Thursday, July 28, 1994

Aids: Nyanza,

Coast leading

Aide cases are rapidly increasing

¡n Nairobi, asthma and Central

provinces although the number of

victims seem relatively lower

than other parts of the country.

However, Eastern province had

a total of 6,992 cases or Li per cent of national total by (be end

of 1993. This pushed it to the

second position after Nyanza. It

has over taken the Coast Province

over the last five years.

Nairobi had 2,202 cases by

June last year although the number is believed to be much higher.

Central Province had 4,029

cases making ¡t fifth in the country and the figure is increasing

fast in places like Nyanza.

The figure were released yesterday by Health Minister Joshua Angatia during the inauguration of the Steering Committee on Sessional Paper Aids at the

PanAfric Hotel, Nairobi.

The Minister admitted that

more and more Kenyans were

getting infected despite increased

government efforts to curb it. Mr Angatia blamed this on

socio-cultural factors and misconceptions regarding the modes

of transmission of the virus.

He said 9 per cent of Kenyans

know about Aid. And of that, 80

per cent know bow to prevent infection through condom use and

abstinence,

The Minister said misconceptions fueled by cultural and social

factors were negating the progress made through information, education and communication in the tight against the

disease.

He said Aids programmes will

not achieve much unless they

were linked Lo development activities and a multi-sectoral approach was used.

‘When other community development programmes are minimal or completely absent, HIV prevention and education efforts

will not achieve substantive reductions in risk behaviour and

reduction of the infection rate”.

He said the government had integrated Aids in the National

Development Plan and allocated-

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