

ARG/148



NORTHERN NIGERIA LEGISLATURE

**PARLIAMENTARY
DEBATES**

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
DAILY HANSARD**

(Third Legislature)

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P R A Y E R S

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

PAPER LAID

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, C.O.N., C.B.E., M.H.A. Wazirin Katsina) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the table of the House, Accounts of the Voluntary Agencies' Education Building Fund for the year ended 31st March, 1964.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

APPLICATION FOR ACCOMMODATION

05. MR. J.A. AMAICHIGH (Urum Shitire) asked the Minister of Information: May I know whether it is a general policy of his Ministry that all applications for accommodation have to be referred to the Provincial Commissioner as is the case with Jos Rest House?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF INFORMATION (Alhaji Muhammadu Kokori Abdul M.H.A.) I assume that the Honourable Member is referring to Catering Rest Houses. If this is so, the answer No.

LEGAL COURSES AT THE AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY.

011. MR. OLAREWAJU AFOLAYAN (Ilorin South) asked the Minister of Establishments and Training: How many students attending Legal course at the Ahmadu Bello University failed to pass the first year examination? (b) How many of them had their awards withdrawn and what happened to them thereafter?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND TRAINING (Alhaji Muhammed Suleiman, M.H.A.) The Bar Course in 1963 recruited 15 students, 6 of whom failed the course. (a) 9 had their awards renewed. (b) 6 returned nominally to their former employment. The Diploma Course in 1963 recruited 18 students, 2 failed the course and 2 left for personal reasons. (a) 14 had their awards renewed. (b) 3 returned nominally to former employers, 1 joined Government Service. The Diploma Course in 1964 recruited 16 students, 10 of whom were from Native Authorities, 4 from Government and 2 Private. Ten of these were withdrawn last month by the University for the academic reasons that they did not keep up with the course. (a) The first year examination has not yet been taken. (b) Those withdrawn returned nominally to their former employment.

PATHOLOGY LABORATORY WORKERS

017. MR. OLAREWAJU AFOLAYAN (Ilorin South) asked the Minister of Health whether his Ministry will explore the possibility of organising an in-service-training for Pathology Laboratory workers of his Ministry?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF HEALTH (Alhaji Dalhatu Bida, M.H.A.): There are two types of in-service training for Pathology Laboratory workers: (a) For those who have school Certificate: 3 years in service training in the Regional Laboratory before going to either Ibadan or Lagos to do their professional (intermediate) examination. (b) For those who have no School Certificate: One year in service training at St. Thomas' Hospital, London.

NON-NORTHERNERS IN FIRMS

020. MR. OLAREWAJU AFOLAYAN (Ilorin South) asked the Minister of Trade and Industry (a) whether the Minister is aware that a majority of both male and female personnel in the sales section of many Firms in Northern Nigeria are Non-Northerners, unlike other Regions of the Federation where natives of each Region are in the majority? (b) If so, will he enforce the Northernisation Policy on the firms concerned?

THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (Mallam Michael Audu Buba): (a) I am aware that quite a number of firms have many Non-Northerners in their employment but my Ministry has been persuading these employers to recruit their staff from the local people in preference to others. Many of the business organisations have realised the advantages of this, and their response to our appeal is not too bad. The Honourable Member may wish to note that most of the African staff of newly established industries are Northerners and that even where experts from abroad are employed, these are being understudied by our own people who will take over in due course. (b) The Honourable Member may rest assured that there will be no relaxation in our efforts to ensure that preference is given to employment of Northerners at all levels, and, indeed, the response to our appeals by employers in the North in this connection has been reasonably good. If the Hon. Member would care to let me know privately of any particular cases which he has in mind, I shall be pleased to investigate them.

(025) was called but the hon. Member was not present to ask his question (See Appendix)

FARM CENTRE AND FARM SETTLEMENT.

028. MALI T. MEGIDA LAWANI (Igbirra North) asked the Minister of Agriculture (a) What is the difference between a Farm Centre and a Farm Settlement? (b) How many of the institutions are scheduled to be completed each Province under the current Six Year Development Plan?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (Alhaji Aminu Rufai M.H.A.): (a) The difference between a Farm Centre and a Farm Settlement is that a Farm Centre is a Government operated station at which improved seeds are multiplied, improved techniques are tested and demonstrated and field trials upon possible means of improving agricultural production are carried out. A Farm Settlement, on the other hand, has the object of providing a living in agriculture for people who would otherwise be unemployed. (b) It is intended to complete six new Farm Centres in the current 6 Year Development Plan. Members are aware that there is already in existence a comprehensive coverage of Farm Centres in the main soil and climatic area of the North. With the completion of the six new Centres this coverage will be complete. Each province will then have its main centre and a number of subsidiary centres as dictated by the requirements of soil and climate.

(033, 034, 035) were called but the hon. Member was not present to ask his questions (See Appendix).

SOME SCHOOL AUTHORITIES.

041. ALHAJI BABIU (Babura/Garki) asked the Minister of Education (a) If his Ministry is aware that some Mission and Voluntary Agency School Authorities in this Region make it a condition that pupils must buy all books in the schools rather than allow parents to make arrangements suitable to them? (b) If so, what actions does the Ministry propose to take for an immediate response?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (Alhaji Abba Anace M.H.A.): (a) Isolated examples of this practice do occur from time to time but they are unusual. (b) If cases are brought to my attention, I will take steps to ensure that the children can buy their books in the cheapest market.

REMAND HOMES IN 1963 - 64

045. ALHAJI BABIU (Babura/Garki) asked the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives: (a) How many

children were put in Remand Homes in 1963 and 1964?
 (b) If the number is increasing, what steps is his Ministry taking to halt the situation? (c) How many were reformed and discharged and taken back to their parents?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES

(Alhaji the hon. Umaru Babura M.H.A.): (a) 1586 children were received and detained in the Kano and Kaduna Remand Homes in 1963 and 1964. (b) For the next ten years, the figures of children detained in Remand Homes will rise due to improved methods of child and Family services and expansion of Social Welfare activities in the Region. (c) Remand Homes are not Reformatory Schools. They are Homes for short custody of children who are either in need of care and protection, or delinquents who are remanded awaiting trial or investigation or repatriation to their parents and guardian, therefore, the question of training does not arise.

DECLINING OF GROUNDNUTS

047. ALHAJI RABIU (Babura/Garki) asked the Minister of Agriculture: If the Minister will cause an investigation to be made on the declining out-put of groundnuts this year?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(Alhaji the hon. Ahmadu Rufai M.H.A.): Final figures for the purchases of groundnuts in the current season are not as yet available. The indications are that production will be a little below that of last year. This is due in the main to unfavourable weather conditions. I see no reason for a further investigation to be made on this subject since, as we all know, crop yields and therefore overall production are bound to vary between seasons as a result of climatic conditions. As far as I am aware production of groundnuts remains as popular if not more popular than ever and this fact combined with increased usage of fertilizer by farmers, increased production and up-take of high yielding varieties and other improved practices is likely to result in an overall continued increase in groundnut production over the years within the limits imposed by climatic variations.

H A N D I C R A F T S .

059. MR. S.A. ATUM (Kwande) asked the Minister of Education: If the Minister would see that Woodwork, Metalwork and agricultural science are introduced in all the Secondary Schools of Northern Nigeria?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(Alhaji Abdu Anace M.H.A.): Woodwork and metal work are taught at nearly all government and native authority secondary schools for boys. In view of the heavy expense involved, I am not willing to insist that they be taught in every voluntary agency school. I am satisfied that, in view of the limited acceptance of agricultural science by higher institutions, we must give priority to physics, chemistry and biology. I am however, considering the introduction of agricultural science into the less academic streams of some secondary schools.

INDUSTRY IN BENUE PROVINCE

060. MR. S.A. ATUM (Kwande) asked the Minister of Trade and Industry: What other industry apart from the Cement Factory is his Ministry planning to establish in Tiv Division or in any other part of Benue Province between 1965 and 1966?

THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (Mallam Michael

Audu Buba): Active consideration is being given to the establishment of industries in Tiv Division of Benue Province. Negotiations for the establishment of industries are sometimes complicated and may take a long time. I am therefore, unable to say when negotiations may be concluded.

SUGAR CANE AROUND RIVER BENUE.

061. MR. S.A. ATUM (Kwande) asked the Minister of Trade and Industry (a) whether the Minister is aware of the fact that Sugar Cane is grown in a very large quantity along River Benue, especially around the areas of Abintse, Bukuru and Katsina-Ala? (b) If so, would the Minister consider establishing a Sugar Factory in one of these areas?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF TRADE AND

INDUSTRY (Mallam Gwani Jatau M.H.A.): (a) I am aware that sugar cane is grown in small quantities along River Benue including areas around Abintse, Bukuru and Katsina Ala. (b) The areas along River Benue in which sugar cane is grown, are not extensive enough for the establishment of large sugar plantations necessary to support a sugar factory which will be economically viable, but the possibilities of developing small-scale sugar production on modern lines will be investigated.

NORTHERNERS IN SENIOR SERVICE.

065. MR. J. A. AMAICHIGH (Ukum-Shitire) asked the Minister of Establishments and Training: (a) How many Northern Nigerians hold senior positions in the Administrative Service of the Government of Northern Nigeria? (b) What is the breakdown of the number by Provinces? (c) How many of them are Tive people? (d) How many are undergoing training both in the country and abroad?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND TRAINING (Alhaji Muhammadu Suleman M.H.A.):

(a) 139. (b) This part of the question does not arise since the North is all one. (c) There is only one North. (d) The following Northerners are at present studying subjects directly related to Administration:- Fourah Bay University 5, In America 1, In Uganda 2, B.A. Public Administration at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria 37; Total 45. In addition, many Northerners are awarded scholarships in various other fields for Degree such as B.A. and Law courses every year both in Nigeria and abroad who will qualify and prove suitable for senior posts, of whom many may apply to join Administrative Service.

HOSPITALS

068. MR. J. A. AMAICHIGH (Ukum-Shitire) asked the Minister of Health since the launching of the Six year Development Plan, how many hospitals have been built and in what Provinces?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF HEALTH (Alhaji Dalhatu Bida). One in the Kaduna Capital Territory, the Kaduna General Hospital which has been completed will shortly be opened. Jalingo Hospital in Adamawa Province is nearing completion. We have, however taken-over the following 6 Hospitals:-

- (a) R.C.M. Combined Hospital Shendam Plateau Province 1/4/63
- (b) R.C.M. Combined Hospital Oturkpo Benue Province 1/4/63
- (c) S.U.M. Combined Hospital Nguru Bornue Province 1/4/63
- (d) R.C.M. Combined Hospital Okene Kabba Province 1/4/63
- (e) General Hospital (N.A.) Sokoto Sokoto Province 1/4/63

(f) City Hospital (N.A.) Kano Kano Province 1/7/63

This has necessitated considerable expenditure in the provision of trained staff and in bringing the buildings and equipment up to the required standard. The loan agreement for £811,000 has recently been signed with the West German Government and it is intended to complete the 9 hospitals remaining in the Development Plan as soon as possible.

RELIGIOUS MINISTERS

0.77 ALHAJI YAHAYA EDICHA (Member for Igala North) asked the Minister of Finance:

- (a) whether he may know if Ministers of Religion such as Archbishops, Reverend Fathers, Pastors, Deacons, etc., pay taxes to the Northern Nigeria Government.
- (b) if so, whether they are assessed as ordinary citizens or as civil servants.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (Alhaji Muazu Gambo M.H.A.):

- (a) Yes.
- (b) Yes, they are assessed as other taxpayers. For the purposes of tax assessment there is no distinction between employees and other taxpayers. The only difference is that employees pay the tax due from them under the Pay as you Earn scheme which spreads payment of the tax over the whole year.

MR. ANDREW A. ABOGEDE (Member for Igala East): May I know whether the existing constituencies in Igala Division have been changed, as there is no Igala North in the present delimitation of constituencies in Northern Nigeria.

MR. SPEAKER: You better ask your Member who is asking this question from Igala Division and if there is a mistake you ask the Clerk to correct it.

INDUSTRIES AND FACTORIES IN NORTHERN NIGERIA

088. ALHAJI USMAN AHMED (Member for Kontagora) asked the Minister of Trade and Industry - How many Industries and Factories are there in Northern Nigeria and why were most of them sited here in Kaduna.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (Mallam Gwani Jatau M.H.A.): There are one-hundred and thirty-six industrial establishments in Northern Nigeria. Of these only fifteen are sited in Kaduna.

I am aware that an increasing number of industries are being sited in Kaduna. This is not the result of any deliberate policy of Government but probably because, to the industrialist, Kaduna readily offers the services he requires including water, labour, electricity and an excellent distribution centre to all parts of the Federation.

However, it is the policy of the Government to disperse industries all over the Region, and this policy is being pursued with the utmost vigour as the Government is working very hard to see that this being done.

MR. O. AFOLAYAN: Mr. Speaker Sir, from the answer given may I know why industrialists are not advised to go round and try other places, so as to be enticed.

THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (Mallam the hon. Michael Audu Buba M.H.A., Wazirin Shendam): They do.

N E W F A C T O R Y

089. ALHAJI USMAN AHMED (Member for Kontagora) asked the Minister of Trade and Industry - In which Province will the new factory for Ink, Pen and Pencil be established.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (Mallam Gwani Jatau M.H.A.): Before a site is chosen for a factory, several factors have to be considered by an industrialist. These include the availability of raw materials, water, electricity, labour and ready markets for the products of the factory. As negotiations on the establishment of the Ink, Pen and Pencil industry have just begun, I am unable to say, at this stage, where the factory will be established.

090. ALHAJI USMAN AHMED (Member for Kontagora) asked the Minister of Trade and Industry:-

- (a) how many yards of Baft and White Shirting are produced by the Kaduna Textiles Factory annually.
- (b) how many indigenous registered customers trade with this Factory.

THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (Mallam the hon. Michael Audu Buba M.H.A. Wazirin Shendam):

- (a) Since 1960, Kaduna Textiles Limited have produced Baft and White shirting in the following annual quantities:-

	<u>Year Ending</u>	<u>Baft</u>	<u>White Shirting</u>	<u>Total</u>
September	1960	15.8m.yds	-	15.8m.yds
"	1961	19.7m.yds	-	19.7m.yds
"	1962	24.4m. "	5.1m.yds	29.6m. "
"	1963	18.4m. "	18.0m. "	36.4m. "
"	1964	19.9m. "	16.7m. "	36.6m. "

It is anticipated that over 40m. yards of Baft and White shirting will be produced during the year ending 30th September, 1965.

- (b) There are fifty indigenous companies and individuals through whom 45% of the mill's products are distributed.

FOREST OFFICERS,

0104. MR. DESHI TOKLEN (Member for Angas) asked the Minister of Establishment and Training that:-

- (a) How many Northerners have qualified as-
 - (i) forest Officers.
 - (ii) Technical Officers.
 - (iii) Plantation Officers.
- (b) how many are now undergoing training in the same field at the Ahmadu Bello University and abroad.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND TRAINING (Alhaji Muhammadu Suleman M.H.A.):

- (a) (i) 13.
- (ii) None.
- (iii) There is no difference between Forest Officers and Plantation Officers.
- (b) 11 undergoing training in Ibadan and abroad. There are no facilities for Forestry training at Ahmadu Bello University.

MIDWIFERY AND STUDENT NURSES

0111. MR. DESHI TOKLEN (Member for Angas) asked the Minister of Health:-

- (a) how many Nurses, Pharmacists and Midwives are now studying in Nigeria and abroad respectively.
- (b) how many Nurses are finishing their studies and assuming duty this year.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (Alhaji the hon. Ahmadu Fatika M.H.A., Sarkin Fadan Zazzau):

- (a)
 - (i) There are 705 Nurses and Midwives studying in Northern Nigeria-
 studying for B.A.N. = 413
 studying for Grade 1 Midwifery 25
 studying for Grade 11 " " 256
 - (ii) There are 41 Nurses and Midwives studying in the United Kingdom-
 Women = 11
 Men = 30
 (6 men and 4 women are expected back in the near future).
 - (iii) There are 43 Pharmacists undergoing training in the School of Pharmacy, Zaria, and 1 at the University of Ife. There are three overseas.
- (b) There are 147 Nurses in Northern Nigeria finishing their studies and assuming duty this year.

0116. MR. DESHI TOKLEN (Member for Angas) asked the Minister of Trade and Industry- how many companies formed entirely by wealthy Northerners are successfully operating in the North and under what names do they operate.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (Mallam Gwani Jatau M.H.A.): There are many companies formed by indigenous businessmen which to my knowledge are operating successfully. However, we do not keep a register of Companies and am therefore unable to give any precise figure as these are being registered in Lagos.

0128. ALHAJI HANAFI IDIARO (Member for Ilorin North) asked the Minister of Health that-

- (a) how soon will the ten small Hospitals recently referred to by the Minister in one of his announcements be established.
- (b) what is the difference between a General Hospital and small Hospital referred to by the Minister in one of his recent announcements.
- (c) in which towns will be Hospitals be built.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH: (Alhaji the hon. Ahmadu Fatika M.H.A., Sarkin Fadan Zazzau):

- (a) The ten Hospitals will be built over the period of five years. The first, of them being built at Jalingo will be finished by the middle of the year.
- (b) The country type hospitals referred to are also General Hospital - they are, however, smaller than the older types of General Hospitals. They have 72 beds.
- (c) Jalingo, Potiskum, Malumfashi, Pategi, Gumi, Dambatta, Lafia, Abuja, Geidam, Shinkafi.

0129. ALHAJI HANAFI IDIARO (Member for Ilorin North) asked the Minister of Establishments and Training that

- (a) what is the total number of Scholarships awarded during 1964.
- (b) of these, how many were awarded to women.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND TRAINING: (Alhaji Mohammadu Suleman M.H.A.):

- (a) Northern Scholarship awards for 1964 = 267
- (b) Number of Scholarships awarded to women 16.

COMPOSITION OF THE SCHOLARSHIP BOARD

0131. MR. A.A. ABOGEDE (Member for Igala East) asked the Minister of Establishments and Training that-

- (a) may I know the composition of Scholarship board of Northern Nigeria.
- (b) from which Provinces did the members come.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND TRAINING (Alhaji Mohammadu Suleman M.H.A.): The Minister of Establishments and Training is ex-officio Chairman. The Secretary is ex-officio the Secretary

of the Board. Each of the 13 Provinces and Kaduna Capital Territory is represented by one member.

There are 4 official members as follows:-

- (i) Chief Inspector of Education.
- (ii) Under Secretary, Recruitment and Training.
- (iii) Public Service Commissioner.
- (iv) Senior Education Officer, Kaduna Capital Territory.

There are 3 co-opted members:-

- (i) Vice Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University.
- (ii) Federal Minister of Education.
- (iii) Federal Minister of Establishments.

DEGREE AND PROFESSIONAL COURSES

0131. MR. A.A. ABOGEDE (Member for Igala East) asked the Minister of Establishments and Training that- From the scholarships awarded in 1964, how many are for degree and professional courses.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND TRAINING (Alhaji Muhammadu Sulaman M.H.A.)

Total Scholarship awards	267
Breakdown: Degree Courses	201
Professional Courses	46
Other Courses	20.

CERAMIC INDUSTRY IN IGALA DIVISION

0136. MR. A.A. ABOGEDE (Member for Igala East) asked the Minister of Trade and Industry that- Whether the Minister will consider establishing ceramic Industry in Igala Division where essential materials for the Industry are available.

THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (Mallam the hon. Michael Audu Buba M.H.A. Wazirin Shendam) I am aware that deposits of clay occur in Awo Akpali area of Igala Division. In 1963, at my request, these deposits were investigated by the Geological Survey Department whose report was received about ten months ago. I am informed that the clay is much stained with iron and that there is also too much sand in the clay. These impurities make the clay unsuitable as raw materials for the establishment of large scale ceramic industry. Moreover, the area

in which the deposits lie is liable to flooding, thus making necessibility difficult.

A ZOO IN KANO PROVINCE

0144. M. MURTALA A. BELLO DANDAGO (Member for Gwarzo East) asked the Minister of Information - When will a Zoo be established in Kano Province.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF INFORMATION (Alhaji Dalhatu Bida, M.H.A.) There are no proposals at the present time to establish a zoo in Kano Province.

NATIVE ADMINISTRATIONS

0145. M. MURTALA A. BELLO DANDAGO (Member for Gwarzo East) asked the Minister for Local Government- How many Native Administrations are there in Northern Nigeria.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Alhaji Usman Sulaiman, M.H.A.) There are 71 Native Authorities and 49 Subordinate Native Authorities.

MEDICAL OFFICERS

0146. ALHAJI MUHTAR, SARKIN PAWA (Member for Kankara/Kogo) asked the Minister of Health-

- (a) How many Northerners qualified as Doctors from Kano Medical School.
- (b) Are those Doctors qualified to practise throughout the Federation of Nigeria.
- (c) If not, what steps is the Government taking to see that they gain full recognition throughout the Federation.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (Alhaji the hon. Ahmadu Fatika M.H.A., Sarkin Fadan Zazzau).

- (a) There are 18 Doctors qualified from Kano Medical School.
- (b) The 18 Doctors have been registered and they can practise in any part of the Federation.
- (c) Does not arise

Rest Houses

0148. ALHAJI MUHAMMADU KABIR USMAN, SARKIN PAWA (Member for Kankara/Kogo) asked the Minister of Information- Ministry taking to combat the shortage of Rest House Accommodations in some of the big towns.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF INFORMATION (Alhaji Muhammadu Kokori Abdul, M.H.A.) Catering Rest Houses were set up by Government at a time when there were no hotels or local people available to run hotels. Provincial Headquarters and other important towns. This is no longer so and in new places where hotels become necessary this field should now be left open to private enterprise. There are proposals for additional Catering Rest Houses to be opened by Government in any big town at the present time.

MR. A.A. ABOGGE Mr. Speaker, Sir, what of the small towns if there are no proposals for any big town at the present time? Further Sir, what of new places where hotels are not available.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Biu, M.H.A.) object of this is to accommodate visitors and tourists. It is necessary if there are no places to accommodate them, therefore I do not know what to suggest, therefore I do not know what to suggest, therefore I do not know what to suggest. The answer is no.

Railway Extensions

0153. ALHAJI MUHAMMADU KABIR USMAN, MAGAJIN GARIN KATSINA (Member for Ingawa): asked the Minister of Trade and Industries- Whether the Minister would pray the Federal Government to consider in the next phase of Railway Development, the extension of Railway-line to Sokoto and Katsina since the Bornu Railway Extension has now been completed, thereby providing better transport facilities for evacuating produce from the areas in order to boost the economic opportunities of this Region.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (Mr. M. Gwani Jatau M.H.A.) The question of construction of a railway line from Gusau or Kaur Namoda to Sokoto has been the subject of discussion with the Federal Government and the Railway Corporation for a number of years.

The Hon. Member will appreciate that the Railway is a national network and is the responsibility of

the Federal Government, but I can assure him that, as in the past, I will continue to press the Federal Government in the matter of construction of an extension to Sokoto and, indeed, to any other place in the North where this would materially assist in development. Northerners Abroad

0160. M. MUHTAR A. BELLO YOLA (Member for Dawakin Tofa East) asked the Minister of Establishments and Training- What is the total number of Northerners now studying abroad.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND TRAINING (Alhaji Muhammadu Suleman M.H.A.) There are 432 Northerners studying abroad on Scholarships and 298 are studying abroad on various kinds of in-service training or Technical Assistance Courses, making a total of 730.

Small Farming Machines

0173. ALHAJI SHEHU USMAN, SARKIN DAJIN LAFIA (Member for Lafia) asked the Minister of Agriculture- When will his Ministry start providing farmers with small farming machines.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (Alhaji Ahmadu Rufa'i (Magajin Garin Misau M.H.A.) The Engineering staff of my Ministry is investigating the suitability of a number of different types of small hand tractors at various sites in the North. Results with machines tested to date are not very encouraging. The Honourable Member can be assured that as soon as suitable small tractors are discovered no time will be lost and no effort will be spared to popularise their use with farmers. I must point out however, that my Ministry will not be in a position to provide farmers with such machines. We shall recommend the use of the suitable types and no doubt Government will consider the provision of loan capital for their purchases.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO LAFIA DIVISION

0174. ALHAJI SHEHU USMAN, SARKIN DAJIN LAFIA (Member for Lafia): Asked the Minister of Establishments and Training the total number of scholarship awards to the boys and girls in Lafia Division from 1963-65.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS & TRAINING (Alhaji Hassan Mohammed): There is only one North. Scholarships are awarded on merit and statistics are not maintained by Divisions.

SLOW PROGRESS

0179. ALHAJI SHEHU USMAN, SARKIN DAJIN LAFTA (Member for Lafia): Asked the Minister of Animal and Forest Resources - (a) Whether the Minister is aware that boys from Secondary Schools feel reluctant to join his Ministry in view of the slow progress the staff of his Ministry make?

(b) If yes, will the Minister take steps to remedy the situation.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ANIMAL AND FOREST RESOURCES (Alhaji Musa Mohammadu, Sarkin Agwara): No sir. More secondary school boys now apply to join my Ministry than we can take. Progress for Northerners in my Ministry is second to none in the Region.

Medical Treatment

0181. MALLAM ISA MEGIDA LAWANI (Member for Igbara North): Asked the Minister of Health - in view of the great demand for modern medical treatment in Ihima Dispensary (as was put before the Minister during his recent tour of this area), what efforts are being made to upgrade it to a General Hospital to serve Igbirra North Constituency.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF HEALTH. (Alhaji Dalhatu Bida): As Ihima is only 7 miles from Okene where there is a Government General Hospital, it is not proposed to upgrade the dispensary facilities available there.

Scholarship Awards

0189. MR. J. SHANTUMA LAJE (Member for Jos North-West) Asked the Minister of Establishments and Training -

(a) Which Province has the highest number of scholarship awards to institutions in Nigeria and abroad.

(b) Which Province has the lowest and why.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS & TRAINING (Alhaji Mohammed Suleman):

(a) There is only one North. Scholarships are awarded on merit and not by Provinces of origin.

(b) Does not therefore arise.

ORDERS OF THE DAYSUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION LAW

Bill entitled the Supplementary Appropriation (1963-64) Law, 1965 - Second Reading.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu C.F.R., C.M.G., O.B.E., M.H.A., Makaman Bida) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Supplementary Appropriation (1963-64) Law, 1965 be read a second time.

I ask Honourable Members to note that the sum the Bill seeks to appropriate is just sixty-four thousand five hundred and seventy-one pounds. The amount is part of the total Supplementary provision of three hundred and seventy-five thousands, six hundred and seventy-two pounds, the rest being statutory expenditure. I must point out that the additional provision contained in these Supplementary Estimates consists of routine increases which were too late for inclusion in the Second Supplementary Estimates, 1963-64 and had to be met through the exercise of my statutory powers. As the last set of Supplementary Estimates for 1963-64, it also includes excesses on votes discovered after the accounts were closed.

When I introduced the Second Supplementary Estimates, 1963-64, during the last Budget meeting, I pointed out that we had managed to restrict supplementary provision very well. I maintain that this is still true of the Third Supplementary Estimates. The position on excesses also shows a marked improvement over the previous year, for excesses occurred only on forty-six Subheads, totalling about forty-one thousand pounds, as compared with one hundred and four Subheads, totalling two hundred and fifty-six thousand pounds, for the previous year. This is further evidence of a considerable improvement in the control of expenditure.

It is not my intention to bother you with long figures but if I give a few, they will serve to make the position clearer. In all, actual Revenue for 1963-64 came to more than twenty-five and a quarter million pounds and actual Expenditure, to some twenty-two and a half million pounds. This left us with a surplus of over two and a half million pounds, out of which two million pounds were transferred to the Capital Development Fund. In effect, the position of the Revised Estimates of Revenue at the time of the Second Supplementary Estimates was maintained to the end of the year, but actual expenditure was less than had been estimated.

On Capital Expenditure Heads, these last Supplementary Estimates for 1963-64 include one major item only, an additional two hundred thousand pounds provided for Primary Educational Capital Grants. This is covered by a grant received from the Federal Government. Briefly therefore, actual Capital Expenditure in 1963-64 was about seven million five hundred thousand pounds, whilst receipts of the Capital Development Fund were lower by about forty-five thousand five hundred pounds.

When these Supplementary Estimates have been approved,

the accounts of 1963-64 will have been brought to a final close, subject to examination by the Public Accounts Committee. Any points on which members desire explanations can be raised in Committee of Supply.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, Wazirin Katsina): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to second.

HON. SPEAKER. In accordance with standing Order 72 debates cannot proceed on the Bill now. Debate to be resumed what day Minister?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, Makaman Bida): Tomorrow, Sir.

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION LAW

Bill entitled the Supplementary Appropriation (1963-64) Law, 1965 - Second Reading.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, C.F.R., C.M.G., O.B.E., M.H.A., Makaman Bida): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Supplementary Appropriation (1964-65) Law, 1965, be read a second time.

Honourable members will see from the Memorandum attached to the Supplementary Estimates that the amount sought for appropriation is just five million four hundred and seventy-two thousand, seven hundred and sixty-eight pounds. Of this, the sum of nearly four million, five hundred thousand pounds will be transferred to the Capital Development Fund. When all savings, reimbursements and offsetting revenue are taken into account, the amount of new expenditure is further reduced to some seven hundred and fifty-three thousand pounds.

Most of the items of these Supplementary Estimates, I have found necessary to approve already through the exercise of my statutory powers. They consist of minor increases on subheads, offset by savings or additional revenue. I shall refer only to a few of the major items.

Provision is made for interest to be paid, under Head two four one, to Native Authorities on their deposits in the Surplus Funds Deposit Account. Members may like to know that Native Authorities deposit surplus funds in this Account and Government pays interest to them. In return, short-term loans are made to Native Authorities in the period before their tax collection begins at favourable rates of interest. This scheme, which has now been operating for two years, is becoming increasingly successful as more Native Authorities are depositing a growing amount, to the mutual benefit of themselves and the Government.

A number of Heads include a new subhead for "Loans: Bicycle, Denture, Goggles and Spectacle". This follows from a change in system, decentralising the control of bicycle and other advances from the Ministry of Finance to other Ministries. In effect, the new subheads will be a substitute for the old arrangement; and the change does not amount to additional expenditure.

Two subheads under Head two three eight provide for grants. One will cover grants of ten thousand pounds and two thousand pounds paid to the new Townships at Bacita and New Bussa respectively. These are required so that these Townships can meet necessary expenditure, as their own sources of revenue are limited as yet. The other is for the much larger figure of seven hundred and forty thousand pounds for the Institute of Administration and Agricultural Research forming part of Ahmadu Bello University. As explained in the Memorandum on the Supplementary Estimates, this is part of funds already advanced to the University to meet expenses, during a time when discussions have been proceeding on the method of financing these Institutes. Although these discussions have not yet been completed, I have now brought this part of the advances to account in the Estimates.

Under Head two five one, Ministry of Trade and Industry, provision is made for the setting up of a Business and Apprentice Training Centre, Kaduna. This is a pilot scheme for which the Ford Foundation is providing a Director and grants of some forty-four thousand pounds to cover the initial expenses and most of the running costs for the first two years. This Government is providing buildings for the operation of the scheme, housing, basic equipment for furniture making and ancillary expenses. Members will no doubt be delighted to hear that this Centre will train, advise and assist potential Northern businessmen to set themselves up in their own small businesses.

Taking into account the items included in these Supplementary Estimates, the revised estimate of expenditure in 1964-65 is about twenty-seven million pounds. The revised estimate of revenue for 1964-65 is thirty-one million, four hundred and ninety thousand, four hundred and five pounds. Details are shown in the draft 1965-66 Estimates. The revised estimated surplus for the year is nearly four and half million pounds. This favourable revenue trend is due to increased revenue from import and export duties and mining royalties. Arrears from mining royalties, which through an error were not paid over to this Government when due, alone account for nearly two million pounds. It is now anticipated that it will be possible to transfer about four million, five hundred thousand pounds to the Capital Development Fund. The actual transfer to be made will, however, depend on the surplus which in fact accrues during the year.

In my speech on the occasion of the First Supplementart Estimates 1964-65, I told you that the effect of the proposals for setting up two new Ministries and the increased provision required for education grants was bound to put the budget into deficit for some time. I am glad to report that the present favourable revenue trend will not only help to cover our past commitments but will leave us with a surplus to finance a part of our capital expenditure. Nevertheless, the need to keep recurrent expenditure in check so as to be better equipped to finance Capital Expenditure has not diminished.

I must now turn to the Capital Estimates. The total additional expenditure in the Supplementary Capital Estimates, after deducting savings quoted and reimbursable expenditure, is three hundred and fifty-six thousand, four hundred and sixty-five pounds. The main item of this provision is the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds to be paid towards the capital of the Northern Nigeria Newspapers, Limited. Additional sums are also included for the Kaduna General Hospital and Jalingo General Hospital, and for the completion of the Ahmadu Bello Stadium, Kaduna.

I must emphasise the necessity for increased production by all, especially by those who have benefitted from the recent salary and wages increase. I am hopeful that the favourable revenue trends will continue and thereby enable us to offset the consequences of these salary and wage increases, thus ensuring that the rate of progress of the Development Plan will be maintained as scheduled. I have talked at some length but if Honourable members have questions they can be raised in the Committee of Supply.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, Wazirin Katsina): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to second.

MR. SPEAKER: The same applies as with the previous Bill. I will not propose the question because debate on it shall take place tomorrow. The Clerk will now proceed to read the Orders of the Day.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

APPROPRIATION LAW 1965

(Adjourned debate on Second Reading- First allotted Day)

Question proposed.

ALHAJI MUH. DAN MALLAM WAMBAL (Durbi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to support the second reading of the Appropriation Law 1965, and to congratulate the Hon. Minister of Finance for his most comprehensive Budget Speech. I should also like to congratulate all the staff in his Ministry who are concerned with the preparation of the estimates for the marked improvements and efficiency shown in their duty and which made it possible for every member to get his copy of the Estimates in good time.

It is very gratifying to see that the condition of the Region's economy is brighter than ever before. With regards to the Minister's appeal to buy Nigerian goods, I should like to suggest that a special purchase tax be imposed on such imported goods which are produced locally in Nigeria.

The Minister of Agriculture and his staff must be congratulated for the vital role played by his Ministry in the Development of our economy. I am confident that he will increase efforts still further. But I should like to appeal to the Minister that more groundnuts Inspection Stations be opened in Katsina Province, and in Durbi District in particular. In this district Sir, thousands of tons of groundnuts are produced and purchased in normal season. But all this has to be transported to either Katsina or Kano for inspection and declaration. This is due to insufficient groundnuts Inspection Stations. Therefore, well over half of the actual tonage of groundnuts produced in Katsina Province is declared outside the Province.

In the case of Recurrent Expenditure Estimates, I have nothing to comment except to thank the Minister of Finance for his convincing and detailed explanation in his Speech and in the Draft Estimates.

Now Mr. Speaker, I should like to comment on the Recurrent Revenue Estimates. The Personal Tax system, which has been in operation for about three years should be reviewed. An Assistant Commissioner of income tax should be posted in every Province. This will ease the difficulties to those assessed

excessively and help them to avoid unnecessary expenditure in going up and down long distances to Provincial Commissioners' Offices to give explanations. It must be realised that correspondence on such cases is becoming more and more useless. It will also make it possible for those not reasonably assessed to be assessed properly. The Provincial Commissioners who are Chairmen of the Appeal Committees will also find it easier to judge cases which may arise.

The 'Pay as You Earn' system should also be reviewed so that 20% share given to Native Authorities is increased to 50%. This will assist Native Authorities to increase their revenue which has started to decline considerably.

Lastly Mr. Speaker, I should like to suggest to the Government to consult with the other Governments of the Federation to regionalise the National Provident Fund. This will enable each Government to utilise its portion for development. It will also make it easier for the subscribers to get their money whenever required. The present system is so complicated and takes any subscriber a year or two or even more to get his money, and whereas if a slight delay is made in sending the contribution, a penalty is imposed and must be paid for.

With these few remarks Mr. Speaker, I beg to support the second reading of the Bill.

THE SITTING WAS SUSPENDED FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES
AT 11.05 a.m.

HOUSE RESUMES

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. Debate resumes.

ALHAJI HASSAN, DALLATUN ABUJA: Mr. Speaker, sir, I rise to support the motion before the House which was ably moved by the Minister of Finance. I also wish to congratulate all the staff of his Ministry. In doing so sir, I would like to make some observations. I will start with the financial chart before us. Here too, sir, I would like to congratulate the Minister for the efforts taken in preparing this chart. Mr. Speaker, sir, I do not know whether I will be allowed to make few suggestions for the future. In my suggestions, sir, I think item 3 Haraji ma'addina 1/8d. I do not know whether this column includes the tax levied on the manufactured - I mean locally manufactured goods. In my opinion here, we want to have more in this column. In the third column of 1/8d I like it to be increased to 2/-, and so on. I do not know whether I am in order any-how, this is my personal appeal to increase some of these items especially tobacco. I want to see more duty increase to it. Now sir, on the third column of the expenditure side, I should like to see the following department have more shares. They are as follows: Agriculture, Works, and Health. When I mention these three, I do not mean that the other Heads have got more than their requirements but I just want these three to have much more money in order to carry on with their services. Now sir, I come to the main speech. The Minister on the first page of his speech, mentioned about increase in expenditure. This is so and we all know and agree that the increase is due to increase of salaries and wages which are the results of the Morgan Report. Here sir, I would like to make one suggestion to the Minister. I think it is now time that the Government should think of introducing price control in the country because every two or three years when there is revision of salaries and wages, prices of articles are increased. As you will see, as soon as people hear about revision of salaries, at once they start to increase prices of their articles. They do so in order to have sufficient money to pay their workers. Lastly, several hon. members have complained on the floor of this House about the high charges on motor repairs and spare parts. These people - the commercial firms - have to do this - and why - because they have to increase the wages of their workers. Since their workers want more money they have to find the means of paying them and so they increase prices of their articles. My suggestion to remedy this situation is price control. By doing so, sir, all these

anomalies will be corrected. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I turn to the points mentioned in the development plan. The N.As. too have to find money to pay their staff and unless the method of price control is introduced, they too will suffer. We have already been suffering about the increase of wages. In my opinion, the next point sir, is the 'buy Nigerian goods'. I quite could remember before the slogan 'buy British goods' was said. The reason for that is that during the years, the Japanese brought in large quantities of their goods into the country and sold them cheaply. I am glad that now the slogan is changed and instead of 'buy British goods', we should like to see that the textile industry produces enough variety of goods for the public because at present goods, especially cloth is not produced in sufficient quantities for the public. We are not getting as much from the local manufacturers and this is why we turn to imported goods. In my suggestion, sir, I would like the Minister to see that our materials are produced by our local manufacturers for as I said, at present we do not get our requirements. Mr. Speaker, sir, the next thing is that I should like to see that government levies higher duties on imported articles such as spirit watches and liquor. This, sir, happened often in many countries and unless we do so, we will not discourage people from importing foreign articles into our country. The more, duties are imposed, the less effort to import foreign goods. Finally we want to see more and more local manufactured articles. If we do not get these articles we would have to import them. With these few remarks, I support the motion.

ALHAJI MUH. MAIDIN
I am very glad to rise to support this motion. Surely the Hon. Minister of Finance should be congratulated. The reasons are that everything that has been accomplished in the North and in Nigeria as a whole, could not have been accomplished without capable men such as the Hon. Aliy Meakaman Bida to look after public finances. He is for his own and also that of the public under his examination. We shall examine the way this Ministry looks after the money in its care, we shall not hesitate to congratulate the Minister. By doing so, I would like to put before the House and the Minister of Finance what we want. I would like to see the Ministry of Finance

ed. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I turn to the points mentioned in the development plan. The N.As. too have to find money to pay their staff and unless the method of price control is introduced, they too will suffer. We have already been suffering about the increase of wages. In my opinion, the next point sir, is the 'buy Nigerian goods'. I quite could remember before the slogan 'buy British goods' was said. The reason for that is that during the years, the Japanese brought in large quantities of their goods into the country and sold them cheaply. I am glad that now the slogan is changed and instead of 'buy British goods', we should like to see that the textile industry produces enough variety of goods for the public because at present goods, especially cloth is not produced in sufficient quantities for the public. We are not getting as much from the local manufacturers and this is why we turn to imported goods. In my suggestion, sir, I would like the Minister to see that our materials are produced by our local manufacturers for as I said, at present we do not get our requirements. Mr. Speaker, sir, the next thing is that I should like to see that government levies higher duties on imported articles such as spirit watches and liquor. This, sir, happened often in many countries and unless we do so, we will not discourage people from importing foreign articles into our country. The more, duties are imposed, the less effort to import foreign goods. Finally we want to see more and more local manufactured articles. If we do not get these articles we would have to import them. With these few remarks, I support the motion.

YAKI (SARKIN JABA): Mr. Speaker to support this motion. Surely the Hon. Minister of Finance should be congratulated. The reasons are that everything that has been accomplished in the North and in Nigeria as a whole, could not have been accomplished without capable men such as the Hon. Aliy Meakaman Bida to look after public finances. He is for his own and also that of the public under his examination. We shall examine the way this Ministry looks after the money in its care, we shall not hesitate to congratulate the Minister. By doing so, I would like to put before the House and the Minister of Finance what we want. I would like to see the Ministry of Finance

I want to bring before the House what is troubling our people in the Southern Zaria because the only produce in that area is not more than ginger, but I now want the Minister of Agriculture to induce to the people how to plant cotton because it is strange to the people. If this is produced together with ginger it will enable my people to get enough money to pay their taxes without any difficulties.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to appeal to the Minister of Agriculture to build Agricultural School in Southern Zaria where Agricultural Officers could be taught how to enlighten the school children and the farmers on modern farming methods. If need be, more money be obtained from the Minister of Finance or the Ministry of Agriculture. My people are suffering very much and in order to help them I must bring this matter before this House what their requirements are. If I do not bring this matter before the Government I think I am not doing my duty accordingly. During this period, those politicians who are not interested in the affairs of the North, especially those from Tiv Division troubled me a lot. They have recently announced that they do not want to stay with us. They do not want to farm only but to kill people, this practice is very dreadful indeed. I want therefore to suggest to the Minister that an industry should be established in my constituency in order to help the people and this will also reduce the expenditure of the Government.

Mr. Speaker Sir, another important thing as regards the purchase of ginger is that some Europeans use to come and buy ginger in Southern Zaria at a much lesser price than the approved Government rate. I do not know whether these people are U.P.G.As. in their place, because they do not want any other country to be richer. These Europeans want only to say £170 per ton for ginger. Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to appeal to the Minister of Agriculture to build a farm centre in my constituency. This will help my people, and I would also like the Minister of Agriculture to provide sufficient money for the traders so that they could compete with these Europeans who use to buy ginger at a reduced rate.

Another point Mr. Speaker is to appeal to the Minister of Finance that the Minister of Trade and Industry, Malam Michael Audu Buba should be given money and I want to draw his attention that it is high time to improve our ginger, because all imported food that we take in this country are small ginger and there is no reason why we could not manufacture them locally here. This will make this crop more useful and helpful to us.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I wish to supplement my appeal to the Minister of Finance to allocate more money to the Minister of Economic Planning so that he could allocate more money to the L.B.A. The funds so far allocated to him is not sufficient and thereby people will suffer and complaints will be directed to the Government. What I see is what makes me to complain about the funds given to L.B.A. I am appealing to the Minister to enact a legislation so that these expatriate buyers are governed by some rules whereby they will not interfere with the business of the L.B.A. and also that they should transact their business directly with the Government or the Native Authorities instead of buying directly from the people. In all corners of the world such legislation are being enacted and I do not see what will prevent us from not doing the same thing. Does it mean that we are afraid of U.F.G.A. supporters? I have nothing to add other than to congratulate the Minister of Finance since I consider him a school leaver who has just completed his schooling. With these few remarks I beg to support.

DR. IYA ABUBAKAR (Special Member): Mr. Speaker I rise to support the Bill before this House and in doing so I have one or two comments to make. The first one is that it is notable that the emphasis on the Capital Budget is mainly on development. This is quite reasonable because it is important that we develop our natural resources to the benefit of our people. We have the natural resources and we should develop them; we have the land, the minerals and the population.

Secondly it is pleasing to see in the Estimates that there is an increase in the Maintenance of Roads and Water Supplies. The vote for Road Maintenance has increased by £150,000 from £750,000 to £900,000 and the vote for Water Supplies Maintenance was increased from £298,000 to £346,150 by an increase of £48,150, and therefore we will expect to see more improvements on our roads and water supplies, and I am sure in the hands of our very able Minister of Works this is assured. (Applause)

Another very pleasing thing in the Estimates is the increase in the vote for Agricultural Show which is now doubled. Agricultural Show is only one small item in the Agricultural project and it has a very important part to play in teaching farmers new methods of farming and therefore it is gratifying that our Government is taking extra efforts in encouraging it and I hope they will get the Native Authorities to take more interest in this particular item.

Thirdly in His Excellency's Speech he refers to the fact that during this year his Government is going

to intensify its efforts in publicising this country abroad. Now however looking through the Estimates there is no increase in this vote for publicity, but I think this is hidden in another part of the vote somewhere else. External publicity is very important to this country at the moment. If you realise, most of our ambassadors are non-Northerners and the kind of publicity given on this country is more or less that of the South. In particular sometime ago, there was a report that our first class paper, Nigerian Citizen was not in circulation in our Foreign Embassies. Therefore I would like the Government to take up this matter with the appropriate Federal authority to see that the anomaly is put in order.

Lastly Sir, I would like to commend the effort of the Government for the general financial support which they are giving to Ahmadu Bello University and various institutions. This is an indication of high interest the Government has in high education. The University has got a very important role to play in the life of this country and this is going to be more evident in the next few years when our graduates come out to take their positions in the services of this Region and I hope this financial support will grow with the growth of the University. I will surely suggest that the Government will make it possible that during the next few years, any student who gains admission to any University in Nigeria or abroad will be given automatic scholarship if he has financial difficulties. Sir I beg to support.

MR. MOSES A. OJO (Ilorin East): Mr. Speaker Sir I rise to support this Ministry. First of all am going to lay emphasis on the development of our roads in the Region. Going through the Estimates I could see that our Native Authorities will be in trouble in paying their road labourers. We know that our Native Authorities have limited resources to meet their expenses on roads and we do know that what our electorates use to note are the conditions of our roads however gigantic a house might be built they do not want to know. Just they like to see their roads developed. Our roads cause a lot of trouble to our cars and hardly can one car follow another on our roads because of dust. If at all you are in your car, in my constituency of course, you have to take your clothes to the washerman every-day and our electorates use to complain about bad roads every time. I think that the votes for road-maintenance is very small. I have to appeal to the Minister of Finance to give enough money to develop our roads and to do something to see that more money is given for the clearing of our roads. It is very discouraging to note that none of our N.A. roads in my constituency has been

take over this year. I could see that during the last Morgan Commission report so many labourers on our roads were stopped because of lack of fund. Therefore I strongly appeal to the Minister of Finance to do something about this.

Secondly I disagree with the Honourable Member from Abuja who spoke in support of firms that the cost and maintenance of cars are reasonable. I do not know whether he is a shareholder in some firms or from where he purchase his own cars. What I could say is that nearly two-thirds of our allowances go on maintenance of our cars; spare parts also are very dear. I wonder whether the Honourable Member knows what is happening in places like Ghana, London etc. where prices of cars are not as high as in Nigeria and maintenance is also very cheap. If a Member travels from his constituency to Kaduna and takes his car to firm for repairs he will be charged heavily. And again the charges given in the firms in Nigeria are too high. (Interruptions). Therefore Mr. Speaker if you think reasonably you will see that the agitation is reasonable. Finally Mr. Speaker I would like to say something about the teachers who teach in our voluntary agency schools. I appeal to the Minister of Finance to see that grants in aid for the payment of salaries of our teachers sent to them in time because many of our teachers used to suffer a lot before receiving their salaries. At times teachers may not receive two months salary and I doubt if a person is hungry he could teach continuously. There is a saying that a hungry man is an angry man. So I appeal to the Minister of Finance to send the grants in aid at the appropriate time. With these few remarks I beg to support

MR. SPEAKER: Courtesy makes it that we should call on the most senior Member to speak, therefore I will call on Madaki of Kano to speak.

ALHAJI SHEHU AHMADU, MADAKIN KANO (Member for Gwaram): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should like to support the Motion and say very much that all of us in this august House are appreciative of the Minister of Finance's Budget Speech in which no stone was left unturned about the finances of this Region. The Minister has cleared all our doubts and fears about the finances of the Region and he has fully considered the financial position of this Region as sound. It is sound at present and the future prospects are good. It is most gratifying that our Government since all these years is stable and sound, and now the financial position confirmed that the stability and soundness of our Government will continue to be equal to that of the past years. I am proud to say that it is this Region that has the credit of having had its finances sound and stable and never embezzled or defrauded by either the

Premier of the Region or his Minister of Finance, so ahead we shall go with our Development Scheme and the Public Services. I sincerely congratulate the Minister of Finance for justifying his office, taking care of public money as much as he takes care of his own. I will say that may God grant him more thrift. With these few remarks I support the Motion.

MR. J.A. AMAICHIGH (Member for Ukum Shitire): Before I make my observation on the Budget Speech which is before the House I have to thank the Government for making it abundantly clear that sooner or later we have to enter our third year of the Development Plan. (Interruptions). (Members: We could not hear him).

MR. SPEAKER: Will the hon. Member please raise his voice.

MR. J.A. AMAICHIGH: I consider it to be the last chance for the development of my area because since the beginning of this development plan nothing has been done in Tiv Division and especially my constituency Ukum-Shitire, therefore I am appealing to the Government to consider Tiv Division and supply us with necessary amenities such as hospitals in Gboko and another in Ukum-Shitire and another one in Adikpo. And also we want pump water system as there is a lot of sisootima-himatochy disease (Interruptions). (Members: We don't know the meaning).

MR. J.A. AMAICHIGH: I want the Government to help to eradicate these dangerous disease, and supply us with light in Gboko town as well. And also I would like a way to be made as the Government has said that the future is brighter in the development plan so I wish the Government to consider my humble appeal seriously. My other point is on Morgan Commission Report. The increase in Government expenditure which was shown in the recurrent expenditure for the Morgan Commission. What is the Government doing to implement what the Morgan Commission recommends for the Civil Servants. (Interruptions). (Members: they were paid).

MR. J.A. AMAICHIGH. But you cut it you didn't pay all. Another point Sir, is on what the Government said about the World Market Prices which have been favourable to Groundnuts and Groundnut oil. What about Soya Beans, Beni-seeds and Yam commodities which are from Tiv Division. Nothing has been said about them. Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the rate of investments in manufacture has been increased as stated by the Government.....(Interruptions)

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS (Alhaji Tijjani Hashim) He is reading his note.

HON. SPEAKER: I think he is referring to his notes. The honourable member should pretend as if he is not reading his speech.

MR. J.A. AMAICHICH: I would like the Government to increase the number of employment in my area. The other point Mr. Speaker, is about the Census. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Order! Order! We have finished about the Census, and I am not going to have it now. Please proceed with financial matters.

MR. J.A. AMAICHICH. With these few remarks I beg to support. (Laughter).

HON. SPEAKER: For the information of hon. Members I am going to give priority to those who have not had the chance of contributing during the debate on the Speech from the Throne, although some people had already taken an advantage but in future I will call on those honourable members who have not had the opportunity to contribute. I will call on those who did not speak on the Speech from the Throne.

ALHAJI HASHIMU (Member for Gusau) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to show my gratitude on the current speech of the Budget Session from the Hon. Minister of Finance. No doubt we should congratulate the Government and give it our full support from all corners of the House. I am sure that such kind of person who has been appointed by the Hon. Premier to undertake the financial affairs of the public because of this Mr. Speaker I showed my great thanks on behalf of my constituency Gusau for many things which had been done since the Minister of Finance came to Gusau himself and led the foundation stone of the Gusau Textile. I have no chance to congratulate the Government on behalf of my people by then, although it is not surprising that anything which is done in Gusau is not wasted because Gusau is growing rapidly. We thank the Government for what they have done. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very glad that this Budget Session which has been presented to the House is something to be glad of. I would also like to say something about these workers who came all over the world. Our people worried much since they realised that there is nobody to help them though they have already seen the lies told by Political opponents. They have been told that many things will be done for them but they are lying. Also we cannot fulfil all their wish but I pray the Government should do as much as they can because they give us the backing

during the last election. We want hospital and some insects are worrying us. Therefore, I beg for insect spray. I want to ask the Government out of this Budget these people should be satisfied because of the support they give us when we ask for it. We have realised what the N.P.C. Government can do for us, I think no other party can do it. This N.P.C. Government is the party of Sir, Ahmadu Bello therefore I would like to appeal to the Speaker that these people should be satisfied in their demand. They should give them adequate water supply so that they do not worry because they are ready to give up their support. I hope these people will be helped for at least with a dispensary and pump water and I would like to list these places who asked me what I should ask the Government to do in their favour, especially in Chafe where they asked for Wind Mill and Supply of Water. With these few remarks I beg to support.

The Government is carrying out these activities in order to protect prosperity and peace. I hope therefore Mr. Speaker that the Government will distribute these industries in accordance with the size of the town or Province. I know that every Member of this House wants prosperity and there are things which we want and we have to go a long way to get them, but if we have these things at our places it will be easy. We have not got industry which will satisfy our needs except this textile which we hope to be given. There is not any other industry in this Province. There are industries in so many other places in this Region. We want to get such kind of industries even from foreign people who build such industries in this Region. Only in Kano and like places are these found. Kano is the first and Sokoto is the second largest towns in the Region and Gusau is the second biggest town in Sokoto Province. Therefore we hope we shall be given priority for that. In this budget speech I will also like to touch Health. Health is an important thing. Gusau is now growing and spreading but its hospital and the beds are very few. I have no need to appeal to the Government because it has been aware of this.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I said that Gusau (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What we want now is what concerns the prosperity and development of the Region. Do you understand? If you want to speak about the General Hospital you should start with the development and then inject the question of hospital.

ALHAJI HASIMU: Speaker Sir, what I said is that Gusau is now growing rapidly. The reason for this is due to the textile industry. But Gusau hospital is still

it was, what I ask for is that it should be extended. (Applause). Mr. Speaker Sir, I hope that the Minister has heard what I have said. I do not say that we are grateful and that we do not have this or asking for a new one but we want the present one to be extended. The present one cannot now satisfy the need of the growing number of people in Gusau. There are many people who undergo difficulties after operation because there are no beds in the hospital to accommodate them. Mr. Speaker Sir, I still want to say something to the Minister of Trade and Industry and I hope I will have another chance to speak. I thank our Government and this Hon. Gentleman who has been given the care to look after our public funds.

ALHAJI USMAN AHMED (Kontagora S.E.): Mr. Speaker Sir, I am grateful to be given the chance to speak on the Budget Speech. The people of the North are grateful to the Minister of Finance and all the Ministers for their specialisation in their duties. Mr. Speaker, I have very few comments to make. I wish to speak on the Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources on whose responsibility the prosperity and well-being of this region depends. The revenue so far collected by the Government through this Ministry is now an important channel of revenue. Therefore Mr. Speaker, even though the Minister is trying to help yet the Government should take care and consider two things because firstly there should be taken to see that animals are kept in one place. If animals are stationed in one place it will reduce the great number of rinderpest infection and that greater diseases could be reduced. And their death rates will be lessened. Therefore Mr. Speaker I want the Government to help to see that dam is built where necessary. Secondly, grazing reserves should be increased, that will greatly bring about the collection of cattle raider and that will of course reduce the rate of diseases and veterinary work and research should be carried out and results founded.

On the Ministry of Social Welfare and Co-operatives: Mr. Speaker this Ministry is such that caters for the well-being and social training of people of this Region because such Ministry is to look after the numerous farmers we have in this Region and which will encourage them to establish their co-operative societies so that the revenue and expenditure incurred by the Government will be explained to the people provided that they remain in one place. Mr. Speaker we are appealing to the Government that the co-operative unions are been cared for and looked after by the Government Civil servants and to see that each union establishes its staff and that staff should be

specialised. In the field of co-operative, if this is done the Government will shortly at one time help each co-operative society to send its staff to undergo a special training in such a manner that Inspectors are being trained and that the union will firmly be established. Principal Registrar and all other staff will help to establish a better co-operative societies, and that will greatly reduce the difficulties incurred annually whereby the Government civil servants are recruited to do the job, and that will bring savings and export duties. Therefore Mr. Speaker we are looking forward to the Government to see that the union have qualified staff because in other countries of the world this is the practice. Although we have not been to each country one by one but we have read about some of these countries. Co-operative Societies are different movements and therefore Mr. Speaker I am appealing that the Government should look into this.

With these remarks Mr. Speaker I beg to support.

ALHAJI IBRAHIM MUSA (Igalla N.W.): Mr. Speaker Sir, I am rising up to support the Minister of Finance who is responsible for the finance of this Region. Indeed the Estimate is well prepared and no one can criticise it especially the plan for our Government. In supporting the Estimates I have few observations to make and my observations is that the Regional Government during the last Morgan award Government has already paid 99% of their staff but the N.A.'s in this Region could not afford to pay their staff because they are in financial difficulty and because of this road labourers are being driven away. The Government should therefore give grants to the N.As. to pay their staff. 99% of N.A. staff run away to the Government because of shortage of their salaries. Without good N.A. I do not think that the Government will enjoy.

I will associate myself with those Hon. Members who say something about Motor vehicles, etc. Really if one can see that about 75% of our income goes to U.D.C. If one could observe carefully some people travel to Ghana and other parts of West Africa you will not see somebody purchasing a car which is worth £1,000. Formerly when somebody is qualified to get a car he was given an advance in cash and there was a discount of 10% but nowadays everybody either from N.A. or Government buys his car on hire purchase. This makes the U.D.C. to grow higher and higher. It is high time that the Government should make arrangement to stop this forthwith. (Applause). Normally this is the season when the Hon. Members go to repair their cars and with little damage on the car they are charged

very heavy amount say about £50 - £60 because the Companies know that we are being paid allowances. They do this in order to pay their staff high salaries. This situation must be reformed.

Now, my last observation, I want to suggest that we need weapons to safeguard ourselves, because weapon is safeguard to humanity. Last year I said to the Hon. Premier that the North is so vast and that the world of nowadays is a political world. If we want to safeguard this Region our N.A. Police should be raised to the standard of the Nigeria Police. They should be armed. We are much worried about the gang of thieves who come from other Regions. Every year we collect tax and thieves come from other Regions and bungle all the places. If the Government considers this request and raises the standard of the N.A. Police to that of the Nigeria Police this will help to safeguard the public. For example, a month ago, a gang of thieves came to our area and stole about £900 out of the tax collected, this is a shortage to our N.A. Some of the policemen who are involved in this case have been interdicted on the charge of neglect of duty. We can see how these N.A. Police, who only have batons cannot defend themselves against a gang of thieves armed with guns etc. These policemen have been interdicted and they were not armed. I hope therefore that the Government should consider having the N.A. Police men armed. The Government should see that we are safeguarded even the Nigeria Police should be sent to our border to protect our lives. Without this, Sir, I would say that our lives will be at danger. If you know the people of Eastern Region, you will fear them. Finally my suggestion is that it is high time the government.....(interruptions...)

MR. SPEAKER: Order. Only one member is allowed to speak at a time. Will you try to finish Malam Musa.

MALAM IBRAHIM MUSA: My last request is as one member has pointed out earlier. It is quite time that when we hon. members go back to our constituencies, our people expect our roads to be in state of good repairs. We may have magnificent buildings. Without good roads we cannot improve our trade. According to the present estimates, much money has been voted in the Head for Ministry of Works for road development, they should try to see that roads are kept in good repairs especially in my Division - that is Igala Division. We have no good roads. Thirdly I will suggest to the Minister of Education that grants to Voluntary Agencies should be paid monthly. I wonder why when grants are paid to these schools, they continue to ask the children to buy books etc. If the grants given to them is not adequate, they should be increased. With these few remarks I beg to support.

MALAM ADAMU, (Sarkin Pindiga): Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the motion but would like to make some observations regarding

the Ministries of Trade and Industry and Social Welfare and Cooperatives. Mr. Speaker, sir, recently cotton seeds have been introduced in our area and so many people have been trading on cotton for some time now. But this year the B.C.G.A. has moved from our area and the Government has taken over the trade. What should now happen at the co-operative union has taken over the business, and they have no funds? At the moment we can see that cotton growing will stop, thereby rendering the peasants inpecunious. This will greatly worry us and disturb our peace. In almost all the buying stations you will see that the peasants have loads of cotton which they cannot sell because there is no money. You could not even see any person of a high rank other than the peasants. They were only given about £300. We have about 7 buying stations nowadays. The people are greatly disturbed. I feel that the co-operative union should be given more funds so that they can buy more cotton. I hope something will be done about this. We are appealing that the buying stations should not be closed down. With only these few remarks I beg to support.

MR. SPEAKER: If you want to speak, then you stand up and I will look and see who has not spoken but if you sit down we take it that all have spoken. Immediately somebody has finished speaking the next speaker will stand up and that will give me the opportunity to know those who have not spoken so far. M. Deshi has also spoken and so has Mallam Sule. All of them have spoken before.

MALAM DESHI TOKLEN: Mr. Speaker, sir, I rise to support the budget speech and to thank the Minister of Finance for the estimate presented to this House. I also wish to make some observations and comments because so many members have spoken so far on the amendments to be made. Mr. Speaker, sir, I will appeal to the Minister to make available more funds to the Ministry of Information so that it will continue its work of public enlightenment because the present funds is very small. We have so many people wandering about and the public enlightenment staff do not get enough salary. They only get about 6/- a month out of the grant. I feel the Minister of Finance should increase the vote for the Ministry of Information so that public enlightenment activities should be promoted.
(interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, Wazirin Katsina): Mr. Speaker, sir, I rise to move that the Standing Order 8(1) be suspended so that the sitting of this House shall continue up to 2 p.m.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

MALAM DESHI TOKLEN: Secondly, Mr. Speaker, sir, I would like to speak on the Ministry of Works. Many a times and often we have been complaining on the improvement of roads. We have a place called 'konan machiji' and this place needs to be improved. Accidents occur always there. I am also appealing to the Minister that the road be tarred, because the place is slippery during the rainy season at 'konan machiji'. I also wish to speak on motor vehicles. When you take your cars for repairs and for only five minutes work, you are required to pay £7. The cost of labour is far greater than the cost of the vehicle. I feel that the cost of labour should be charged comparatively to the work and I feel that it should be divided equally for it is unfair for a three minutes work to charge £7. I am grateful to the person who spoke previously about this. Mr. Speaker, I am also speaking to the Minister of Finance on grants. We have seen that an allocation of grant to schools come up lately as suggested by my hon. friend. They should be given the grant at the right time so that they can utilise it in the right way. I feel that Proprietors of Voluntary Agency schools should be given the grant monthly. With these few remarks, I beg to support.

MR. J. U. UYEH (Kunav): Mr. Speaker, I rise to associate myself with the views expressed by hon. members on the budget speech. I would like to pay a tribute to the Minister of Finance,

and the entire staff of the Ministry of Finance. Sir about two years ago the Honourable Premier promised us that it was in error that the Budget Estimate were not sent to all the Members and he said that this mistake will be corrected and since then we have started receiving our estimates continuously and in this regard we are grateful to him.

Sir, it is true that we are half way down in our six year Development Plan. It is a fact that this Region is the largest in the whole country and even much larger than all the other three Regions put together but so far the efforts made are very little. Everybody is aware that this our larger Region is behind in everything - in education, in industries and in the building of hospitals. It is high time that this Region of ours should try and put more effort to see that the Development Plan is carried out effectively. I am surprised Sir that every year this Region with these multitudes will budget the smallest amount of money than any other Region of the Federation. I know very well that it is the desire of this House to develop this Region but I am appealing to the Government to try and budget more money than what has been done in the previous years.

Sir I am appealing to the Regional Government for the Ministry of Education that the money for the Ministry of Education should be increased because there is no count go ahead with education. We need and thousands of our boys are roaming about because they could not get scholarships and I appeal to the Government that the money given to the Ministry of Education should be increased so that all our boys studying in Universities either at home or abroad should be given scholarship.

Turning to the Electricity Corporation, I am appealing to the Regional Government that it is high time the Government should try and give electricity in Gboko is very essential it will pay for itself very well. We have so many people in the community and also many secondary schools at Mkar, the General Hospital at Mkar and a Leprosy Settlement which is only 4 miles away. Electricity given to this town will be very useful and I am quite sure that the Government will not only give but will try to see that the Tiv people get their fair share. It is high time that the Government should stop neglecting the Tiv people.

Coming to the Ministry of Agriculture, I am appealing to the Minister should try to do something about rice, beans, beniseed and other crops. All these are grown in the Tiv Division in quantities and it is high time that we should try and do something about it. Sir with these few remarks I beg to support.

MR. A.A. ABC (Member for Igala East): Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Appropriation Bill presented to this Honourable House by our able Minister of Finance in person of Alhaji Aliyu M. C.F.R., C.M.A. etc. Really Sir, my staff of his Ministry is also to keep a sound financial policy in our Region. We are proud of our Minister of Finance for no Government could do well without good finances. So I congratulate the Minister. We are under-developed country and we are aware of our Government. We are doing to improve the standard of living of our people, but Sir, I thought it is high time that the Government should take into consideration what to do to help some places which they are South to the North. We should not at all get a stale Government stability with sound finances without political

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We in Igala Division, Idoma Division and Ilorin are the gateways to the North and if the Northern Government treated us as special areas it is not too wrong. There are some elements immigrating to the North and before they could travel to places like Gusau, Sokoto and other parts of the far North in the Region and give them political trouble they, will have finished with us in the Riverian areas. How could we in Igala Division with no single tarred road cope with the political challenge from the southern politicians. This is their weapon of campaign and this is what the common man could see. When we speak they will say the World Bank has recommended some roads in the Region for development but your roads are not among them. Really Sir, if it is not economically viable but politically viable, is this not enough for the Government to reconsider its policy of viability? We are more democratic in Northern Nigeria than people in any other Region of the Federation and members of the Government Bench can speak their minds unlike the Eastern Region where Members of the Government are not allowed to talk. As a result of this democracy the N.P.C. will be returned in all the constituencies during the next Regional elections and there would be no single opposition member.

Mr. Speaker Sir, my special appeal goes to the Minister of Finance who I want to make available more money for the Minister of Works to carry out the tarring of some roads in my Division. This request of mine should be strongly supported because our Division is the immediate gateway to the East and when next the N.C.N.C. political manoeuvres come to this area to campaign among the people they will have no weapon of campaigning. To defeat this enemy of the North I hope, and I am sure the Minister will do it, and I am appealing for immediate implementation.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I give my thanks to the Minister of Agriculture. We from the Riverian areas in general should be grateful to the Regional Government for the way and manner they are helping us in agricultural scheme. In my Division in particular, by God's mercy over us, we shall do well in agriculture. The Regional Government is trying to grow many of economic trees for us especially the Cocoa Research Nursery which the Honourable Minister of Agriculture is trying to implement for us. I am grateful and my constituency is grateful too. It is very important to encourage agriculture because it is quite clear that nobody can remain from morning till evening among us here without

anything in his stomach, and therefore if it is necessary to encourage our farmers because the majority of us depend on what we can get from our land. The Minister of Agriculture should also try to develop the production of more palm trees, cocoa, citrus and coffee. I am appealing to the Minister concerned to do something immediately for this Region is the largest and at the same time the most progressive. It is a Region we are proud of in Nigeria because many other Regions in the Federal Republic of Nigeria stand to copy from Northern Nigeria, especially the Eastern Region of Nigeria where originally they have no House of Chiefs. It have copied the institution from Northern Nigeria by appointing some Chiefs. For this reason we can lead Nigeria even Africa as a whole and when I say this I speak with authority based on past experiences.

My next point Sir is about Insurance Companies operating in this Region and in Nigeria in general. Their attitudes are appalling. Insurance Companies are trying to rob this country in so many aspects. One goes to insure his motor-car against accident and happens to have an accident a day or two later after having paid fabulous amount of money, even if it is comprehensive insurance, the company would not check miles covered, the year of manufacturer of the car, and many other technical details, so that when the investigations are completed, you hardly get back two-thirds of the amount for which you insured the car. For example if you insured for £900 you hardly get back £600 after just three days of using the car. Are we not slaves to these Companies in this respect? If it is the question of enacting laws to prevent money being taken away in this sense the Honourable Minister of Justice and the Attorney-General should effect this. (APPLAUSE).

Mr. Speaker Sir, the situation on this particular item may be that some top-ranking officials have personal interests in this enterprise. They should put aside their personal interests and put the interests of the people at heart because we are elected by them and we work according to their interests. I am therefore appealing to the Government to do something to change this situation. I realise as I have said earlier that I don't want to worry the Government so much about the House Estate. Really Sir, the Members in this House have the same status with the Federal Members and it is surprising that when we come up to Kaduna we don't have place to sleep. We should be given accommodation. I would like to appeal to the Government to do something about it and support us

demand. When we are in the North here we are at home, but we want some place to sleep. We know that you are doing it but we want the support of the Government because it is not good to sleep in a bad place and we are very grateful to the way and manner our party is constituted under the able leadership of Sir Ahmadu Bello. In these few remarks I beg to support and to congratulate the Minister of Finance.

MALLAM SULEIMAN DARAZO (Member for Bauchi North-East). Thank you Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Minister of Finance and also the Government for its work in this country. I would like to advise the Government and the Minister of Finance on his call on the people to contribute in this country and help in developing the region. I think what is happening in this country should be something to be remedied especially the financial situation of the region. I want the Government to note that there is rise in prices of so many things in this country. I want the Government to see that people get their bags with simplicity. With these few remarks I beg to support.

MALLAM SULE TIYA ADAMU (Member for Bauchi South East). Thank you Mr. Speaker. In supporting the Bill I will however thank the Government once more for the excellent work done to this region. Mr. Speaker, the cries of all things is money and I want that no programme could be implemented without adequate finance to do so, but the only important way to raise money quickly not only in this region but all over the world is by taxation. I think, I would like to point out to the Minister of Finance that a lot of people including petty traders are some assessed on wrong information. It is better Sir, that when the Ministry of Finance, Revenue Division seeks information on individuals about the nature they should contact the NAA, where the people concerned live. Wrong information on assessment has often been given on the people where I come from. I would like to the Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources that in my constituency we have so many cattle and animals. I would like to point out to the Minister of Agriculture that we have many dams which if Irrigation is introduced the output of Wheat and Rice production will be more than double before because at the moment the average output of

these crops are very low. I will be grateful if Irrigation is introduced in Duguri. I hope all these investigations will be implemented. I beg to second.

MR. OBAIKE ODEH (Member for Idoma South East). Thank you very much Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Appropriation Bill 1965-66 and in doing so firstly, I have to thank the hon. Minister for presenting this able estimate for the work of the Government for the year 1965-66. At the same time I have to thank all the staff of the Ministry of Finance for producing this able Appropriation Bill. In doing this Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have some observation to make on the Ministry of Agriculture. I am really grateful for what the Minister has done for the people of Idoma in particular, now the Minister has promised to establish a Settlement Farm Centre in Oturkpo but I am wondering if time has not come that the Farm Centre is constructed and students enroll so that they can start work. Now earlier Mr. Speaker, Sir, I mentioned that if this region is to progress we should take the Ministry of Agriculture very seriously in order to increase our output of crops. By this I mean we should encourage the training of Agricultural Officers in most of these advanced countries and thereby implement the new idea so that we would increase our output. This is very, very important indeed because if we can increase the output of our cattle breed, cocoa, beans and soya beans etc. then I think the North would be the richest region of the whole Federation of Nigeria. So I appeal strongly that we should exchange the training of Agricultural Officers to some of these advanced countries in Agriculture, like the U.S.A., Netherland and Jamaica. These countries are well advanced in agricultural principles. If our officers are sent to these countries they will come back with renewed sense of agricultural administration and it will be of immense value to the region. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should like to comment on the Ministry of Education, of course, this Ministry has actually done very much to raise the standard of education from the lowest to the highest level. And I feel the money allocated to this Ministry is still not sufficient because I can see most of our students some in Secondary Schools and Universities need financial help, some of them are very brilliant indeed but have not the means for maintaining themselves. I know that the Scholarship Board is there to award scholarships but every effort should be made to encourage the students who actually have the brain but lack the financial support either from their

parents or guardians; as such I think the Minister should ask for more funds and award more scholarships for the students who lack financial support to continue their studies. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a special suggestion to the Minister of Social Welfare and Cooperatives. I wonder whether it will not be proper to introduce lotteries into Northern Nigeria. I don't know whether this Ministry is in charge of such things but I feel that in other regions they introduce lotteries which people take part and increase the means of financial support to the Government. I think the regional government will think seriously about introducing lotteries into Northern Nigeria. Now Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel I should be failing in my duty if I fail to make some comments about the Ministry of Works. It is very, very appalling if one travels from Eastern Region coming up to Northern Region there is one or two evidence of the narrowness of roads and bridges. I wonder why this should be so. It seems to me that one of the outstanding characteristics of roads and bridges in the North. This is really very, very appalling and I wonder if the Minister will take time and investigate the anomaly and rectify the position, because if a driver is approaching a narrow bridge he may not take notice of the narrowness of the bridge and his life will be in danger and accident may be possible. So I should appeal to the Minister of Works to see that our roads and bridges are widened. Now often I have appealed to the Ministry of Works to see the construction of Ankpa-Boju-Oturkpo and Ede roads, because these roads are very important in this area of the region. It is a road that connects the North and the East and the people in this area grow some cash crops such as Rice, Yams and so on in commercial quantities. I wonder why no effort has been made to take over this road which will be to the advantage of the people of the area. So I appeal to the Minister to see that this road is taken over by the Government, well bridged and well maintained so that the people in this area can export their farm products to the other areas of this region.

In commenting about Hospitals I will merely thank the Minister of Health and his staff for the able way he has run the affairs of the Region for the last two years, for the efforts he has made to improve the standard of Hospitals throughout the Region. I wonder why no action has been taken with regards to the supply of drugs for treatment of rabbies. Mr. Speaker, Sir, rabbies as I said earlier have been rumpant in certain parts of the Region, especially in Idoma Division. It has caused many deaths and often, when patients go to the General Hospital, Oturkpo they are asked to go to Eastern Region because there are

no drugs available. This is very true and I have sufficient evidence. Therefore I am appealing to the Minister to see that drugs for the treatment of rabbies are stored throughout the Region. There is one important thing too, that is before coming to Kaduna for the present session of the House I went to the General Hospital Oturkpo, I was told there was no drug, the order has been placed for over one month. Drugs are not being supplied, why? It is because I think the general store that deals with the supply of drugs to hospitals (Interruption).

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (Alhaji the hon. Ahmadu, O.F.R., M.H.A., Galadiman Pateri): Point of Order Sir, the Standing Order 71(2). The hon. Member does not confine himself to the finances and the economy of the Region.

MR. SPEAKER: Order! Order! I tried to point out to the previous speakers that they should start with the financial affairs and if this could be injected into that well you will see that it will fit in. But not just to go ahead with something that are not financial or deals with economy. You should try to start with finance.

MR. OBEIKE ODEH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will go back to the Ministry of Agriculture.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: How many times will you say something on the Ministry of Agriculture?

MR. OBEIKE ODEH: I want to find a means whereby we can find some sources of revenue for the Region. Mr. Speaker I feel that the Ministry of Agriculture has much to do to improve the resources of the Regional Government and thereby get more money into the funds of the Regional Government. By this I can assure the House that we people of the Riverain area have fertile lands whereby sugar-cane can be grown in commercial quantities. This I can assure the hon. House that along the River bank of Benue there are vast areas of land which could be utilised for the growth of sugar-cane. So if the Ministry of Agriculture will investigate the possibility of utilising the areas along the River Benue banks in the Riverain areas, people of the areas could grow sugar cane in commercial quantities and the sooner this is done the better.

Now I do not think that the farmers in these areas have sufficient knowledge of modern agricultural machinery for the present farm work which if the farmers are taught would greatly improve the standard of production. Now particularly in my own area, the area is fertile, there is every possibility of growing coffee, cocoa, oil-palm. Cotton is already grown in commercial quantity there. I wonder if the Ministry of Agriculture could explore the possibility of growing all these cash crops in large commercial quantity so that the farmers of these areas can be educated on how to grow cash crops in commercial basis.

Minister of Justice - I think this Ministry deserves praise of every Member for the way the judicial Members have handled the cases throughout the Region. But I wonder if the Ministry of Justice would consider the possibility of revise the present composition of Provincial Court Members, particularly Benue Province. There is one point I would like to clear myself. I wonder if the Minister would consider the possibility of delimiting the powers (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: You are just having one more minute left. You started at 1.30 p.m. you are entitled to twenty minutes. Will you please wind up your speech?

MR. OBEIKE ODEH: I would like to make general comment about the judicial staff. I would like to ask the Minister to delegate transfers and posting of N.A. Grade 'B' President to the Provincial Commissioners and the Provincial Secretaries.

MR. SPEAKER: I am afraid you were told a few minutes ago about specialising on one point but you do not follow. Please try to talk about finance and the economy of the Region.

MR. OBAIKE ODEH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in winding up my speech I think it worth noticing that the Ministry of Agriculture has done very well to promote the financial stability of the Region.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry you have touched agriculture and you are going back again. Do you want to conclude your speech with something suitable?

MR. OBAIKE ODEH: With the following remarks I beg to support. (laughter).

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, C.O.N., C.B.E., M.H.A., Wazirin Katsina):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in rising to move that the House do now adjourn, I would like Sir, to raise a very important point. Hon. Members will remember that with their consent, the Speaker has as from last week withheld permission to the representatives of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation to be admitted to the Press Gallery of this House. The Speaker has since then received a letter from the Regional Controller of the Northern Region of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation. With your permission Sir, I will read out the letter.

The Hon. Speaker,
Northern House of Assembly,
Lugard Hall,
Kaduna.

Dear Sir,

I regret that an unpleasant circumstance has led

members of the Northern House of Assembly to introduce a resolution barring all Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation reporters from taking part in covering the proceedings of the House.

2. I must admit that the inability of some of my reporters to make accurate and unmisleading report, and wrong editing in the News on in Lagos, are very serious and are enough to embarrass members of the House in particular, and the public at large. I sincerely assure you that sterner measures will be taken, but here in Lagos, to see that similar and other mistakes which, as much as possible, be avoided in the future, and that meanwhile we are taking steps to discipline the officers responsible for the incident.

3. I should be much grateful if you would convey to the House the qualified apologies of the Corporation for the unfortunate situation which is deeply regretted.

Yours faithfully,

Controller
NORTHERN REGION.

This letter was copied to the Director, Lagos, and the Director of News and Current Affairs, Lagos.

Mr. Speaker, Our quarrel is not with the branch of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation but with the whole body. It is not surprising therefore that nothing has come from Lagos, mainly. The hon. Premier has already asked the Northern Nigerian Minister of Information to ask the Northern Members of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation Board to come down to Kaduna to discuss and review the situation. So, Sir, I think this letter is not enough. (No, No, No, No - honourable Members

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to stop here and ask the hon. Member the Minister of Justice in seconding the motion of adjournment to say something on this very main issue.

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir, M.A.):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my contribution to this most important issue of democracy, I would like to make it absolutely clear to this House and this Government have no quarrel with any person other than the matters of principle. This hon. Member who is sitting here today is not sitting for the benefit of the Members here only or for the citizens who are sitting in the Press Gallery. We are sitting here Sir, in the interest of Northern Nigeria. (Hear! hear! hear!) Sir, the debates of this hon. House, I believe, be that from the Government bench and indeed at times from the Opposition bench are in the interest and welfare of Northern Nigeria. Sir, this being an elected Parliament we have a duty to tell the whole country what we do and the Press as an Institution of our democracy has equal

important duty to tell the whole country and indeed the whole world the deliberations of this hon. House as it is in the House without being in any way biased and mutilated by those responsible for publishing to the general public. On this particular occasion when this House was indeed compelled to get you to withdraw your permission to the representatives of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation to seat in the Press Gallery Sir, we did not do so because of any other reason but because we were satisfied in the national interest - whether greatly distorted or mutilated. This particular instance was not the fault of the Northern branch of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation but was the fault of the Headquarters of Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation in Lagos. Sir, for my part I am really encouraged with this response from the Regional Controller but Sir, the main quarrel is not that the Northern branch of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation has failed to do their duty but the Lagos Headquarters have completely disregarded the interest of Northern Nigeria which is the greatest in the Federation (Applause). Because of this Sir, I am respectfully suggesting that as this letter from the Northern Controller has been copied to the Director General in Lagos and if the Director General has agreed with the Northern Controller he should even at this later hour send in his own apologies. In fact, now I would expect them to come to the Speaker and apologise and would respectfully say that this House would take no action now until we hear what comes out next from Lagos.

I second that the House do now adjourn.

MR. SPEAKER: Before I put the question, I should make it quite clear that as the Speaker of this House, I will take action on behalf of the House as a body. In accordance with that, I have authorised the Clerk of this House to write to the Head of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation in Lagos on this matter and I sympathise with the Regional Controller of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation as a true Northerner, but as I have assured this House that I will not stop until I get a written apology from the Head of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation in Lagos, so we shall still press on as directed by this House.

The Question Is That This House Do Now Adjourn.

Question Put And Agreed To.

House Accordingly Stands Adjourned At 2.05 p.m. Until 10.00 a.m. Tomorrow.

APPENDIX

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS NOT ASKED IN THE HOUSE.

BLIND CENTRES.

025 DR. IYA ABUBAKAR (Special Member) asked the Minister of Social Welfare & Co-operatives:-

- (a) How many centres for the blind are there in the Region?
- (b) How many persons in each centre and how much roughly does it cost the Government to maintain each person?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES

(Alhaji the hon. Umaru Babura, Sarkin Fulani Jaidanawa): (a) There are 12 Workshops for the blind in Northern Nigeria at Kaduna, Sokoto, Katsina, Kano, Zaria, Bida, Azare, Bauchi, Jos, Maiduguri, Bama, Yola and one farmcraft centre at Maiduguri.

- (b) There are, on the average, 10 blind persons in each but Government is not responsible for their maintenance.

ACRES OF FADAMA

033 ALHAJI BABA NABEGU (Rano) asked the Minister of Agriculture in view of the vast acres of Fadama in many parts of this Region, may I know whether his Ministry has got any proposal whereby farmers can be encouraged to improve their system of dry-season farming.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (Alhaji the hon. Ahman, O.B.E., M.H.A., Galadiman Pategi) By dry-season farming it is assumed that the Hon. Member mean dry-season wheat cultivation as well as vegetable growing.

The activities of my Ministry on the improvement of traditional wheat growing by the introduction of large scale irrigation and mechanisation is already well known.

With regard to dry season vegetable growing provision is available for the improvement of present methods. Our aim, is to replace the traditional "shadoof" (jigo) with more efficient pumps and to increase production by the introduction of improved seeds and improved water conservation

and distribution techniques. I have recently approved the creation of a Tree Crop and Horticultural Section to be headed by a trained Northerner in the Field Services Division of my Ministry. This section, will be charged, among other things, with accelerating the work done already on dry season vegetable growing at pilot projects in a number of provinces. Increased financial provision has been requested in the Capital Estimates under Projector 5101 and 5201 of the Development plan, Fruit and Vegetable Garden, and Tree Crop Programme respectively, and promises of increased technical assistance in the form of personnel and commodities are expected to be met shortly.

IMPORTED RICE

034 ALHAJI BABA NABEGU (Rano) asked the Minister of Agriculture whether his Ministry will consider it expedient to introduce the cultivation of imported rice on the same basis as that of wheat to be one of the products of irrigation project from which local farmers could benefit?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (Alhaji the hon. Ahman, O.B.E. M.H.A., Galadiman Patagi): The importation of rice seed and subsequent breeding to obtain improved types is being carried out by the Federal Department of Agricultural Research in association with my Ministry. The resultant improved varieties are now grown farmers, mostly as a cash crop, but with increasing popularity for food. Rice does well under rainy season conditions with annual rainfall ranging from 50 - 60 inches spread over 5-7 months. However there is a future for rice under irrigation and the Honourable Member may be aware of the schemes already operated by my Ministry in association with Native Authorities in Niger Province in the Bida area and Ilorin Province at Duku. On irrigation schemes in the far North in Bornu, Kano and Sokoto Provinces rice is also being developed as a secondary grain crop to wheat. How types adapted to irrigated conditions are constantly being tested and a number of them are being made available to farmers on the schemes.

KANO CITIZEN TRADING COMPANY

035 ALHAJI BABA NABEGU (Rano) asked the Minister of Trade and Industry: (a) Whether the Minister is aware that the Kano Citizens Trading Company still pays an annual profit of only 2% to its shareholders?

to its Share Holders, notwithstanding the increasing profit in the Company's business annually?

- (b) If yes, what effort is his Ministry making to ensure that Shareholders in this Company do get their due share of the company's Profit?

THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (Hon. Micheal Audu Buba, O.B.E., M.H.A., Wazirin Shendam): I am aware that the Kano Citizens Trading Company have paid a dividend of 10% to shareholders for several years, but it should not be assumed that the Company's profit increase annually. For instance, the declared net profit for the year ending 31st March 1963 was £23,719, whereas for the 1963-1964 fiscal year it was £10,991. The Company maintained the 10% dividend despite the decrease in profits.

- (b) The proportion of a Company's profits to be distributed as dividend is recommended by the Directors to shareholders for their approval at the Company's annual general meeting. If shareholders are dissatisfied with the Directors recommendation, they should voice their opinion at that meeting.

Companies submit neither accounts nor Balance Sheets to my Ministry and I cannot interfere with the internal affairs of any Company.

LIBRARY IN OKENE TOWN

W183 MALLAM E. KEGEDA LAVAL (Igbirra North) asked the Minister of Information how soon will a branch of the Regional Library be established in Okene Town?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Blu M.H.A.): The Sharr Report on the Library Needs of Northern Nigeria has been accepted by Government in principle. In phase one this report recommends that one Library should be established in each Province but due to financial difficulties I cannot say when one will be opened in Kappa Province nor is it possible to say at the present time how soon one might be considered for Okene. It is however hoped that two Provincial Libraries will be opened in the coming year.

NOISES AROUND LIBRARY

W184 MALLAM I NEGIDA LAWAL (Igbirra North) asked the Minister of Information what steps will his Ministry take to stop the great noises around the Regional Reference Library in Kaduna which make assiduous reading in the Library difficult?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Biu M.H.A.) I am not aware that the area around the Regional Reference Library is noisy. If the Honourable Member can give me more specific information I shall be pleased to investigate the matter further

CORRIGENDUM TO DAILY OFFICIAL REPORT DATED 27th
FEBRUARY, 1965 (PAGE 101-102)

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, C.O.N., C.B.E. M.H.A., Wazirin Katsina): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Member for Igbirra North asked for opportunities in secondary schools for women and girls and more opportunities in women's training colleges. Plans are in hand to treble-stream Queen Elizabeth School Ilorin and the Government Girls' Secondary School, Kano. Katsina Women's Training College is to be double-streamed in due course, and there is to be a new double-stream women's training college at Minna. In the Hon. Member's own Province, there is a R.C.M. secondary school for girls at Kabba and there are places for girls at the following co-educational secondary schools:-

C.M.S.	Lokoja
S.I.M.	Mopa
Q.I.M.	Ochaja
RCM	Isanlu.

Compared with other areas of the North, the Hon. Member's constituency is well provided with opportunities for further education for both girls and boys.

The Hon. Member for Idoma South East asked the government to provide a secondary school in Idoma Division. There are two secondary schools in Oturkpo under voluntary agency proprietorship, and I am happy to say that provision has been made in our development plan to treble-stream both of these schools.

The Hon. Member for Ilorin East asked for a secondary school in Ekiti and this is a matter which will certainly be kept in view.

The Hon. Member for Tudun Wada drew attention to the need to keep in mind the problems of school leavers. This is a matter which is constantly in my mind. With the assistance of the Ford Foundation a most useful conference on vocational guidance has been held recently. I expect that, as a result of this conference, our school leavers will receive better guidance about the jobs and careers open to them.

A number of members have stressed the need for more secondary schools. I share their anxiety to expand our educational system as rapidly as possible and wish to assure them that my Ministry's plans

for expansion are based on the maximum possible use of the funds and staff available.

The Hon. Member for Kaura Nomoda has asked for greater assistance for Islammiya schools, I am happy to report that it is intended to make available a larger sum of money for grants to such schools in the coming financial year.

The Hon. Member for Tangale Waja drew attention to the recent disciplinary troubles at Kaltungo Training College. I was informed of this matter immediately after it occurred and I am now waiting for a further report on the situation. I can assure the Hon. Member that the causes of the disturbance will be fully investigated. I am arranging for a full inspection of this college to take place in the year. Thank you.