**Mr Speaker sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to make a few observations on this important Vote of the Ministry of Lands.**

* **The mandate of the Ministry of Lands is to ensure:-**

1. **security of land tenure**
2. **equitable distribution of land and sustainable land use**
3. **land planning and management**
4. **review and harmonisation of laws related to its management**
5. **resolution of land and boundary disputes**
6. **Revision of rents for leased government land.**

* **Land has been and remains one of the most valued natural resources in this country – that is why land-related issues and even its budget are sensitive and therefore merit careful scrutiny by Parliament.**
* **Looking at the allocations in this financial year( 2009/10) compared to last year’s (2008/09) – the following questions need to be answered:-**

1. **There is a reduction in allocation for employee compensation e.g. in district land offices (Vote 132) and the Kenya Institute of Survey and Mapping (KISM). Why this reduction while we need fast tracking of tittle deeds which fall under Kenya Institute of Mapping and survey.**

***While we have a almost fourfold increase in***

1. **increases in allocations to several non-core or non-priority items across several heads:-**

**e.g. foreign travel at the headquarters which has increased fourfold**

**Why are hospitality allocations increasing across several heads**

1. **Earlier government policy was to provide land using the S.T.F Fund to settle landless Kenyans.**

**Currently, the Ministry of Special Programmes is also resettling the IDPs.**

**The OP (Provincial Administration) has an allocation of Ksh.180million to resettle IDPs.**

***Questions are:-***

1. **Which particular Ministry in effect is in-charge of land and re-settlement ?**
2. **What is the allocation of that Ministry in the 2009/10 budget estimates for purchase of land?**