

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



**THE SAMBURUCOUNTY ASSEMBLY
SECOND ASSEMBLY
(FIFTH SESSION)
REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS**

Honorable Speaker,

Pursuant to Standing Order 42(2), I hereby request for a statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Education and Vocational training regarding the distribution of food to Early Childhood Development Centers during term 3, 2021 across the county.

Honorable Speaker,

Universal access to free and compulsory education is a key tenet of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. Article 53 (1) (c) of our Constitution guarantees every child basic nutrition, shelter and healthcare. Pre-primary school-aged children are at a stage where a child requires nutritional meals for healthy mental and physical development and growth.

Following devolution of pre-primary education pursuant to schedule 4 of the constitution of Kenya, 2010, the county of Samburu has been funding ECD feeding program since the start of devolution.

Honorable Speaker,

We have to appreciate that utilized prudently; the school feeding programme will play an integral role in realizing the country's goal of universal primary education through incentivizing the enrolment and retention of children who move from pre-primary to primary schools.

Honorable Speaker,

The county of Samburu through its budget, procured ECD food in bulk in the last financial year, 2020/21, to cover for the whole year. The food was then not distributed as planned due to the COVID 19 pandemic and since schools were closed for many months. Food was then to be distributed later after schools opened earlier this year and was distributed as stipulated in the attached schedule shared to us by the department.

Honorable Speaker,

The food was distributed to the whole county except for two wards, Angata Nanyokie and Lodokejek simply because there was no more food in store and has become a major concern that the department of education is not serious in implementing the school feeding program as required.

Honorable Speaker,

We are in another financial year again, previous school feeding programs have been terribly failing to reach the intended beneficiaries despite huge funding as approved in the floor of this house. Schools are starting their first term of the academic year this week, many parts of the county are being hit by drought and coupled with the economic effects of COVID-19 Pandemic, more parents will take their children to school in order to access food in ECD Centre thereby increasing enrollment.

Honorable Speaker,

In view of this, Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Education and Vocational training should inquire into and report on:

1. How much ECD food did the department procure in the financial year in question? (please provide quarterly distribution list to ECD centres across the whole county)
2. Where is the food for term 3 for Lodokejek and Angata Nanyokie Wards?
3. What is the total amount of budget allocation for the said program and what is the amount allocated for each school or child?
4. Whether the County Government has received any donor fund to support the said program?
5. Whether the aforementioned program has a policy framework to operationalize its activities and what are the plans to curb perennial failures?
6. Why wastages, deliberate delay or foul play in distributing ECD food should not be investigated and prosecuted?

SIGN.....
HON. LESHOMO JERIAS, MCA
MEMBER OF COUNTY ASSEMBLY
LADOKEJEK WARD.
DATE.....