fertiliser on time.

Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir, for according me more than a minute which is not a normal occasion. I could have gotten Standing Order 96 that I have been debating on this case. God bless you and the nation.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Rumphi West. Honourable Member for Mzimba West, what has gone out of order?

Hon. Aeckim Kumwenda (Independent—Mzimba West): Mr Speaker, Sir, is it in order for the Member who has just resumed his seat; so honourable, to mention a road from Chikwawa to Bowe but not considering the whole stretch? I know a road cannot start and end midway. So, as the Honourable Minister responds, he should consider this road which goes all the way to my constituency and the destination should be Mpherembe in Mzimba West. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: He wants to cut you out. I have seen the Honourable Minister taking note of that. Thank you. Let us go to Karonga Town, Honourable Commissioner.

Hon. Chitonya (MCP—Karonga Town): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising the people of Karonga Town Constituency. I would like to ride on the question by my Honourable colleague from Karonga Central Constituency. Mr Speaker, Sir, as a country, we seem to be struggling with regards to road rehabilitation in the districts. I would like to suggest that the Ministry of Transport and Public Works should consider bringing back a programme called District Road Improvement Programme (DRIMP) or something closer to that. So that we should be able to look at our roads properly in the districts. Otherwise, as of now we do not have anything. We are talking about CDF or Road Fund Administration which is not accessible at the moment. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Karonga Central. Honourable Leader of the House, a question from Blantyre City Chigumula BCA Club Banana is requesting the ministry to look at a policy where we could have partnerships with the private sector. The other day, the question was raised of whether we could partner with the private sector and allow them mount their toll gates under a BOT agreement, which could also help us. We believe that our banks have excess money now, let them develop our country in that way. Thank you, Honourable Leader of the House.

The Minister of Transport and Public Works (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir. Through you let me thank Honourable colleagues that have asked several questions in relation to road maintenance. Beginning with Karonga Central. I

am aware of the road that leads to Ntemi wa Batemi Kyungu in Karonga, we have spoken about it with the King himself several times and he has always been assured that government will attempt to attend to that section. Quite often, he has been walking on foot to attend council functions because his vehicles cannot get out of his home. So, we will look at this issue as a special case and see what the ministry can do to assist in that regard.

Therefore, let me combine that with the question from Karonga Town, on policy matter; Are we able to bring back DRIMP to assist us in road maintenance in our districts? That matter is currently being looked at in the ministry. We had some informal discussion at the ministry level because it will require reviewing the current policy. So, once we have taken a position, the House will be informed accordingly. However, it is an important discussion because some of us believe that there are certain institutions who opted to have been kept at district level but those were taken then. With time now, we believe that some of those probably must be brought back. So, that is why we are discussing that matter and I believe that at some point the House will be informed accordingly.

Zomba Malosa, the road from Liwonde to Zomba will be rehabilitated. A contractor has already been procured, contract discussions have been concluded, and the contractor should be mobilised on site within the next 21 days. *(Applause)* Once the contractor mobilises, it takes responsibilities for the entire road including maintenance. So, the Honourable Member, is assured that the sections that are problematic on that road will be addressed in the next month or two. *(Interjection: Boma ilo!)* In the meantime, let us persevere, redemption is on the way.

Rumphi West, the procurement of periodic road maintenance contractors has already been done. I signed it off and Roads Authority results are about to start awarding contracts and some have already received their letters for them to start maintaining our roads. In those contracts, grading is one component. So, you can be lest assured that the roads in your constituencies including Mzimba West will be attended to. Good enough that we now have fuel levies that have started flowing. So, if we have resources, it will enable us maintain these important assets.

Just an observation from the Right Honourable Speaker, in terms of government partnering with the private sector, I would like to indicate that as I speak, government has already partnered with FDH Bank which will help us rehabilitate the Golomoti Road. So, the road from Dedza all the way to Mangochi has already been tendered out and the financier will be FDH Bank. So, we are already getting the support from the private sector. Similarly, as I also reported in this House, almost all banks, including NICO Holdings, have come forward to engage us on taking up some of these roads to construct and toll them so that they can recoup their investments.

National Bank also came to us, few days ago; almost all banks have approached the ministry to get such type of arrangements. National Bank has gone further to partner with the ministry and procure two new vessels that will be bathing on the lake to ease transportation on the lake. So, in the ministry we make every effort to make sure that all modes of transport; air, marine, rail as well as roads are properly attended to. I submit, Mr First Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works. Very good response and it is encouraging. Let us now move to question 137 from Honourable Member for Kasungu East. Kasungu East are you available?

Hon Felix Nkhoma (Independent—Kasungu East): Yes, I am available, Right Honourable Speaker.

The Speaker: Please confirm.

***137 Hon. Felix Nkhoma (Independent—Kasungu East)** asked the Minister of Transport and Public Works whether government will consider upgrading the Mtunthama Chamama Road to bitumen standard, as the road serves key agricultural areas in Senior Chief Wimbe, T.A. Chitanthamapiri and T.A. Chinyama.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Kasungu East. Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works.

The Minister of Transport and Public Works (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Thank you very much, Right Honourable Speaker. Through you, let me thank the Honourable Member for Kasungu East for the question.

Mr First Deputy Speaker, Sir, the ministry is aware of the importance of this road as it serves areas that are very rich in agricultural production. Let me take this opportunity to inform the Honourable Member that my ministry has already started the process of upgrading this road to bitumen standards. The process started with conducting the feasibility study and a detailed designs for this road.

The detailed engineering designs for the Mtunthama-Chamama Road have already been undertaken as part of the Mtunthama-Wimbe-Kapelula Road. My ministry is currently liaising with the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation to identify resources to carry out the upgrading works. While its immediate upgrading is constrained by our current resource allocation, I would like to assure the Honourable Member that this stalled project is a high priority within our long-term strategic plans.

Government is actively exploring sustainable funding models for a number of road projects in the country including the Mtunthama-Chamama Road. The phase implementation approach is one of the options being explored to construct this very important road. I thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Minister. Supplementary questions, we will start with the Honourable Member for Nkhata Bay Central.

Hon. Vuwa Kaunda (DPP—Nkhata Bay Central): Thank you very much, Right Honourable Speaker. I want to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works a policy question. What policy does the ministry follow to upgrade 10 kilometres of the district or town council centre road from dust to a tarmac? I am talking of the roads like Nkhata Bay Boma, Nkhotakota, Rumphi, Chitipa, Mangochi and Mchinji town centres, and indeed all the centre town roads. I submit, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Nkhata Bay Central. Honourable Member for Ntcheu Central East.

Hon. Chilikumtima (Independent—Ntcheu Central East): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising the wise people of Ntcheu Central East. They are not only wise but also energetic and vibrant. Through you, Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works to consider fixing a bridge at Lengwe River. There is a tarmac road from Bilila to Balaka via Khwisa but it has no bridge. This is something very peculiar for a tarmac road not to have a bridge for so many years. People are very

worried about this because they do different farming activities but they have challenges in transporting their produce using this road. Thank you, Right Honourable Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, the wise people of Ntcheu Central East. Honourable Member for Dedza Golomoti.

Hon. Esau Phiri (Independent—Dedza Golomoti): Thank you, Right Honourable Speaker, for according Dedza Golomoti an opportunity to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works a supplementary question. Firstly, let me thank the Honourable Minister who is also the Leader of the House for his time. As my colleagues have indicated, he has a big responsibility of looking after all of us in this august House. (*Applause*)

Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works to consider rehabilitating the road that connects Mua to Kapiri and it is M10 Road. This is a very important road to the people of Mganja, Mua, Mchanja as well as Fole under Group Village Headman Bwanali. Mr Speaker, Sir, this road connects Bwanje Irrigation Scheme. It used to be a tarmac road but for the past 20 years, it has been in a very bad shape. Let me also take this opportunity to ask the Honourable Minister to consider renovating the Golomoti-Masasa Road, especially at Phumula and Khwekhwelele. Mr Speaker, Sir, this road is impassable but it is very important because, it connects people to the lakeside. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Dedza Golomoti for your kind words on behalf of the Leader of the House. It shows that, whatever I send the Leader of the House to do, he is doing it right. For this reason, I say thank you.

Honourable Member for Chitipa North, you have the floor.

Hon. Moyo (Independent—Chitipa North): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising Chitipa North to ask a supplementary question. The people of Chitipa North Constituency would like to invite the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works to come to Chitipa and appreciate the challenges that we are facing.

I would like to request the Honourable Minister to consider us. We have waited for a long time for the Chitipa-Ilomba Road. Requests have been submitted in this House for many years. We hope that one day this issue will be over and we will be redeemed. As we are waiting for the tarmac road, I just want to inform you that the road is impassable, as we go to Ilomba Border, Mwankumbwa and Nkhangwa. However, from Mwale junction going to M1 Nkhanga Road, people are sleeping on the road. It is hectic when we see pregnant women failing to go to Chitipa District Hospital because the road is completely cut off. I would, therefore, like to ask the Honourable Minister to consider rehabilitating these critical areas and bridges where we are not able to pass. School going children and pregnant women should be able to travel. We hope you will honour our invitation to Chitipa. Thank you very Much, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Honourable Minister, are you going to Chitipa?

The Minister of Transport and Public Works (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Mr Speaker, Sir, yes, if it will be on her ticket. *(Laughter)* When you are invited on one's ticket, you always ensure that you go and visit. Mr Speaker, Sir, that was a lighter moment. It appears many Honourable Members will accompany me on this visit. The Honourable Member should be prepared to spend more on accommodation for all the Honourable Members who would join me on that duty tour.

Mr Speaker, Sir, let me begin with the question from Nkhata Bay Central. The Honourable Member would like to know if there is a policy shift to the extent that roads that are within the jurisdiction of these councils are now the responsibility of the councils. I hope that the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development would want to supplement on this. In terms of the policy, these matters must be dealt with at the council level.

I would like to assure the Honourable Member for Ntcheu East that the bridge in question will be constructed.

I would also like to inform the Honourable Member for Dedza Golomoti that the first part of the question will require him to submit a substantive question for us to do some inquiries before I could provide a more detailed response. As for the Golomoti-Masasa Road, I already dealt with this question when I was responding to a supplementary question from the other Member. The road has been cut into two. It means we will have two contractors. If you look at the advert, we have tendered for two lots; each lot will have its own contractor. This is so because we want to accelerate the rehabilitation process of that road.

I would like to inform the Honourable Member for Chitipa North that I am aware of the situation in Chitipa North. Actually, Senior Chief Kameme has called me many times complaining about that road. The Honourable Member may wish to know that there are three contractors on that road all the way to Ilomba. In the past, they had financial problems, but as I speak, there is money in the budget and that road will be completed; probably by the end of this year all things being equal.

There have been issues to do with Mangochi-Chilipa Road. I would like to assure my Honourable colleagues and Members who are coming from that area that government will start working on that road. Starting with studies, then we will proceed to designs to ensure that, that road is also built. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. *(Applause)*

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works. Lilongwe Mlodza, are you standing to contribute or is it a point of order?

Hon. Msungama (MCP—Lilongwe Mlodza): I have a supplementary question, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Okay. I recognise Lilongwe Mlodza, Mwanza West, Lilongwe Mphande, Kasungu South West and Balaka Ngwangwa. Honourable Deputy Leader of the House.

The Deputy Leader of the House (Hon. Namalomba): Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate the President Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika for considering the people of Mangochi South West and Mangochi Central by initiating the construction of Mangochi-Chilipa Road. *(Applause)* We do not take that lightly, and we would like to register our appreciation to the His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika. I would also like to request the responsible Honourable Minister to take this message to him that the people of Mangochi South West and Mangochi Central are very appreciative. Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Indeed, Honourable Deputy Leader of the House, that road was very bad and we thank the President for his consideration. Honourable Members, let us start with Lilongwe Mlodza.

Hon. Msungama (MCP—Lilongwe Mlodza): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising the people of Area 23, Kaliyeka, Gologota, Benito and Area 22 to ask a supplementary question. Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Leader of the House is also a son of

Area 23. He has relations there. We cannot talk of Area 23 without mentioning the Leader of the House; he is part of us. I would, therefore, like to inform the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works that the road from Chipasula to Area 23 which has been under construction, stopped for reasons we are not aware of. However, people are lamenting and they are still asking the progress of this project. Mr Speaker, Sir, the people of Area 23 have contributed a lot to the development of this country. We would like to find out if you still have plans to continue with the construction works on that road? The people of this constituency will be delighted if the road in question will be rehabilitated. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Honourable Member for Lilongwe Mlodza. Did you also include the Blantyre ring road?

Hon. Msungama (MCP—Lilongwe Mlodza): Yes, I did, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you. Let us now move to the Honourable Member for Mwanza West. *(Interjection: Point of order!)* What has gone out of order, Honourable Member for Thyolo Thekerani?

Hon. Scott (DPP—Thyolo Thekerani): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for granting the people of Thyolo Thekerani an opportunity to rise on a point of order. Is it in order for the Honourable Member who has just resumed his seat to stand and conclude his submission without thanking the government? Yesterday, the Honourable Member raised a serious issue and the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development who stood for the Ministry of Homeland Security, assured him that government will take a drastic action to apprehend the culprit and government has done it. Is it in order that the Honourable Member did not thank government in his submission? Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir. *(Applause)*

The Speaker: Thank you, Thyolo Thekerani. Indeed, I do not think it is in order but let me hear from him. Honourable Member for Lilongwe Mlodza.

Hon. Msungama (MCP—Lilongwe Mlodza): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir, and Honourable Member from Thyolo Thekerani. Let me say that I am a delighted man today. I was communicating to the Honourable Minister of Local Government and Rural Development who was responding to the question about this good news yesterday. We agreed that I have to rise today before S*ine die* to appreciate the government's initiative because the issue was raised in the House yesterday. As we are talking, the culprit has been apprehended. So, I was going to do that and this is the way to go. Thank you, so much, Mr Speaker, Sir. *(Applause)*

The Speaker: Thank you very much. Honourable Member for Mwanza West.

Hon. Nseula (MCP—Mwanza West): Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising the people of Mwanza West. First of all, let me thank the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works for responding to our plea when our bridges were washed away by the disaster we had in my constituency. I have been told that the contractor has reported to the district and soon construction of the bridge will commence.

However, the people of Mwanza West are requesting for a tarmac road. Through you, Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to invite the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works, as we will be going towards the long break, to my constituency. *(Noise) (Interjection: Mwai tu uwu!) (Laughter)* Honourable Members, I am inviting him to a tour on the Mwanza-Thambani Road. Honourable Minister, if you see that road, you will cry for our people

because it is in bad condition. I am sure that once you see the road, you will do something about it. Please, Honourable Minister, help us. Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, Mwanza West. Can I join the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works when coming?

Hon. Nseula (MCP—Mwanza West): Yes, Mr Speaker, Sir. You are free to join him. *(Laughter)*

The Speaker: Thank you. We now move to Lilongwe – *(Interjection: Point of order!)* Honourable Member for Blantyre City Chichiri-Misesa.

Hon. Themba Mkandawire (DPP— Blantyre City Chichiri-Misesa): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir. I am rising on behalf of Senior Chief Kapeni, Group Village Headmen Chiwembe, Mtambo, Lipotima, Njambe, Buleya, Chemboma and Group Village Headwoman Misesa Chembenusya.

Mr Speaker, Sir, is it in order for the Honourable Member for Lilongwe City Mlodza who just rose and responded casually that Blantyre Ring Road has been included and yet it has not been mentioned in this House? I know that your constituency will also be a beneficiary when the Blantyre Ring Road commences.

I would like to thank the State President for allowing the project to commence in your constituency during his last regime from 2014 to 2019. Mr Speaker, Sir, the road which starts from Chikunda to Chigumula going to Green Corner stopped abruptly during the previous government. So, now that the DPP is back in government and it is a party that listens, which does not just speak or dream, but works on the ground, I would like to ask something. Senior Chief Kapeni and all his subjects are listening as I speak. Is the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works going to respond to them now? *(Applause)* This question was asked previously, but it has been skipped and I believe it has the response as I speak. When is this project going to re-start? If it is not going to resume, what are the steps that we are supposed to take to kickstart the Blantyre Ring Road because it is very important. The ring road also caters for your constituency, Mr Speaker, Sir, all the way to Blantyre district and it covers almost four districts. I thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Blantyre City-Chichiri- Misesa. Greet the chiefs for me. Indeed, that is my constituency, I am sure you are taking care of it. We had a point of order from Mwanza Central then Lilongwe Mlodza. Thank you.

Hon. Njawala (UTM—Mwanza Central): Thank you, Mr Speaker Sir. Is it in order for the Honourable Member for Mwanza West to say that the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works will faint when he visits Thambani when in true sense, he will black out? *(Laughter*) I am saying this, Mr Speaker, Sir, because it is an understatement to say that because the road to Thambani is in bad shape. The road is completely finished. The same applies to the road going to Mwanza-Tsangano-Neno and the road going to Kunenekude from Mwanza District. To say that the road is in bad condition, is an understatement. This is to tell the august House how bad roads in Neno and Mwanza are. So, Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works, when you go to Thambani, you will not only faint but you will completely blackout. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you so much, Honourable Member. Honourable Member for Lilongwe Mlodza.

Hon. Msungama (MCP—Lilongwe Mlodza): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. I am standing on a point of order to respond to the Honourable Member for Blantyre City Chichiri-Misesa who referred to us as Mloza Constituency, yet the Mloza he is referring to is in Mulanje. You miss one letter; you will miss everything. *(Laughter)* Please take note, Honourable Member for Blantyre City Chichiri-Misesa. Thank you.

The Speaker: Okay, thank you. Let us proceed. I think these points of order are delaying the process here. Now, Honourable Member for Lilongwe Mphande Constituency, you have the floor.

Hon. Kambala (Independent—Lilongwe Mphande): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. First, let me request your authority if I can use Lilongwe Kamphuno Constituency's place because my microphone does not work?

The Speaker: Yes, proceed please.

Hon. Kambala (Independent—Lilongwe Mphande): Thank you. Mr Speaker, Sir. Firstly, let me thank the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works that the way he is responding to our questions has prompted me to pose another question. Mr Speaker, Sir, through you, could the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works consider upgrading the road from Area 49 roadblock, which passes through Lilongwe City Nankhaka Constituency to my constituency up to Lilongwe Machenga Constituency? This road braches into four routes, including the road to Kasiya, which was constructed during Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika's first term in government. This road will not only benefit the people of my constituency but it is also going to act as a breather to the road from Kaunda round-about up to Area 25.

During the SONA, His Excellency the State President, Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika said that the United States of America gave Malawi Government a grant of US$744 million to help in the health sector. However, if you can recall, before the Millenium Challenge Corporation phased out, there were some roads in Malawi which were identified to be upgraded. So, could the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works liaise with Honourable Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation that part of this money should be channelled to roads component because we cannot have better health facilities without better roads. How will people travel to those health centres? Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Lilongwe Mphande Constituency. Now, we will go to Kasungu South West Constituency.

Hon. Jekapu (Independent—Kasungu South West): Good morning, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Good morning.

Hon. Jekapu (Independent—Kasungu South West): Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir. Mr Speaker, Sir, through you, let me ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works whether the government is considering constructing Linga-Kamboni-Nthunduwala Road up to Mkanda in Mchinji. People from Kasungu South West Constituency were advised that the road was on the list of beneficiaries from the American Aid but we all know that the aid was cancelled. Right Honourable Speaker, if we have constituencies in Malawi with long and wider rivers, then one of them is Kasungu South West Constituency. So, I would like to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public

Works to visit Kasungu South West Constituency just to appreciate. Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Kasungu South West Constituency. Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works, what did you use today when bathing? You should share with me some. (*Laughter*) Let us finish with Honourable Member for Balaka Ngwangwa Constituency.

Hon. Bamusi (DPP—Balaka Ngwangwa): Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir. Ever since I came to Parliament, I have been raising challenges about Balaka loop-road which is also known as Balaka ring-road. This is the road that passes through Balaka ESCOM-NBS Bank-FDH Bank as well as SANA to Police Service offices. Mr Speaker, Sir, this road is just 1.8 kilometres and about a kilometre was already rehabilitated although it has no drainage but on 800 metres stretch nothing has been done up to now. It is almost three years now. So, I want to find out from the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works, when should people of Balaka town expect completion works to begin? Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Balaka Ngwangwa Constituency. Yes, Honourable Member for Salima North Constituency, you have been standing, is it a point of order?

Hon. Mnjemu (MCP—Salima North): Yes, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Proceed please.

Hon. Mnjemu (MCP—Salima North): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. I think it is not in order that we should wind up, *Sine die*, without thanking the Leader of the House for the good work he is doing. The Leader of the House is a humble person. When you present a problem, he tries his best to help you instantly. He calls his directors in your presence and sometimes even giving you his phone to speak to them. I am very grateful, Mr Speaker, Sir. I am giving you this example because he once gave me that authority. However, I would like to inform you, Mr Speaker, Sir, that the director has not responded till now.

Last but not least, is it in order for us to adjourn the House, *Sine Die* without addressing the condition of Salima-Lilongwe Road? This road is important as we all use it when going to meetings at Livingstonia Beach Hotel. Today, I am not requesting for bridges in my constituency because the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works said he is already looking into that. However, I am here to plead that this road needs urgent attention. It is coming from Kamuzu International Airport straight or from the Capital City of Malawi going straight to Lake Malawi in Salima, where most of our meetings take place. We all go there for leisure just as you do, Mr Speaker, Sir. I know you go somewhere I always see you coming. (*Laughter*)

Mr, Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask this House to debate on this one and at least to consider it in this budget or in the next budget review meeting. This is a very important road in as far as Malawi's development is concerned. Even just a dual carriage is fine. People who come back drunk inconveniences other people who are coming from meetings. We can give them their own lane and the other lane for us going home and for meetings. Mr Speaker, Sir, CDF alone is not enough for this road. I submit, Mr Speaker, Sir. *(Applause*)

The Speaker: Let me categorically refute that. *(Laughter)* I do come and because of what you have said, Kasungu North East Constituency says she will take me there for a drive to appreciate the road. So, thank you Kasungu North East for that offer.

Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works, please respond to those supplementary questions.

The Minister of Transport and Public Works (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Mr Speaker, Sir, a mouthful of questions coming from nowhere. I do not know which questions they are supplementing but I know they are under our discussion. So, I will gladly attempt them.

Honourable Member for Lilongwe City Mlodza Constituency you may wish to know that I grew up in Area 23. So, I would like to declare my interest that I have lived in Area 23 for 18 years. Actually, for his information, when we were moving from Area 23, we were the first as a family; many years ago. So, I know Area 23 inside-out. Actually, if I wanted to contest, I was going to contest in his constituency (*Interjection: Noted!)* Mr Speaker, Sir, let me mention that the road from Chipasula to Area 23 is very important because it decongests traffic from Area 23 to Four Ways. In this regard, government has prioritised this road and soon it will be completed.

Honourable Member for Mwanza West, mentioned the situation of the road from Mwanza to Thambani and several other roads in Mwanza. Government is seeking funds. Let me put it on record that most of the roads in this country have been neglected for years, to the point that many are severely damaged and rehabilitating all of them at once would be difficult. We will prioritise rehabilitation of the most critical roads before proceeding with the others. Additionally, we are now collecting the fuel levy, which has enabled us to mobilise funds from partners and companies. We will also be getting bonds to support the reconstruction of most of these roads.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the President has given the ministry 31st December, 2026 as a cut-off point where we have to make sure that most of these roads are properly rehabilitated. So, we are working to ensure that the President's directive is adhered to. Honourable Member also mentioned about the Mwanza-Neno-Tsangano Road. This is one of government's priority. Construction works will commence soon until the road is complete.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member raised a question but informed me that he is currently attending a funeral in Blantyre and could not be present in time to follow it up. I will therefore, provide a brief summary of the response.

Mr Speaker, Sir, looking at the importance of this bypass road, Blantyre City Council using local resources, commenced the construction works of the Chigumula-Mpemba stretch. They did part of the road but did not complete the works due to funding problems. Mr Speaker, Sir, with the coming in of CDF, Blantyre City Council can now resume construction works and connect the road to Green Corner, that is Mpemba. Let me advise the Honourable Member to present this matter to Blantyre City Council so that it can be prioritised in their plans for completion. As for the remaining sections of the Blantyre Bypass Road, my ministry will allocate funds to this project to make sure that construction works resume and the road serve its intended purpose of diverting traffic from Blantyre CBD. I thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member for Lilongwe Mphande has requested my ministry to consider upgrading the road from Area 49 Roadblock to Four Ways to help ease congestion on Kaunda Road. Mr Speaker, Sir, he has engaged me on this matter for some time, and I wish to inform the House that engineers will be deployed to assess the section and determine what can be done, subject to the availability of funds.

Mr Speaker, Sir, as for the US$744 million health funding from the United States Government. I do not think it will be possible to divert resources meant for health to transport knowing that you cannot have health facilities without roads. They complement each other but resources cannot be diverted. In order to proceed with the construction of roads that were initially intended under the MCC Compact, government is exploring alternative financing models to support these projects. One such example is the Golomoti–Mangochi Road where we are leveraging resources from the private sector.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the response is similar to that given to the Honourable Member for Kasungu South West. This road was initially earmarked for financing under the Millennium Challenge Compact. However, following the cancellation of the compact, government has no option but to seek alternative sources of funding to proceed with its construction. In total, there are four roads that government is currently mobilising its resources for construction.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member for Balaka Ngwangwa is inquiring about the progress of the Ring Road Project. Let me assure the Honourable Member that the road will be completed. Further to that, Mr Speaker, Sir, the road from Lilongwe to Salima is very important. Its importance requires no emphasis because it takes us to a very important tourist destination. Therefore, I would like to assure the Honourable Member that government is committed to ensuring that this road is rehabilitated. There have been too many road accidents on this road. Government is committed to making sure that this road is rehabilitated. I, thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you. Let me welcome the Honourable Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation. Honourable Member for Dowa West, what has gone out of order?

Hon. Mchenga (Independent—Dowa West): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works to consider constructing the road from Chisepo Trading Centre to Mpondamwala Bridge. People are failing to travel to Kabudula Hospital because the road is impassable. As I am talking, there are some big potholes. Honourable Minister Transport and Public Works please hear the voice of the people of Dowa West. On behalf of the people of Dowa West, I am on my knees. Please assist us. I submit, Mr Speaker, Sir. (*Applause)*

The Speaker: Thank you. Honourable Leader of the House.

The Leader of the House (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Mr Speaker, Sir, I rise to beg to move that question time be extended to allow the Minister of Transport and Public Works respond to questions. Thank you.

The Speaker: Honourable Members, there is a motion on the floor that time be extended to allow the Minister of Transport and Public Works respond to questions.

The Motion was agreed to.

The Speaker: Honourable Members, we are continuing with supplementary questions. Honourable Member for Mangochi Monkey Bay, you have the floor.

Hon. Gerald Kazembe (MCP—Mangochi Monkey Bay): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir, for giving an opportunity to the people of Mangochi Monkey Bay to ask a point of order. Mr Speaker, Sir, we are rising *Sine die* and history has been made in this country, no president has ever been bold enough to raise CDF by 2,400 per cent. Is it in order for this House to rise without giving gratitude to the man who has made this to happen? Thank

you. *Kunena zikomo sikutukwana, ine sindijiya komanso siine wa* praise team. I came here to serve people, especially the poor. History has been made and it shall be remembered in this country. It is the current President, the Speaker and the Members of Parliament who have made this possible. I stand here and invite every Member of Parliament to stand and show gratitude. Politics aside, this is the reason we came to Parliament to serve the people. Thank you, *Bwana* President, *zikomo kwambiri.* (*Applause*)

The Speaker: You see, Honourable Member for Mangochi Monkey Bay, I was tempted to stand. But the problem is if I stand and then everyone is supposed to sit, so I was in dilemma; I did not know what to do but I am with you. Thank you. I see Honourable MCP Whip. Do you also want to praise someone?

The MCP Whip (Hon. Kunkuyu): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for this opportunity given to the people of Dedza Mlunduni to say something as we rise—

The Speaker: Honourable Members at the back, order please.

The MCP Whip (Hon. Kunkuyu): Mr Speaker, Sir, we have been here for a number of weeks and we are rising today. It is humane to say thank you when certain things have been done well. While the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works is taking questions, I may not have the opportunity to thank him for the way he has led this House. *(Applause)* Congratulations, Honourable Leader of the House for the way you have guided the business of this House; sometimes you call yourself the manager of the business but obviously that comes in the course of the tongue going this way or that way. *(Laughter)*

Secondly, Mr Speaker, Sir, I would also like to thank you; you have been a good man. Mr Speaker, Sir, you have guided this House above politics and you have given us a kind of leadership that has defined this House as a House of dignity. We would want to thank you for that. However, allow me to also say that as a House we have been entrusted with the responsibility of providing answers to the people that elected us and we have provided those answers. Thank you, government for being forthcoming in answering questions that Members asked in this House. That Process, Mr Speaker, Sir, you have been at the centre. Where we needed answers to specific issues you went beyond ordinary ministerial responses and even set up Committees to dive deeper into those issues in the bid to provide responses.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I want to thank you and the President for directing this House to have a fresh inquiry when we had more questions on the plane crash. *(Interjection: Yes!)* Mr Speaker, Sir, you have provided leadership in that regard and set up a Committee. Definitely, questions will be asked and answers will be provided. So, thank you to the President. When you are talking to him today, say that tall boy from Dedza Mlunduni says, thank you, Mr President. In the same vein, however, I know that families will have some sort of relief when this is concluded. I know, Mr Speaker, Sir, there are other families that would have loved—

The Speaker: Honourable Member for Dedza Mlunduni, let me get the point of order then I will come back you. Honourable Deputy Leader of the House.

The Deputy Leader of the House (Hon. Namalomba): Mr Speaker, Sir, we stand to be guided. Are we already in *Sine die* procedures? Because what the Member is doing is a very typical example of *Sine die*. We have a lot of business and we want to exhaust that business and get to the *Sine die* procedures. There is no Leader of Opposition that side and he is the one who is going to speak on behalf of the Leader of Opposition.

Through you, Mr Speaker, Sir, let us have order. Today, we are going to have *Sine die* procedures. The Leader of Opposition and Leader of the House will speak, let's not take the shine away from them. *(Interjection: No!)* Let us not do that. Let us stick to protocol. When you start the sentence with however; are you showing gratitude? I have gone to a proper university. When you begin with however, you change the whole thing. No! You do not do that. Through you, Mr Speaker, Sir, is it in order to jump our procedures and go to *Sine die* procedures when we have proper business which we need to exhaust? I submit, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Leader of the House. Let me respond that *Sine die* formalities have not started and the MCP Whip is not part of the *sine die* formalities. *(Applause)* I was giving him time because I thought he wanted to say something and I did not want to cut him. However, I have taken note of that, Honourable Deputy Leader of the House. I hope the MCP Whip will also conclude whatever he was saying.

The MCP Whip (Hon. Kunkuyu): Mr Speaker, Sir, I was appreciating that out there, we have really worn the badge of a representative to our people. We have provided responses and answers to questions. And I was saying however; the 'however' that seems to be causing some jitters on him. However, there are also other families who would have loved to be closer to the echelons of power so that cases that have tormented them for years could be addressed. If it were within our power, we would request the Honourable Minister of Homeland Security to revisit some cases of individuals who are mourning for their loved ones. If we had the opportunity, Parliament will rehear our cases. We would have also found some solace.

I have an example and it is a passionate appeal to this House and to you Honourable Leader of the House. We lost one young man in this country in the name of Allan Witika. The guy died under very painful circumstances. *(Interjection: Aaah!)* Mr Speaker, Sir, this is a passionate personal appeal. If the Honourable Minister of Homeland Security could humbly consider revisiting that case; the family would find some rest. Mr Speaker, Sir, thank you for the opportunity. God bless you. Thank you very much. *(Applause)*

The Speaker: Thank you very much. Honourable Member for Blantyre City Soche-Zingwagwa, are you standing? Is it another point of order as well?

Hon. Kalua (UTM-- Blantyre City Soche-Zingwangwa): Yes, point of order

The Speaker: That is the last point of order I am taking.

Hon. Kalua (UTM-- Blantyre City Soche-Zingwangwa): Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for giving the floor to the people of Blantyre City Soche-Zingwangwa Constituency. Is it in order, Mr Speaker, Sir, for the issue of late Allan Witika to be brought into this House in a political and casual manner by someone who is also mentioned in the same case? There are rumours out there that connect the Honourable Member for Dedza Mlunduni to the case. No! Those rumours are genuine and they come from the family. Allan Witika was my childhood friend and I am connected to his family. This is not a political issue. We have not brought this issue in this House out of respect. Mr Speaker, Sir, is it in order for this issue to be politicised in this manner? Thank you.

The Speaker: Let us proceed. Honourable Members, I reserve my ruling on that because I do not want to start an issue. Those that are supposed to take note have taken note of that and those that learnt something have done so. We are all seniors here so, let us not start a story where there is none. I see the Honourable Ministers of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, and Homeland Security. Let me ask the Honourable Minister of Justice and

Constitutional Affairs to take a seat because I want to start with the Honourable Minister of Homeland Security or maybe you should guide.

The Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Hon. Charles Mhango): I will yield to the Honourable Minister of Homeland Security.

The Speaker: Thank you so much, Honourable Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs. Yes, Honourable Minister of Homeland Security.

The Minister of Homeland Security (Hon. Mukhito): Mr Speaker, Sir, and the Honourable House, I want to assure the Honourable Member for Dedza Mlunduni that indeed the case of the murder of Allan Witika has been reopened because we feel that the investigations were tampered with. (*Applause*) I think there was political manipulation on it and we have reopened the investigations. Let me assure this House that a due process will be done and justice will be served. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. (*Interjection: Boma ilo!*) (*Applause*)

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Minister of Homeland Security. Honourable Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs.

The Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Hon. Charles Mhango): Mr Speaker, Sir, with confirmation from the Honourable Minister of Homeland Security, the matter is subjudice and it cannot be discussed. Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you for your guidance, Honourable Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs. Let us move to question 138 coming from Lilongwe City Lumbadzi.

*138 **Hon. Kalekeni (MCP—Lilongwe City Lumbadzi)** asked the Minister of Transport and Public Works whether government will consider upgrading the road from Dzenza Secondary School to Kamuzu International Airport to bitumen standard. The road passes through Senior Chief Chitukula's headquarters and Nkhalamba Village, and forms a continuation of an existing project whose tarmac section currently ends abruptly at Dzenza Secondary School.

Mr Speaker, Sir, allow me to join the Honourable Member for Mangochi Monkey Bay in thanking the President, His Excellency, Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika for increasing the CDF. (*Interjection: Zoona. Umakwana!*) If it was not for that, I would not have stood here to ask this question. Secondly, allow me, Mr Speaker, Sir, to thank the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works in advance. I hope he is getting what I am saying because in case of the plenary, I took an advantage in bringing the question under supplementary question and the Honourable Minister tackled that question ably well and eloquently. Therefore, notwithstanding, it remains to his discretion to still take the question.

The Speaker: Thank you. Honourable Members, let me guide that we still have two more questions to the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works. I would like to ask if we can speed up so that we exhaust all the questions. I do not want the Honourable Minister to go back with the responses that I am seeing in his hands. So, Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works, question 138 is for you.

The Minister of Transport and Public Works (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Mr Speaker, Sir, I thought I was going to ride on the response that I already provided on the same question to the Honourable Member. It may probably not be ideal that I repeat the response. I thought the Honourable colleague was going to withdraw the question because I would not deal with it and I assured him that that section would be considered. That was what is in here. I thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works. In that case, I am not taking any supplementary questions for that one. Let us move to question 139 from Chitipa Central. Honourable Member for Chitipa Central.

*139 **Hon. Nyondo (Independent—Chitipa Central)** asked the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works whether the ministry can deploy officials from the Roads Authority and Directorate of Road Traffic and Safety Services (DRTSS) to Chitipa district to facilitate motorcycle registration and issuance of motorcycle driving licences to residents.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Chitipa Central. Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works.

The Minister of Transport and Public Works (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir. Through you, let me thank the Honourable Member for Chitipa Central for his question. Mr Speaker, Sir, one of the key reform areas being implemented by my ministry, through the Directorate of Road Traffic and Safety Services, is to bring road traffic services closer to the people by decentralising service delivery across the country.

In line with this reform agenda, the directorate has already established satellite service offices in Ngabu, Mangochi and Karonga to improve accessibility of services. In addition, the directorate has plans to establish more satellite service centres in Kasungu, Mzimba, Salima and Mulanje in order to further expand access to road traffic services and reduce the distance that citizens travelled to access services such as vehicle or motorcycle registration, driver testing and issuance of driving licences. Mr Speaker, Sir, currently, motorcycles registration and issuance of driving licences are connected through the designated DRTSS service centres across the country. However, the directorate has also been implementing mobile service outreach programmes, where officers are periodically deployed to districts that do not yet have permanent DRTSS offices. As part of these outreach efforts, the directorate conducted mobile service exercise in February 2026 in Kasungu, Dedza and Dwangwa, where officers facilitated motorcycles registration, driver testing and licencing services to residence who would have to travel long distances to access such services.

In this regard, my ministry will consider deploying a mobile DRTSS team to Chitipa District to facilitate motorcycle registration and the issuance of motorcycle driving licences to residence. These services are normally carried out in collaboration with district councils, Malawi Police Service and other relevant stakeholders to ensure efficient and effective service delivery in compliance with road traffic regulations.

Mr Speaker, Sir, as regard to the actual dates, I wish to assure the Honourable Member that the department will deploy officer to Chitipa within the months of April 2026 to carry out these mobile road traffic services. Let me assure the House that my ministry will continue implementing decentralisation measures aimed at bringing road traffic services closer to the people and improving accesses to services across to the country.

In addition to that, I would like to thank one Honourable Member in a special way for being gentle. That Honourable Member who withdrew his question because we had not spoken. Initially, I thought he was very violent, but over time I have discovered that he is a very humble man. I would like to thank him too, alongside many other Members in this House. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works. We start with the originator of the question, then Honourable Members for Ntchisi Central East and Ntchisi South, Chikwawa South and Nkhokotakota Liwaradzi, in that

order please. Honourable Member for Chitipa Central.

Hon. Nyondo (Independent—Chitipa Central): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising the people of Chitipa Central again. I would like to thank the Honourable Minister for the positive response to the question. Mr Speaker, Sir, the people of Chitipa Central are law abiding citizens. They comply with the laws of the land, especially when they are enabling service providers to the laws. Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to request the Honourable Minister to liaise with his colleague, Honourable Minister of Homeland Security to consider temporarily suspending the enforcement of punishing motorcycle users. This is so because as the situation is right now, it is more like a fundraising activity for Malawi Police Service than an enforcement of the law in Chitipa. So, I request if they can consider temporarily suspending it until the service provider is available. Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Chitipa Central. We will go to Ntchisi Central East.

Hon. Chimangeni (MCP—Ntchisi Central East): Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising Ntchisi Central East to ask a supplementary question—

The Speaker: Honourable Member for Ntchisi Central East hold on. Honourable Member are you going out? *(Silence)* Have a safe walk as you go. Honourable Member for Ntchisi Central East, sorry for that, you may proceed.

Hon. Chimangeni (MCP—Ntchisi Central East): Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising Ntchisi Central East to ask a supplementary question. Mr Speaker, Sir, before that, let me thank government for the allocation of funds to Ntchisi-Malomo Road amounting to K4 billion. However, this is not enough. It is my request that during the Mid-Year Budget Review Meeting, you should add some funds so that the road can be completed next year, 2027, as planned. I would also like to ask the Honourable Minister that when they will be upgrading some roads across the country, they should consider Ntchisi-Nthondo-Nkhotakota Road. This road is very important because Ntchisi is a food basket and we can contribute a lot to the economy of Malawi.

Mr Speaker, Sir, this road can also be the shortest route to Nkhotakota. Our tourists use Salima-Nkhotakota Road or Kasungu. Therefore, if this road is upgraded from earth road to tarmac, it can be the shortest route going to Nkhotakota and up to the Northern Region. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Ntchisi Central East. Let us move to Ntchisi South.

Hon. Gamula (Independent—Ntchisi South): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising the people of Ntchisi South to raise a supplementary question. I would like to echo what my sister said on the Ntchisi-Malomo Road. Currently, it poses a great challenge for people to travel on that road. Mr Speaker, Sir, in Ntchisi, we have five constituencies. Therefore, I would like to suggest that each constituency should contribute K1 billion to add to the K4 billion that government is giving us to make it K9 billion so that we can finish the road.

Secondly, I do not know if you are aware of Crossroads Roundabout. The left turn poses a risk to most motorists. It needs to be rehabilitated. The third question is also a proposal. Could the ministry provide graders through PVHES to each district? As a country, we are complaining about the roads and it is a big challenge. Most of us are focusing on the

city and districts roads, but most of the people are failing to transport their produces. Could government provide graders through PVHES so that most of the roads can be paved.

My last question is on the policy which the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation stated during the budget presentation. The ministry stated that from April, 2026, motorists who have offences will be paying their fines through electronic transfers; either airtel money or bank transfers. So, we would like to find out from the ministry when will this start? Secondly, how is the ministry going to reinforce payments and avoid corruption? This is because, if I cannot pay through airtel money or bank transfer, it will also create room for bribery, thereby making government lose a lot of funds. So, we would like to hear from the ministry on that policy question. Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Thank you, Ntchisi South. We will go to the Honourable Member for Chikwawa East.

Hon. Ginford Maulidi (DPP—Chikwawa East): Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for allowing the people of Chikwawa East; Senior Chief Makhuwira and T.A. Chiputula to ask a supplementary question. Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the Honourable Minister to consider repairing some sections of the East Bank Road from Thabwa to Makhanga. We are aware that the road is earmarked for upgrading and it is in the budget. However, pending the commencement of the main works, I would like to ask the Honourable Minister to repair some parts of the road because it is heavily damaged. I suggest that temporary culverts be placed in streams such Mkumadzi, Kasokoza, Mavuwo, Mulunga, Tengamanga, Milore and Mfera to make the road passable. People are facing challenges transporting goods and accessing clinics like Makhwira and Mepelera Health Centres when patients are referred to Chikwawa District Hospital. I submit, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Chikwawa East. Honourable Member for Nkhotakota Liwaladzi.

Hon. Lunji (DPP—Nkhotakota Liwaladzi): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir, for according Nkhotakota Liwaladzi an opportunity to ask a supplementary question. Let me also humbly request you that in the next Meeting of Parliament, I would like to present my maiden speech. Through you, I would like to congratulate the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works for not only considering the people of Nkhotakota Liwaladzi on the M5 Road but also for bringing contractors for this construction project who are in Nkhotakota Liwaladzi Constituency.

Mr Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the able Minister of Transport and Public Works for an update on the Vitekete weighbridge. On the same note, I would like to humbly request the Minister of Transport and Public Works in collaboration with the Minister of Homeland Security if it is possible under the 80 per cent infrastructure, to consider the road in order to cut the distance that people of Nkhotakota Liwaladzi travel to access driving licences as well as motorcycle licences. I submit, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Nkhotakota Liwaladzi. Yes, Honourable Minister of Health and Sanitation.

The Minister of Health and Sanitation (Hon. Baloyi): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. I have observed that today, there have been a lot of praises in this House. People of Mzimba Kafukule have sent me a message that I want to deliver. They are thanking the President of Malawi and the DPP-led government because they have taken note that the road that comes

from Mzimba-Eswazini-Mzalangwe-Kafukule-Ezondweni has been listed on the plans within the Ministry of Transport and Public Works.

Mr Speaker, Sir, people of Mzimba Kafukule are full of gratitude because this is the road that cuts across several constituencies. For your information, people of Mzimba West are also benefiting from the same road and they are full of gratitude. Now, I would like to invite the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works to Mzimba Kafukule as they are planning to upgrade this road. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. (*Interjection: Point of order!*)

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Minister of Health and Sanitation. Point of order granted, Honourable Member for Lilongwe Nyanja.

Hon. Malondera (MCP—Lilongwe Nyanja): Mr Speaker, Sir, is it in order to insinuate that Eswatini is in Mzimba because in Mzimba we have Eswazini. I just wanted to put that clearly since this is a House of record. Eswatini is a country but not in Mzimba. In Mzimba, we have Eswazini and I know this because I was at Lunjika Secondary School. Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Honourable Minister of Health and Sanitation.

The Minister of Health and Sanitation (Hon. Baloyi): Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir. Indeed, let me replace the word Eswatini with Eswazini. Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Honourable Minister of Health and Sanitation. Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works.

The Minister of Transport and Public Works (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Mr Speaker, Sir, much as these questions are unrelated to the original question, I am mindful of the numerous problems that we have in our constituencies hence the questions. On the question from the Honourable Member for Chitipa Central, there is an undertaking by the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation that implementation that was taken to have the Kabazas registered was extended to July this year. So, the Member can be rest assured that for now, the government system is well informed about that development. If things are still happening in Chitipa perhaps, we need to engage our colleagues on the ground in Chitipa to ensure that they are aligned with this position.

On the question from the Honourable Member for Ntchisi Central East, we have taken note of the road from Ntchisi via Nthondo to Nkhotakota. Engineers will be dispatched to have a look at it and advise us on how that would be handled. As for the road to Malomo which was asked by the Honourable Member for Ntchisi South, Mr Speaker, Sir, when a road has been put on the list of roads to be constructed, the amount of money that has been apportioned to that road should not worry you because those works are paid by certificate. When a contractor produces works of up to K10 billion, the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation pays that amount.

That is why we come in this House with supplementary appropriation and other things because we would have overspent on certain projects. At the time we were budgeting, not all the amount was factored in the budget and no one will tell that the project will require K50 billion. So, we put in money but at the end of the day when the contractor produces a certificate then government pays. So, the Honourable Member can be assured that the K4 billion that is currently provided for is not the final figure and when the certificates are sent to the Roads Fund Administration, they will be paid.

Another question from Ntchisi Central East is to do with Kaunda Round about. I believe that my team at the back has taken note of this. We will visit to appreciate the issues there. On the issues about putting graders to the councils, that attempt was made by government through the NCIC but now it is called the Construction Industry Regulatory Authority. Graders were dispatched to all councils but all of them were rundown because the councils did not have the capacity. I think that is why when we were debating about the K5 billion, others were of the view that as constituencies, we could use part of that money to procure our own graders and position it in the constituency. In that way you could be able to look after it very well and make sure that it has proper maintenance.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the councils proved to us that they did not have capacity to look after those valuable equipment.

The Honourable Member for Chikwawa East is requesting my ministry to repair parts of the road from Thabwa to Bangula. I would like to inform the Honourable Member that maintenance contractors have just been procured and there will be a contractor working on that road, to make sure that the road is in good shape as we wait to procure a contractor for the main works.

Nkhotakota Liwaladzi, I believe you are talking about the weigh bridge that is near Dwangwa. We will look at the possibility of having double services at that facility, but it will require expertise from the Road Traffic Directorate to inform us whether that is possible. From my personal view, it could be possible because the facility is within the same department. However, I leave it to the experts to help us. Other than that, I thank you very much for the supplementary questions, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works. We have one question to go, but I am looking at the time. Honourable Leader of the House.

The Leader of the House (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Mr Speaker, Sir, I wanted to move a motion that after the Ministry of Transport and Public Works, we tackle questions under the Ministry of Health, so the remaining 15 minutes probably should be given to the Ministry of Health to tackle a question or two.

The Speaker: Thank you. I assume we are not going for a health break. Thank you, for that guidance. Let me recognise Ntchisi South for a point of order.

Hon. Gamula (Independent—Ntchisi South): Mr Speaker, Sir, I asked a policy question about the electronic payments for the traffic officers and it has not been tackled. I would like to hear from the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works. Thank you.

The Speaker: I am sure the Minister will respond together with other points of order, maybe they could be needing his response. Mzuzu City South East, what has gone out of order?

Hon. Kaweche (Independent—Mzuzu City South East): Mr Speaker, Sir, have you noted that the edge where I am sitting here, is a blind spot for you? Most of the times when I stand to supplement, you do not recognise me to support my people in my constituency. This has not only happened to me, but also to my colleagues from Mzuzu City and Mzuzu City North who have not been recognised. They have a lot to contribute in this august House. Is it in order Mr Speaker, Sir, as we are rising today, we should leave something

behind not to contribute? Our people are waiting for us to represent them. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Mzuzu City South East. There is no blind spot for me in this House. We will give you a chance, keep your supplementary question. Honourable Member for Mangochi Lutende, what has gone out of order?

Hon. Malukula (DPP—Mangochi Lutende): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising Mangochi Lutende to stand on a point of order. Is it in order, for the House to adjourn *Sine die* without the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works answering questions regarding Mangochi-Makanjira Road? Mr Speaker, Sir, Mangochi-Makanjira Road is not just a mere road. We need to understand that the people that use this road live as if they do not belong to Malawi. Mr Speaker, Sir, with the current situation of Mangochi-Makanjira Road, if you drive along that road, you may think that the missiles that are coming from Iran are falling on it. Mr Speaker, Sir, will you please think of mothers and pregnant women who are struggling to get to hospitals and traders who are struggling to go sell their produce.

The Speaker: Honourable Member, please remove your hand from your pocket. I hope you are not balancing something with that hand. *(Laughter)*

Hon. Malukula (DPP—Mangochi Lutende): I am sorry, Mr Speaker, Sir. *(Laughter)* This is the road that many governments that come and left, used for campaign. Mr Speaker, Sir, this is not on. It is high time that we start considering people that live in Makanjira, people that come from Mangochi North East and Fort Maguire. It is high time that government make a constructive decision by ensuring that this road should be tarmacked and bridges should be constructed. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. *(Applause)*

The Speaker: Honourable Member for Mangochi Lutende, since it was a point of order, let me respond this way so that I do not labour the Minister of Transport and Public Works. I heard in this House that the funds for that road are available now and that construction will start soon. I am also interested to see that road started. If the Honourable Minister has something to add, he can do so, but I think the road has already been considered and we are all waiting for the works to start. Thank you.

Hon. Malukula (DPP—Mangochi Lutende): Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir, but the word soon, does not give hope to the people. I hope the Honourable Minister will tell us the exact dates when these works will start. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you. Let me hear what the Minister of Transport and Public Works is saying. I will come back to you.

The Minister of Transport and Public Works (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Mr Speaker, Sir, the first issue is to do with electronic payments. The Ministry of Finance is still working on that. These are things that require technology; therefore, the ministry is finalising the processes. Once all is done, we are going to go that route.

I know that the Honourable Member for Mangochi Makanjira is asking indirectly, because at the point when I wanted to respond to this question, he was not in the House. However, I will proceed to respond to his question, so that he goes back to Makanjira a happy Honourable Member.

Mr Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to thank the Honourable Member of Mangochi Lutende for the question. Mr Speaker, Sir, phase II of the upgrading of the

Mangochi-Makanjira Road involves construction of eight bridges and it is at an advanced procurement stage to identify a contractor. Mr Speaker, Sir, it is expected that the contractor will be ready to commence works in the second quarter of 2026. Mr Speaker, Sir, Phase III involves upgrading of the road to bitumen standard. A contractor has already been signed with a designing review consultant to review the available design so that procurement to identify a contractor could start. Mr Speaker, Sir, US$69 million has already been sourced from Saudi Fund, OPEC Fund, Kuwait Fund and BADEA for the road works. Similarly, government is discussing with Abu Dhabi Fund to provide additional US$20 million in order for the whole project to be financed. I thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. *(Interjection: Boma ilo!)*

The Speaker: Thank you, Minister of Transport and Public works. We now go to question 123 from Honourable Member for Kasungu West.

*123 **Hon. Bononge (MCP—Kasungu West)** asked the Minister of Transport and Public Works:

(i) What progress has been made on Linga–Nthunduwala Road; and

(ii) Whether Kasungu National Park Road will be upgraded.

Through you, Mr Speaker, Sir, let me join my colleagues Honourable Members for Mangochi Monkey Bay and Lilongwe City Lumbadzi in congratulating Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika for raising the CDF for our constituencies. *(Applause).* Let me also thank the Ministers of Local Government and Rural Development, Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation and Justice and Constitutional Affairs regarding the same. I submit.

The Speaker: Thank you very much. Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works.

The Minister of Transport and Public Works (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Mr Speaker, Sir, through you, I wish to inform the Honourable Member that the road in question had been earmarked for design and construction with funding from the Millennium Challenge Corporation Compact II which was cancelled. However, considering the importance of the road, my ministry is looking for funds to implement the same.

On the Kasungu National Park Road, my ministry through the Roads Authority (RA) is in the process of procuring a consultant to do a detailed design for the road. Once that is finalised, we will procure a contractor to implement the works. I, thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you, Minister of Transport and Public Works. I now recognise the Honourable Member for Mzuzu City South East, Mzuzu City South West, Mulanje North, Dowa Central and Nkhotakota Dwangwa. Mzuzu City South East, you have the floor.

Hon. Kaweche (Independent—Mzuzu City South East): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising the people of Mzuzu City South East under Traditional Authority Thula, Senior Group Village Headmen Gowamo, Kamuchibazi, Kawula, Chikundula and Mafuta to ask a supplementary question to the Minister of Transport and Public Works.

We are sure that the project of dual carriage from Lusangazi to Dunduzu Road block is coming soon. *(Applause)*. Mr Speaker, Sir, this project will uplift the face of Mzuzu City, our own *Msumba.* However, I would like to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works to consider the people of Mzuzu City for a quick maintenance of the road stretch from Katoto roundabout to Luwinga as we go to Mzuzu Central Hospital which is

in a bad state. *(Applause)* It is very hectic to see expectant mothers from Mapale Heath Centre being referred to Mzuzu Central Hospital but before they even reach there, they first go through heavy bumps on the said stretch.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the people of Mzuzu City South East and Mzuzu City in general would like to know the status of the Bypass Road from Mzuzu Government Secondary School through the Mzuzu Research Station via Mzuzu Academy to Dunduzu road block. We would also like to know when will the Mzuzu Technical Road to Slaughter-Luwinga Industrial area be completed. I submit, Mr Speaker, Sir. *(Applause)*

The Speaker: Thank you, Mzuzu City South East. Honourable Member for Mzuzu City South West.

Hon. Peter Mkandawire (Independent—Mzuzu City South West): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising the people of Mzuzu City South West to ask a supplementary question to the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works. Firstly, we have seen the progress at Mzuzu Airport but from our observation, the work is a bit slow. Furthermore, we would like to find out if there are plans to construct the new Mzuzu Airport.

Just to add on what my colleague Honourable Member for Mzuzu City South East said earlier regarding the Bypass Road from Area 4 roundabout up to Dunduzu road block, as well as the Bypass Road from Luwinga-Botanic-Technical via Mzuzu Government Secondary School. *(Applause)* These roads commenced in 2017 but stalled for the past five years as much has not been done. So, we want to find out from the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works on the plans that the ministry has on these roads. We have seen most contractors on site and we are spending a lot of money on them. For your information, these road projects were initiated by the State President, Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika but the works that has been done for the past 5 years is not as much compared to what others are insinuating here. Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Thank you. Honourable Member for Mulanje North.

Hon. Khonyongwa (DPP—Mulanje North): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising the people of Mulanje North Constituency to ask a supplementary question. I would like to find out from the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works on the position of the Nkando-Mulomba-Phalombe Road. This road goes through three constituencies; thus, Mulanje West, Mulanje North, and Phalombe South.

In the 2019/2020 Financial Year Budget, this road was included but due to the change of government, it was removed. So, since then, there has been no progress. In 2023, the Honourable Members for the three constituencies mobilised themselves and travelled all the way from Mulanje and Phalombe to here in Lilongwe and they presented their petition on this road. As I am speaking, we still do not know the position. So, I would like to find out from the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works whether this time around we the people of Mulanje North, Mulanje West and Phalombe South constituencies will be considered. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. (*Applause*)

The Speaker: Thank you, Mulanje North Constituency. We will now go to Dowa Central Constituency.

Hon. Chibwana (Independent—Dowa Central: Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for recognising the people of Dowa Central Constituency to ask a supplementary question to the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works. I would like to ask the

Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works to consider tarmacking the Mponela-Nambuma via Dzoole Road. This is a very important road which goes up to Mchinji District.

I would also like to ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works to also consider redeploying the contractor who has been working on M1-Road at Mponela. The road is in a very bad shape. Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works, please help us. I know you pass through this road every time you are going to the Northern Region. So, may you consider redeploying the contractor as soon as possible. Mponela is a fast-growing town, so, please help us. Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Honourable Member for Dowa Central Constituency. Quickly, let us now move to Nkhotakota Dwangwa Constituency. Proceed please, Honourable Member for Nkhotakota Dwangwa Constituency. Please change the microphone.

Hon. Chikonje (MCP—Nkhotakota Dwangwa): Thank you so much, Mr Speaker, Sir, for granting an opportunity to the people of Nkhotakota Dwangwa Constituency to ask a supplementary question. Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the attention of the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works the last night's wash-away of the Mkoma Bridge in my constituency; M5-Road. Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works, may you assist us please. I submit, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, our beautiful Honourable Member for Nkhotakota Dwangwa Constituency. *(Noise)* She is beautiful, why are you jealous? *(Interjection: Point of order!)* Yes, Honourable Member for Mzuzu City North Constituency, what has gone out of order?

Hon. Frasco Mkandawire (MCP—Mzuzu City North): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. What has gone out of order is that I do not think I am that short; I need protection from Dedza Kasina Constituency.

Mr Speaker, Sir, thank you for recognising the people of Mzuzu City North. However, I am surprised, I do not think I am that very short that I cannot be recognised in this House. In Mzuzu, we are just three Members and you have only recognised two. I have been standing now and then. However—

The Speaker: Please proceed.

Hon. Frasco Mkandawire (MCP—Mzuzu City North): I had a one-minute speech just to emphasise to the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works on Luwinga-Zolozolo Road which has stalled for a longer time. This is just to complement on what my other Honourable colleagues have already said. It is less than three kilometres but works have been stalled for quite a long period of time. So, I would like the Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works to emphasise on this. I submit, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you very much. I am sure with you, Honourable Member, we are done with Mzuzu. Honourable Minister of Transport and Public Works, you have the floor.

The Minister of Transport and Public Works (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. First question was from Mzuzu City South East Constituency; the dual carriage way from Lusangadzi to Dunduzu is coming. Let me assure the Honourable Member that yes, it is indeed coming soon. (*Applause*) Mr Speaker, Sir, the road in question; from Shoprite round-about to Luwinga, is indeed, in a very pathetic condition. So, I would like to assure the Honourable colleague that periodic tender contractors have just been

procured and works are being awarded. I should believe that the contractor who will be responsible for Mzuzu has also received his letters so that he can quickly commence work of maintaining roads in Mzuzu.

Mzuzu City South West Constituency had two questions. The next question was on the slow progress on the Mzuzu Airport. Not necessarily. The contractor is on site to extend the runway and do some few maintenances. Once that is done, I stated in this very House that in the next twelve weeks, we will see Malawian Airlines flights flying to Mzuzu Airport. *(Applause*)

On the plans for the new airport, I also informed this House that the team of experts went to Ekwendeni at the very old airport that was being used then to fly people working in South Africa. That land is available and the experts are now working on that so that we construct a new airport on that land. These things do not take a day but they take time and we will need patience as we move towards putting up a new airport in Mzuzu.

Honourable Member for Mulanje North Constituency asked on the position of government on the Nkando-Mulomba-Phalombe Road. This road is government's priority and let me assure my Honourable colleague that it is in government's plans that this road is constructed.

Honourable Member for Dowa West is requesting my ministry to consider constructing Mponela-Nambuma-Dzoole Road. This is a new question. I would like to request my Honourable colleague to put a formal question so that we can provide a robust response. As for the Mponela area, it is true that I use the road almost every week.

The Speaker: Order please. Honourable Member for Dedza Kasina, order please. Let us listen to the Minister of Transport and Public Works in silence.

The Minister of Transport and Public Works (Hon. Jappie Mhango): I know the situation of this road, it is pathetic. The contractor working on the stretch from Kamuzu International Airport to Kasungu has been directed to repair the affected section while continuing with the rehabilitation of the M1 Road from the Lilongwe Airport junction to Kasungu.

Mr Speaker, Sir, we are aware of the wash away of the road and the Roads Authority is already taking action to address this problem. I thank you very much, Mr Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you. That was the last supplementary question to the Minister of Transport and Public Works. Honourable Leader of the House, how do we proceed?

The Leader of the House (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Mr Speaker, Sir, looking at the time, I think this is the right time to probably move into adjournment formalities. I submit.

The Speaker: Honourable Member for Dedza Kasina, what has gone out of order?

Hon. Malango (MCP—Dedza Kasina): Good afternoon, Mr Speaker, Sir and greetings from the people of Dedza Kasina. Today being Friday afternoon, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my greetings to the Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation, the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, and the Leader of the House, as the people of Dedza Kasina continue to wait for the K5 billion CDF. I know Members of Parliament are very happy with the guidelines. However, in a special way, I would like to greet the Honourable Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation to remember giving us the guidelines. I submit.

The Speaker: Thank you. Honourable Members, as guided by the Leader of the House, I now put a question that we vary the Order Paper in order to commence Adjournment Formalities.

The Motion was agreed to.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Adjournment Formalities

(a) The Honourable Leader of the Opposition to deliver his adjournment remarks

(b) The Honourable Leader of the House to move the Adjournment Sine Die Motion.

The Speaker: Honourable Leader of the Opposition, are you ready?

The Speaker: Please proceed.

The Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Chithyola Banda): Good afternoon, Mr Speaker, Sir. Let me thank you for according me the opportunity this afternoon to address the House.

Mr Speaker Sir, we are rising *Sine Die* today after weeks of deliberating on very important matters of national interest, including the passing of the 2026/2027 National Budget. Mr Speaker, Sir, the time I stood in this House was on 5th December, 2025 on a similar occasion when we were rising *Sine Die.* I remember vividly at that particular time, Mr Speaker, Sir, that I raised quite a number of issues. However, as we also remember, Mr Speaker, Sir, during that time I said that you were in government only for three months then, and it would have been naive of the opposition at that particular time to speak out against many issues, because that time you were not yet established as government.

Mr Speaker, Sir, today, government has been there for more than six months and we have seen the direction it is taking this country to. It is against this background that I have two categorised issues. There are some issues that I will speak out because they indicate strength and positive and there are also some issues, that as opposition, we believe we can put some words in order for them to be conducted differently.

Mr Speaker, Sir, before I proceed, allow me to express my sincere gratitude to all the three Speakers and the leadership of the House from both sides. For some time, there were matters that required your guidance and direction, and collectively we were able to provide that leadership. As we adjourn *Sine die* today, we do so having achieved a number of significant achievements.

Mr Speaker Sir, allow me to start with the positives: One would observe that President Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika has totally taken a different path compared to the one before. He is more decisive, keeping some promises to establish and leave a legacy of being a President who changed things. We applaud government policy in the mining industry whereby he has issued an Executive Order not allowing export of unprocessed minerals and fighting hard to process those minerals to an extent of feasible within Malawi. With this, we have also seen a very sharp rise in the budget allocation to the sector Mr Speaker, Sir, this will help create employment for our people and also add value to our minerals to fetch more money from the international market.

Further to that, Mr Speaker Sir, Malawians have observed the effort of fighting hunger. We note through the prices of staple food. In rural areas, we are still experiencing

this problem. However, I wish to point out that the only notable achievement in this regard is the progress we have made in reducing food inflation.

Mr Speaker, Sir, we have also noted the efforts to reform the economy through the reduction of domestic borrowing and the introduction of austerity measures in the public service. Mr Speaker, Sir, from experience, managing fiscal policy in times of economic turmoil is not an easy task. The commitment demonstrated in this regard is highly commendable.

Having said this, Mr Speaker, Sir, allow me to indicate that in the past six months we have also experienced unprecedented levels of maladministration in a number of areas where we seek a number of proposals for improvement for a better Malawi. To this effect, Mr Speaker, Sir, I will start with the following:

Malawians Still Burdened by Punitive Taxes

Mr Speaker, Sir, government has developed tax regimes that are burdening Malawians for they are taxed left and right. Mr Speaker Sir, we have seen in the last six months that when you want to buy, you pay tax; when you want to sell, you pay tax; when you want to send money, you pay tax; when you want to receive money, you pay tax; and even if you keep your money in the bank and want to check your balance, you pay tax. Simply put, it is tax everywhere, including paying tax for dead people if you are buying a coffin, because items can be taxed by either through VAT or withholding taxes, including excise duty if you are importing coffins.

Mr Speaker, Sir, high cost of living has resulted in untold sufferings. As if these taxes are not enough, we have also seen, in the last six months, this government imposing a price limit on maize, which to some extent has reduced headline inflation. The skyrocketing fuel prices has also given Malawians a burden. To that effect, Mr Speaker, Sir, Malawi sits on top of countries with the highest fuel prices hovering around US$3.80.

Mr Speaker, Sir, as I speak, a Malawi *adziwe kuti ngati uli* K100,000 *imeneyi sikukwana kugula chigubu.* Mr Speaker, Sir, this is something that we are not happy about. Mr Speaker, Sir, let me also indicate that if you have a bag of maize, that bag of maize is equivalent to three litres of petrol or seven packets of sugar.

Mr Speaker Sir, the cost of living has even become unbearable for civil servants, who are now literally walking from Mgona to City Centre, from Ndirande to Blantyre, from Bangwe to Blantyre, from Area 25 to Lilongwe Old Town, from Mchengautuba to Mzuzu, from Chikanda to Zomba, because they cannot afford exorbitant transport fares. Mr Speaker, Sir, in a Chichewa vibe, *panopa bwana* Speaker, *anthu akuyenda wa* Abraham because *sangakwanitse kugula mafuta.* (*Noise)(Applause)* Mr Speaker Sir, it is now becoming very difficult for civil servants to go to work simply because their disposable income is wiped by rising transportation costs.

Sadly, Mr Speaker Sir, as if this is not enough, the heavily taxed Malawian who stays in a government house under the Malawi Housing Corporation (MHC) now has to pay huge house rentals from a reduced salary which is already heavily taxed by government.

Mr Speaker, Sir, on the state of security, Malawi has witnessed an increase in cases of robbery and kidnapping. I am happy to indicate, Mr Speaker, Sir, that the Honourable Minister of Homeland Security has assured us of safety. *(Noise)* Mr Speaker, Sir, you are aware that no country would achieve economic development with increased incidences of

armed robberies, serial killings and kidnappings. Therefore, we believe that the able Minister of Homeland Security will indeed assure us of security. Mr Speaker, Sir, some people would think I am saying this in bad faith but allow me to indicate that these are coming from many Malawians who would like things to be a bit much better. *(Applause)*

Mr Speaker Sir, allow me to quote a prominent United States citizen, Eleanor Roosevelt, who said, "If you do not want to be criticised, say nothing, do nothing and be nothing." Malawians refuse to say nothing, do nothing and be nothing and they will always hold their government to account. *(Applause)* Mr Speaker Sir, allow me to add my words on the Amaryllis Hotel scandal and a need for decisive action by the leadership. Mr Speaker, Sir, we are rising *Sine Die* today without any logical conclusion on the famous hotel gate, popularly known as the 'pension gate' where K128 billion was looted and there is no clear indication as to what will happen to those who were involved. *(Applause)*

Mr Speaker Sir, we have reached a point where looters are applauded as *madolo* and clever people and integrity has been thrown to dogs. Mr Speaker, Sir, let me make an emphasis here; we have reached a sorry state as a country where Malawians have embraced a culture of applauding and praising criminal enterprises.

Mr Speaker Sir, we are rising *Sine Die* today with no hope for our farmers. At the time when farmers would start harvesting their produce, one would expect to see a government that is proactive in setting up crop prices. However, until now, government is yet to come out and declare farm gate prices for various crop produce. This is worrisome, Mr Speaker Sir, since vendors are already moving up and down in our communities' buying crops at very low prices relative to production costs.

Mr Speaker Sir, the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development is on record to have come with initiatives on mega farms which is commendable. However, I would like to mention, Mr Speaker, Sir, that there is need to reform the mega farms and empower the local farmers in order to increase productivity. Mr Speaker, Sir, this will come towards the end of my speech where I have lined up recommendations and proposals to government.

Mr Speaker, Sir, today as we are rising *Sine Die*, there is no hope for youth and civil servants. Mr Speaker, Sir, we are rising today without hope for our youth who are in school, out of school, or in colleges. The budget we have just passed offers no solution to youth employment. The government has frozen youth employment and halted the promotion of any civil servant. We have a situation, Mr Speaker, Sir, that would render hardworking civil servants to be highly demotivated because there are no incentives attached to the hard work. Whether they work hard or not, no one will be promoted; whether they work hard or not, no one would be given a director, or a chief executive officer position. Mr Speaker, Sir, this is something that needs to be reversed.

Mr Speaker, Sir, this afternoon let me also talk about the late Professor Bingu wa Mutharika's legacy. Mr Speaker Sir**,** this week, the House celebrated the life of the late Ngwazi Professor Bingu wa Mutharika. This afternoon, Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to make mention that since this is the final term for our President Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika, those who have surrounded him should help him leave behind a good legacy. Remember that legacy is personified and whatever is happening in this country will be attributed to his legacy. *Musamuonongere mbiri* President. *(Interjection: Aaah!)* I have seen that we have some good Ministers amongst you who can help build a good legacy for His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Muntharika. We do not want people to say that this

government was arbitrarily arresting people on trumped-up charges. We do not want people to attribute his legacy to hiring people without following procedures. We do not want people to say that he was interfering with Parliament in instituting commissions of inquiry for political reasons. Simply, we want people who have surrounded the President to help him leave a good legacy. *(Interjection: Yes!)*

Mr Speaker, Sir, let me also speak on CDF implementation without guidelines which is tantamount to gross abuse. The President has shown the heart to develop this country and he has given Malawians a K5 billion. However, the people surrounding him are yet to develop the guidelines and we are adjourning Parliament *sine die* today without those guidelines. I wish the President would be listening to my speech and possibly act to disappoint those who are spoiling his name.

An appeal to leadership to safeguard the legacy

Mr Speaker Sir, it has to be noted that a person who tells you the truth, truly loves you. However, those who sugar-coat matters and skirt around issues wish and facilitate for your downfall. It is high time, Mr Speaker, Sir, that the national leadership listens more to Malawians than to those individuals who have surrounded him, for whatever goes haywire will be attributed to his legacy. We believe that government will take a proactive role in providing remedial actions in addressing the issues affecting Malawians.

Mr Speaker, Sir, my appeal to government is; based on what I have just discussed so far and said this afternoon, we are genuinely appealing to government to consider pursuing the following measures:

1. Mr Speaker, Sir, reverse a decision of importing mega farmers. Instead, proactively initiate reforms in mega farming so that local farmers are empowered to stand on their own while actively increasing productivity levels to support our economy;
2. Government should consider reversing a policy on the Automatic fuel Pricing Mechanism, as it is seriously biting Malawians. *(Applause)* We should have a static pump pricing mechanism that ensures a gradual fuel price increase contingent upon prevailing economic conditions and rational policy decision-making by the monetary policy committee;
3. Address an issue of university accommodation challenges. I am happy that my dear Honourable Minister of Education, Science and Technology is here. Government should engage private investors so that through Public-Private Partnerships, university hostels can be constructed in all campuses, thereby providing affordable accommodation to all students and reduce cases of abuse and harassment; *(Applause)*
4. Government, through the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development should immediately release farm gate prices to protect farmers from being duped by vendors. This will also help the government to quickly stock the strategic grain reserves;
5. Government through the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning and Decentralisation has to consider revising tax regimes so that they are not biting and suffocating the working class and private sector;

6. Government should consider unfreezing youth employment and resuming civil servants' promotions, as this will rejuvenate the general public and government employees to work even harder than before;
7. Mr Speaker, Sir, government should transparently share with Malawians the status of Staff Monitoring Review programme with the IMF, as this is the critical issue in debt management and sustainability; and
8. Government should set aside a special budget for the procurement of maize, since most farmers are not going to harvest anything due to poorly managed FISP and natural disasters that affected some districts.

The Speaker: Secretariat, can we hold on first with the distribution.

The Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Chithyola Banda): Mr Speaker Sir, in conclusion, all the above recommendations and proposals are meant to offer the positive criticism that would help many Malawians become better because we believe that if government would take them seriously, life will be better. Mr Speaker, Sir, what I have said is not political and if people would look this with political eyes, then let me quote the Bible and the Quran. (*Interjection: Munthu wa Mulungu!*)

Mr Speaker, Sir, Psalms 23 verse 4 says, Eeven though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil for you are with me. Mr Speaker, Sir, we believe in God who created the heaven and earth. American Astronaut Victor Glover Jr who recently orbited the moon said, "In everything remember God and let Jesus lead." Mr Speaker, Sir, in the same vein, we plead with this august House to follow the light in whatever we do for we know that man benefits nothing if he gains the whole world and loses the soul. As a responsible and God-fearing opposition, we will always seek refuge in God and stand with Him under any circumstances.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that integrity has no replacement and truth shall always triumph regardless of the circumstances around us. This is quoted from Quran 13 verse 11. Indeed, we will not change the condition of people until they change what is in themselves. Mr Speaker, Sir, what is it that is in us and amongst us? Is it danger, jealousy, hatred, oppression or selfishness? As Martin Luther King Jr said, the arch of the universe is long but it bends towards justice and this is quoted from Isaiah 1 verse 17 for us to learn to do right, seek justice and defend the oppressed.

Mr Speaker, Sir, we shall therefore, continue striving to do the following:

1. Fighting corruption and inequality;
2. Promoting peace, unity and national development; and
3. Upholding human rights and dignity.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to remind government, therefore, that if it does not listen, we were in government and we learnt a bitter lesson. If you do not listen, people will vote you out in 2030. Malawi Congress Party is coming back into power, if you do not listen. Mr Speaker, Sir, in the spirit of one Malawi, one people and one nation, I thank you for your kindness and attention. Thank you. (*Noise*) (*Applause*)

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Honourable Leader of the Opposition. Let us take our seats, Honourable Members. It is now time for the Honourable Leader of the House to deliver his speech. (*Interjection: Ngati zenizenitu!*) (*Interjection: Katundu wa boma!*)

The Leader of the House (Hon. Jappie Mhango): Mr Speaker, Sir, *pa Chichewa pali mau akuti, chumba chimalota chitabeleka. Ndiye amenewo ndi maloto a chumba*. (*Laughter*) Mr Speaker, Sir, as we draw towards the end of this Second Meeting of the 52nd Session of Parliament, which also served as the Budget Meeting, I rise, guided by the long-standing practice and honoured tradition of this august House, to move a motion for the adjournment of the House *Sine die*. However, before I formally do so**,** Mr Speaker, Sir, allow me to briefly appraise Honourable Members of the key business that this House has diligently considered and transacted during this Meeting. We must take stock of the work we have accomplished together before we adjourn. In doing so, I will also show how this House responded to the vision that the President, His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika set out in his State-of-the-Nation Address (SONA) under the theme; the Path to Economic Recovery Delivering a People Centred Development.

State-of-the-Nation Address

Mr Speaker, Sir, this Meeting was officially opened on Friday, 13th February, 2026 when the President, His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika delivered the SONA. In that address, the President declared that his government would restore micro-economic stability and end the fuel and food crisis, increase the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) to K5 billion, make both primary and secondary school education free and ensure that those found mismanaging resources will face the long arm of the law. The House debated the motion on the SONA. The Honourable Member for Mulanje South East moved the motion on Monday, 16th February, 2026. After several Honourable Members contributed across numerous sitting days, the House unanimously agreed to the Motion. By that agreement, this House endorsed the President recovery agenda and committed to transacting his promises into legislative action and oversight.

The Budget

Mr Speaker, Sir, as this was a Budget Meeting of Parliament, the Honourable Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation presented the 2026/2027 Budget Estimates on Friday, 27th February, 2026 following the SONA. This budget is aligned with the SONA pledges. The record increase in CDF, free primary and secondary education, additional health funding, soft loans for youth and women and the rehabilitation of roads most of which have been damaged due to lack of sustained maintenance. Cluster Committees considered the estimates, started from Monday 2nd March, 2026 to Friday 13th March, 2026, and thereafter this House debated the estimates from Monday, 16th March to Tuesday, 24th March, 2026.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the House subsequently passed the Budget on Tuesday, 24th March, 2026. Let me, therefore, pause and congratulate the Honourable Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation for securing this House's approval to proceed with expenditure for the provision of goods and services to our people and for the continued development of our country. *(Applause)*

Bills

Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish to report that during this Meeting, the House considered and passed six bills. These bills provided the legal framework for the fiscal measures that the President announced in the SONA. The bills are:

i. *Bill No. 1 of 2026, the Appropriation*, passed on Wednesday, 25th March, 2026.

ii. *Bill No. 2 of 2026, the Supplementary Appropriation (2025/2026)*, passed on Tuesday, 31st March, 2026.

iii. *Bill No. 3 of 2026, the Taxation (Amendment)* passed on Tuesday, 31st March, 2026;

iv. *Bill No. 4 of 2026, the Customs and Excise (Amendment)* passed on Tuesday, 31st March, 2026; this Bill gave effect to the Presidency directive to ban the export of raw minerals and promote value addition;

v. *Bill No. 5 of 2026, the Value Added Tax (Amendment)* passed on Tuesday, 31st March, 2026; and

vi. *Bill No. 6 of 2026, the Tax Administration (Amendment)* passed on Tuesday, 31st March, 2026.

Subsidiary Legislation

Mr Speaker, Sir, during this Meeting, Ministers laid two pieces of subsidiary legislation before Parliament as follows:

On Tuesday, 31st March, 2026, the Honourable Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation laid *Government Notice No. 23: Customs and Excise (Tariffs) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2026,* which was referred to the Parliamentary Committees on Public Accounts and Legal Affairs for further scrutiny; and

The Honourable Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation laid *Government Notice No. 24: Customs and Excise (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2026,* on Tuesday, 31st March, 2026 which were referred to the Parliamentary Committees on Budget and Legal Affairs.

These instruments implemented a present review of foreign exchange regulation and gold monetisation.

Statutory Report

Mr Speaker, Sir, on Tuesday 31st March, 2026 the Minister of Homeland Security laid *Government Notice No. 2: Police (Designation of Police Regions) Order, 2025*. The Report was referred to the Parliamentary Committees on Defence and Security for further scrutiny.

Ministerial Statements

Mr Speaker, Sir, Ministerial Statements on various matters of national importance were presented during this Meeting as follows and each statement responding directly to a pledge or directive by the President's SONA:

- On Wednesday, 18th February, 2026 the Honourable Minister of Local Government and Rural Development delivered a Statement on CDF Guidelines; He implemented the President's announcement of K5 billion per constituency and call for transparency;
- On Wednesday, 25th February, 2026 the Honourable Minister of Energy and Mining presented a Statement on the status of mining in the country following the President's suspension of licences and ban on raw mineral export. The Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development also presented a Statement on the Megafarms Progress Report and Future Plans, following the President's directive to redesigning the total mess of the Mega Farm Programme;

- On Friday, 27th February, 2026 the Minister of Lands, Housing and Urban Development gave a Statement on the update on construction of houses for security agencies;
- On Thursday, 19th March, 2026, the Minister of Transport and Public Works, on behalf of the Department of Disaster Risk Management under the Office of the President and Cabinet, delivered a Statement on the Impact of Heavy Rains and Flooding responding to the President's renewed disaster appeal;
- On Thursday, 26th March, 2026 the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development presented a Statement on the Progress of the 2025/2026 Growing Season FISP Implementation, responding to the President's promise of better fertiliser distribution. The Minister of Transport and Public Works delivered a Statement on the Progress and Direction of the Roads Sub Sector, giving effect to the President's directive to resume road maintenance and ring fence toll gate revenues;
- On Tuesday, 31st March, 2026 the Honourable Minister of Lands, Housing and Urban Development presented a Statement on the Administration of Public Housing Estates;
- On Wednesday, 1st April, 2026 the Honourable Minister of Information and Communications Technology presented a Statement on Forging a Digital Malawi: A Pathway to National Transformation directly implementing the President's directive that all MDAs embrace digital technology;
- On Thursday, 2nd April, 2026 the Honourable Minister of Energy and Mining presented a Statement on the Status of Fuel Supply in the Country, reporting on the President's decisive action to end fuel queues;
- On Tuesday, 7th April, 2026 the Honourable Minister of Defence presented a Statement on Transforming the Malawi Defence Force: The Case of the Malawi National Service;
- On Wednesday, 8th April, 2026 the Honourable Minister of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare presented a Statement on Addressing the Rise in Child Sexual Abuse Cases as advancing the President's commitment to children's welfare; and
- On Wednesday, 8th April, 2026, the Honourable Minister of Information, Communications and Technology presented a Statement on Honouring Bingu: Rekindling the Spirit of Development, Justice and Security.

Questions

Mr Speaker Sir, the Ministers responded to over 40 Questions on Notice to Ministers for Oral Replies during this Meeting.

Questions under Standing Order 69

Mr Speaker, Sir, the House considered three questions under Standing Order 69.

On Tuesday, 24th February, 2026 the Honourable Members for Mwanza Central and Lilongwe Mpenu asked the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs to present the

progress or status of the Chikangawa Plane Crash that was referred to his ministry; This matter of national grief attaches on the President's call 'Let us make Malawi a land of justice'.

On Friday, 27th March, 2026 the Honourable Member for Dedza Mlunduni asked the Minister of Homeland Security to provide an update on the general state of security in the country, particularly in light of the recent escalation in cases of murder and other incidences of insecurity. This question responds directly to the President's admission of rising insecurity and his pledge to restore safety.

On Tuesday, 31st March, 2026 the Honourable Member for Dedza Mlunduni asked the Minister of Transport and Public Works whether government would consider engaging Ethiopian Airlines to increase the number of aircrafts operating into Malawi under the existing partnership arrangement. This question follows the President's SONA announcement to expand Malawi's airline from three to 10 aircraft within five years.

Matters of Urgent Public Importance Under Standing Order 14

Mr Speaker, Sir, the House also considered two Matters of Urgent Public Importance under Standing Order 14.

On Tuesday, 17th February, 2026 the Honourable Member for Lilongwe Kamphuno raised a matter concerning the update on the police operation to apprehend kidnappers of a businessman Mr Sameer Sacranie the owner of Crossroads Hotel. This issue of economic security threatens investor's confidence, exactly what the President flagged out in his SONA.

On Tuesday, 24th February, 2026 the Honourable Member for Dedza Kasina raised a matter regarding the government's position on the management of the public service pension by the Public Service Pension Trust Fund, with specific reference to the sale of the Amaryllis Hotel. This matter directly tests the President's promise that those found mismanaging resources will face the long arm of the law.

Committee and Delegation Reports

Mr Speaker, Sir, during this Meeting, this House adopted seven Committee Reports and noted two Delegation Reports.

The Parliamentary Committee on Commissions, Statutory Corporations and State Enterprises presented its report on its engagement with the National Economic Empowerment Fund, the House adopted this report on Wednesday, 25th February, 2026;

The Parliamentary Committee on Budget following its considerations of the 2026/2027 National Budget. The House adopted this report on Monday, 16th March, 2026. The Committee scrutinised the alignment of expenditure with the SONA priorities.

The Parliamentary Committee on Health presented its report on Malawi's Current Status in Public Health Financing. The House adopted this report on Wednesday, 25th March, 2026.

Finally, the Parliamentary Service Commission presented its report for the 2024/2025 Financial Year. The House noted this report on Wednesday, 18th March, 2026.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the House noted two Delegation Reports as follows:

(i) The delegation presented its report on the Pan-African Inter-Party Dialogue held in Maseru; Lesotho held from 10th to 11th December, 2025. The House noted this report on Wednesday, 25th March, 2026.

(ii) The delegation presented its report on the SADCOPAC Sub-Committee Operationalisation and Consultative Workshop for the Development of the 2026-2030 Strategic Plan. The House noted this report on Wednesday, 1st April, 2026.

Mr Speaker, Sir, over and above these, the House also received reports from the Chairpersons of various Cluster Committees on the Budget Motion pursuant to Standing Order 190(1)(d). I wish to appreciate all Chairpersons and Members of these Committees for their hard work.

Private Members' Business

Mr Speaker, Sir, during this meeting, the House noted the withholding of assent by the President, His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika on *Private Member's Bill No. 2 of 2025 (Constitutional Amendment)*. However, the House did not re-introduce the Bill. This decision aligns with the President's SONA call that, "We must never make decisions that are against the interests of our country."

Other Business

On Wednesday, 25th March, 2026, the following four newly elected Members of Parliament took their oaths of office following by-elections conducted on 17th March, 2026:

(1) Honourable Mathews Chinombo Mtumbuka, MP for Rumphi Central;

(2) Honourable Patrick Siyabonga Bandawe, MP for Dedza Mtakataka;

(3) Honourable Thoko Lunji, MP for Nkhotakota Liwaladzi; and

(4) Honourable Mavuto Mapongo Gulo, MP for Blantyre West.

Allow me, Mr Speaker, Sir, to welcome the four Honourable colleagues to the House. I wish them well as they contribute to taking up the noble duty of representing their respective constituencies and as they help this House deliver on the President's people-centred development agenda.

In conclusion, Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to the President, His Excellency *mkulukutamoyo* II, for entrusting me with the task of leadership of this House and to you, Mr Speaker, Sir, as well as the First and Second Deputy Speakers. You provided firm and wise guidance to the House throughout this Meeting. Let me extend the same to my colleagues, Honourable Ministers, for assisting me in delivering on this mandate given to me by the President. Thank you very much, Honourable colleagues.

Mr Speaker, Sir, tempers flared at times, and the business of the House became difficult, but the Speakership remained patient and upheld the dignity of this august House. For that, I say thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I do not take for granted the seriousness and dedication that all Honourable Members demonstrated in transacting the business of this Meeting. The spirit of hard work, debate and commitment to the national interests has been evident throughout. As I conclude, Mr Speaker, Sir, let me also thank the Clerk of Parliament and the entire secretariat. They rendered unwavering support to the Honourable Members during this Meeting.

Mr Speaker, Sir, this House has proved that it is not merely a spectator to the Executive's plans. This House passed the budget, enacted six bills, demanded Ministerial

Statements and posed critical questions including those from the Honourable Members for Mwanza Central, Lilongwe Mpenu, Dedza Mlunduni, Lilongwe Kamphuno and Dedza Kasina. Through these actions, we actively linked our work to the State-of-the-Nation Address that the President, His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika delivered in this House.

The Honourable Member for Lilongwe City Mlodza also raised a question under Standing Order 14 that was responded to by the Honourable Minister of Local Government and Rural Development.

As the President said in his SONA, "We must be patriotic. This is the least we can do for the millions who look up to us, and for the generations yet to come." Mr Speaker, Sir, this House lived up to that call. Mr Speaker, Sir, six months ago, this country was a sham of itself. Six months down the line, the Leader of Opposition attests to the fact that there has been significant progress under the leadership of His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika, and I would like to thank him for those positive sentiments. (*Applause*) You do not expect that within six months, things would change the way others expect. We are on the right trajectory as a government and as a people.

I would like to sincerely thank the President for his excellent leadership. That is what Malawians wanted and I would like to thank the opposition for those positive sentiments. Real men will appreciate positive strides. Bravo *mkulukutamoyo!* The government that has been put in place is sparing no effort to make sure that this country transforms and transformed it will be. Let us all dance together as a House and as people's representatives to ensure that our people are taken out of the current bondage. We can do it and together we will do it, supported by our President. I thank you very much.

Mr Speaker, Sir, it is now my singular honour and privilege to move that the House do adjourn *sine die*. I beg to move. (*Applause*)

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Honourable Leader of the House. Honourable Members, before I put the question, we have some announcements to make. We have received a donation from the Honourable Member for Mwanza Central. It is a very educative book for all Honourable Members. Please pick up your copy at the information desk. Enjoy the book and make use of it. Thank you so much Honourable Member for Mwanza Central for your generosity and we do appreciate.

The Parliamentary Service Commission and the Speaker have also prepared a small gift pack for all Members to be collected at the information desk. Honourable Members, we also have guests that have come today to observe the proceedings. Let me start with our guests from Chiradzulu Masanjala; Nyambadwe United Team. Players for Nyambadwe United please stand. Chiradzulu Masanjala, thank you so much for bringing our team to Parliament. You are most welcome our players, feel free and enjoy your day here. Thank you, you may take your seats.

Honourable Members, we also have our guests from Ntcheu North. Honourable Member for Ntcheu North, please stand. You have brought your father and your younger brother. Our father is up there, please stand. *(Applause)* Thank you very much. We appreciate you for taking time to come and be with your son here. Thank you very much, Ntcheu North for doing that. You may take your seat.

We also have guests in the Chamber who are coming from Zomba Ntonya Constituency. We have our two councillors; Councillor Derek Mbela from Mlumba Ward

and Councillor Chifundo Mchenga, please stand. You are most welcome. Thank you very much for coming. Thank you very much, Zomba Ntonya for bringing our councillors to Parliament.

Honourable Members, there is quite some announcements to be made. I will start with the training programme. I wish to inform you that my office has organised Parliamentary Training Programme which will take place at Malawi School of Government in Lilongwe. The Parliamentary Training Programme is a comprehensive training programme targeting Members of Parliament with the aim of building and strengthening the capacity of Members of Parliament to be able to better perform their duties. In terms of how the programme will be administered, Members of Parliament have been divided into five cohorts and each cohort will have 45 Members. The training programme will run for a period of three weeks for each cohort. *(Applause)*

Honourable Members, the first cohort of the Parliamentary Training Programme will be held from 20th April, 2026 to 8th May, 2026. The Members for the first cohort are as follows: -

Members for the first cohort – 20th April to 8th May, 2026

Honourable Florence Shapiro Khimbi

Honourable Ulunji Fikani Nyirenda

Honourable Bester Awali

Honourable Feston Chauma

Honourable Frank Kingsley Chimwaza

Honourable Anthony Kamoto

Honourable Mctimes Pagonanji Malowa

Honourable Ginford Mabo Maulidi

Honourable Tony Fletcher

Honourable Themba Menson Mkandawire

Honourable Ngunga Kazembe Wilson

Honourable Jean Mathanga

Honourable Mabvuto Sandram Scott

Honourable Thokozire Lunji

Honourable Marium Ajida

Honourable Mapongo Mavuto Gulo

Honourable Amina Kajiya

Honourable Moses David Kambala

Honourable Rodwell Khombeni

Honourable Owen Malijani

Honourable McAndrews Mtanga Maunda

Honourable Mazombwe Goston Brown

Honourable Mazombwe Madalitso Brown

Honourable Godfrey Graciano Mbawa

Honourable William Peter Mkandawire

Honourable Golden Chizimba

Honourable Mines Ng'oma

Honourable Howard Marcellin Mzambweuluemba

Honourable Geoffrey Mulatinyu Onsewa

Honourable Young Aubrey Nasson Phiri

Honourable Bilal Mussa Tambuli

Honourable Chidobvu Auzious John

Honourable Siyabonga Patrick Bandawe

Honourable Dorothy Chikonje

Honourable Chisale Chikondi Kampachike

Honourable Denis Chalera Kalekeni

Honourable Zulu Rachel Patience Mazombwe

Honourable Frasco Paul Mkandawire

Honourable Mwale Jephter Fackson

Honourable Mungasulwa Mwambande

Honourable Gift Nankhuni

Honourable Madalitso Wirima Kambauwa

Honourable Dr Patricia Annie Kaliati

Honourable Dr Matthews Chinombo Mtumbuka

This is cohort number one, the one that I have just finished reading. Honourable Members, please take note of that and the dates. The secretariat will provide further details on logistical arrangements. I therefore, urge all Members to take this programme seriously. Also take note that the other cohorts will be communicated to in due course. I will ask the secretariat to have the names sent on our official forums. Thank you.

Honourable Members, I wish to inform the House that, in accordance with the established procedures of the House, a Parliamentary Youth Caucus has been established. *(Applause) (Interjection: Anyamatafe tili bwino!)* So, far, we have 47 members of the Youth Caucus as follows:

PARLIAMENTARY YOUTH CAUCUS

	NAME	**CONSTITUENCY**
1	Honourable Gomeza Mandela	Ntcheu North
2	Honourable Khombeni Rodwell	Dowa Ngala
3	Honourable Mahowe Ngwazi	Mzimba Solola
4	Honourable Chisale Chikondi	Kasungu Central
5	Honourable Buleya Pilirani	Lilongwe Nkhoma
6	Honourable Chikonje Dorothy	Nkhotakota Dwangwa

7	Honourable Nseula Maurine	Mwanza West
8	Honourable Fletcher Tony	Chiradzulu Masanjala
9	Honourable Kapalamula Edgar	Ntcheu South
10	Honourable Nkhoma Alex	Kasungu East
11	Honourable Ndalama Mwayi	Chiradzulu Nyungwe
12	Honourable Karim Bilal	Nsanje Lalanje
13	Honourable Kaumphawi Jacob	Dedza Linthipe
14	Honourable Abdul Karim Ilyas	Chikwawa South
15	Honourable Kumwenda Aeckim	Mzimba West
16	Honourable Chiumia Paulosi	Nkhata Bay West
17	Honourable Kalitendere Richard Shukran	Machinga South
18	Honourable Malango Joshua	Dedza Kasina
19	Honourable Tambuli Bilal Mussa	Mangochi South
20	Honourable Kajiya Amina	Zomba Nsondole
21	Honourable Ndalama Veronica	Blantyre City South Lunzu
22	Honourable Jambo Myson	Zomba Ntonya
23	Honourable Chunga Khadija	Lilongwe City Kamphuno
24	Honourable Chikufenji Klaus	Blantyre North East
25	Honourable Chikweta Kaweche William	Mzuzu City South East
26	Honourable Kajomba Hastings	Thyolo Khonjeni-Mangunda
27	Honourable Makwinja Redson	Blantyre South West
28	Honourable Nkhwazi Fischer	Mzimba Luwerezi
29	Honourable Wiskes Patricia	Lilongwe City Nankhaka
30	Honourable Malanga Kenson	Chitipa East
31	Honourable Ajida Marium	Mulanje Pasani
32	Honourable Baloyi Madalitso	Mzimba Kafukule
33	Honourable Kambuzi Maria	Lilongwe Bunda
34	Honourable Belekanyama Francis	Lilongwe Msinja South
35	Honourable Chilambula Charles	Likoma Islands
36	Honourable Kadzanja Arnold	Ntchisi North
37	Honourable Kalua Fred Penjani	Blantyre City Soche Zingwangwa
38	Honourable Kazembe Ismail	Mangochi North
39	Honourable Mnjemu Maxwell	Salima North
40	Honourable Mphande Kelvin	Lilongwe Likuni

41	Honourable Chigona Joe	Salima Central East
42	Honourable James Silvester Ayuba	Nkhotakota Central
43	Honourable Masamba Anthony	Mchinji North East
44	Honourable Mkandawire William	Mzuzu City South West
45	Honourable Munthali Chance	Chitipa South
46	Honourable Phiri Gerald Snowden	Salima Central
47	Honourable Mbengo Dyless	Ntcheu Dzonzi Mvai

(Interjection: Point of order!)

Honourable Member, it is just an announcement. What has gone out of order?

Hon. Phiso (DPP—Blantyre North): Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to urge your office to use MRI scanning machine, because some of the names that have been mentioned are not youths. *(Laughter)* Secondly, if one reaches the maximum age limit, they should exit the youth forum. Otherwise, it will lose its meaning. Some of them *ndi magogo awa akunama kuti ndi ma* youth *(Laughter)*

The Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Member for Blantyre North. Honourable Members, the House may wish to note that membership of the Parliamentary Youth Caucus is open to all young Parliamentarians aged below 40 years at the time of swearing in as Member of Parliament. The secretariat will convene the first meeting for the caucus to elect its leadership. I thank you. I do not know why you omitted the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Youth Caucus. He should have been a father in that caucus. *(Laughter)*

Honourable Members, before I read my closing speech, I know we had a good time in this august House and we have done our work. I would like you to pay attention to my speech. Thank you.

Honourable Members, as we come to the close of the Second Meeting of the 52nd Session of Parliament, allow me to express my sincere appreciation to all of you for your dedication and commitment to the business of this House during this period.

First and foremost, let me thank His Excellency the President, Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika, for the strong political will and his unwavering support towards the work of Parliament. This has been demonstrated through His Excellency's support towards the work of the Public Accounts Committee on the Amaryllis Hotel Inquiry as well as support so that Parliament performs its functions seamlessly.

Honourable Members, on a sad note, it is with a heavy heart that I must acknowledge that during this same period, this House suffered the loss of Member for Machinga Mikoko Constituency, the late Honourable Jaffalie Mussa. Let us continue honouring his memory and praying for his family. May his soul continue resting in eternal peace.

Honourable Members, during this Parliament Meeting, our oversight function has come into the lime light by the inquiries that our Committees are conducting. While on this subject of inquiries, let me update the House that the Inquiry into the Chikangawa Plane Crash is taking shape. The Ad-hoc Committee on this inquiry is scheduled to start from Wednesday, 15th April, 2026. I want to assure the House that my office will provide all the necessary support so that this inquiry is conducted professionally and meets the expectations of all Malawians. On the same note, my office is committed to ensuring that

the inquiry by PAC on the acquisition of Amaryllis Hotel comes to its logical conclusion and that a report is presented in this House.

The other day, the Leader of the House said that he is in charge and that he decides which business comes on the floor of this House. I know my Honourable brother was saying this on a lighter note just to lighten the mood in the House. I don't want that lighter moment to be misunderstood. For the benefit of Honourable Members, according to the Standing Orders; the Honourable Leader of the House is responsible for Government Business while the Business Committee is the one that sets the agenda of the House. Business in this House is decided by this House itself and not just the Leader of the House. While guidance for the operations of this House and its Committees is the responsibility of my office.

The fact of the matter is that my office will ensure that every Committee that has submitted its Committee report, gets to present the report in this House. We will do this no matter who is affected by the Committee's findings. This is the hallmark of oversight. It is through this oversight that this House can change the direction of this country for the better for us to achieve the development aspirations of our people. Let us not allow politics to over shadow the bigger picture, that we are here to advance the interests of our constituents and not to protect the narrow interests of a few. Honourable Members, that will happen during my tenure. So, to all Committees, I challenge you to work and show results. To those that are involved in maladministration and unlawful dealings, I want to warn you that Parliament will come after you and will expose you. (*Applause*)

To the Honourable Leader of the House, going forward, let us ensure that as much business as possible is disposed off. I want a situation where as we rise like today, the Order Paper must be empty with all business concluded. However, let me commend you, Honourable Leader of the House, for managing Government Business with diligence and commitment. I believe I am speaking on behalf on the whole House when I acknowledge the versatile manner you have managed business during this Meeting. You have always kept your promises. We thank you for that. (*Applause*)

To the Leader of Opposition, I applaud the spirit of negotiation and compromise demonstrated during this Meeting of Parliament. You also have a job to do and please let us continue working together to uplift the work of this Parliament for the sake of our people.

On a different note, Honourable Members, you may have noticed that as Parliament, we have intensified our outreach activities. We have held sessions with principal secretaries, members of the diplomatic community, the private sector and civil society organisations. These are our key stakeholders.

Let me thank all the stakeholders that have patronised our outreach activities. These engagements will continue. Our goal is to ensure that Parliament understands the expectations of its stakeholders and that the stakeholders understand Parliament better. We need the support of our stakeholders to deliver on our mandate and I call upon the private sector as well as the civil society to engage with us constructively without hindrances.

To you Honourable colleagues, I am impressed. This Meeting of Parliament has demonstrated that we have started this term of Parliament on a high note. I have noted with satisfaction the increased utilisation of parliamentary oversight tools, particularly questions to Ministers for oral replies and the invocation of Standing Orders 69: *Questions of which notice has not been given in accordance with Rule 67, but which in the opinion of the Speaker, are of an urgent nature, and relate either to matters of public importance or to the arrangement of the*

business of the Assembly may, if the Speaker is satisfied that adequate private notice has been given to the Minister concerned, be asked at the conclusion of the question time, and Standing Order 14: *Matters of urgent public importance,* which has significantly contributed to ensuring that urgent matters of public concern are brought before this House in a timely manner.

I encourage you to sustain and build upon this momentum. These are positive developments that must be sustained. I commend you, Honourable Members. However, let me urge you to utilise the recess period to submit your business items such as questions, motions or petitions to allow the leadership to consider them in good time.

You are aware, Honourable Members, that our four colleagues have joined us mid-way, during this Meeting of Parliament. Let me at this moment, once again, warmly welcome the new Honourable Members who joined this House following the recent by-elections. You were essentially thrown right into action without any preparation. We are arranging some training for you. Additionally, trust that during these few weeks, you have been able to familiarise yourselves with parliamentary work. I encourage you to bring in fresh progressive ideas and perspective and contribute meaningfully to the work of Parliament.

Honourable Members, at this juncture, allow me to point out that absenteeism was a big challenge during this Meeting. My office continues to register cases of Honourable Members absenting themselves without seeking leave, which undermines the work of this House. You might recall, Honourable Members, that on some occasions, we failed to proceed with questions to Ministers for oral replies due to the absence of the Honourable Members concerned. Therefore, I urge each one of you to do some soul searching on this. We must all prioritise attendance in both Plenary and Committee Meetings.

Additionally, while there were some moments during this Parliament Meeting when debates became intense, I applaud you, Honourable Members, for ultimately upholding the dignity of this House and allowing business to proceed. Indeed, this is a sign of a maturing Parliament.

As we adjourn this Meeting of Parliament, I wish to remind you that the work of Parliament continues in Committees. I urge you to approach Committee work with the same seriousness and dedication demonstrated during this plenary.

Honourable Members, as I conclude, allow me to commend the leadership from both sides of the House for their cooperation in ensuring the smooth conduct of business. Your collective efforts have contributed to the success of this Meeting of Parliament. Let me also extend my sincere appreciation to my two Deputy Speakers, the Leader of the House, the Leader of Opposition, Party Leaders, and Whips for their continued support to my office and the office of the two Deputy Speakers.

Let me also recognise the valuable role played by the secretariat under the leadership of the Clerk of Parliament. I think it is only right that I ask the CoP to rise and we give her a round of applause. You have been professional and your dedication in supporting the work of this House, particularly, during this demanding Budget Meeting of Parliament is commendable.

Let me also take this opportunity to thank stakeholders that have been with us. The Parliamentary Ushers, I say thank you. You have looked after us. Security personnel, we say thank you. We are going back as we came. You have protected us. We also have

Parliament TV; we commend you for the job well done and we encourage you to continue and do more. We thank all those that have been involved in this meeting.

Honourable Members, as you return to your constituencies, I encourage you to remain actively engaged with your constituencies and to continue representing them with diligence, integrity and purpose. I wish you a restful and productive recess. Travel safely and I look forward to welcoming you back in our subsequent programmes, which will be announced through our respective fora. With these remarks, Honourable Members, I now put a question to this House that this House do now adjourn *Sine Die.*

Honourable Members, have you finished stretching? Are we ready? I now adjourn the House *Sine Die.*

The Motion was agreed to.

The House adjourned *Sine Die.*