

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 8th June, 2016

The Assembly met at the County Assembly chambers at 2:30 p.m.

The Speaker, County Assembly of Samburu (Mr. Steve Lelegwe) in the chair

PRAYER

STATEMENTS

MCA Nachola ward, (hon. Lawrence Lorunyei): Thank you hon. Speaker Sir. Pursuant to Standing Order 41 (2c), I hereby request for a statement from the Chair of the Committee on Tourism, Trade and Cooperative Development regarding the *Posho* mill said to have been brought by the department to Nachola ward.

Posho mills distribution to women groups across the county will promote women business enterprises a major livelihood and poverty eradication initiative that should be put in place by the relevant department. During the last Governor's visit to Samburu North Sub-county, he was to launch a *posho* mill at Nachola centre according to the program but nothing of the sort is on the ground.

The people of this county have a lot of expectations from the government. I wonder why it is on paper that Nachola ward has received a *posho* mill which has even been launched but it is not on the ground.

In view of this, the Chair should inquire into and report on:

1. Where is the Nachola *posho* mill if it was launched?
2. How many *posho* mills did the department buy?
3. How much was spent in buying the *posho* mills?
4. In which wards and sites were the *posho* mills delivered?

This is the Jubilee government where they say in Kiswahili "*kusema na kutenda*". People are undermining the leadership of our Governor which is not good. This is also undermining this hon. House because we need value for money which is allocated to every ward according to their projects.

If it is in the records that a project has been delivered to a ward which is not on the ground, it is undermining the leadership of this county and giving us a bad picture. That is why I ask the Chair to inquire on the questions. Thank you.

Specially Elected MCA, (hon. Muthoni Lenolkirna): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I didn't know the statement would come to me because I was the one to support the statement. I am not ready to answer the statement, therefore, I request the member to give me time until Tuesday afternoon so that I can come with the report. Thank you.

The Speaker, (Mr. Steve Lelegwe): The response to the statement will be tabled on Tuesday afternoon. Hon. Letura.

MCA Ndoto ward, (hon. Raisy Letura): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to Standing Order number 41 (2c), I hereby request for a statement from the Chair of sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries concerning Ndonyo Wasin livestock market.

Livestock is the main household asset and a key production resource for the pastoralist communities in Samburu County. However, recurrent droughts are eroding pastoralists' livestock base and weakening livelihoods and their resilience to climatic shocks.

Livestock marketing, understood as a process through which live animals change ownership, is increasingly perceived as a critical household income. Efforts aimed at addressing constraints to development of efficient and vibrant livestock markets existing in the region are increasingly seen as a way of reducing pastoralists' vulnerability to drought. The Samburu county government had embarked on developing livestock markets across the county in order to address the challenges faced by pastoralists and uplifting their livelihoods.

On 8th to 15th February, 2016, His Excellency the Governor toured Samburu East on launching the county government projects and Ndonyo Wasin livestock market was one of the projects to be commissioned. Songs and dances were all over as the community and shareholders were happy that the people of Ndonyo Wasin finally got the market. But today, the same posts that were commissioned are still lying on the ground without signs of any construction going on.

The day that the county leadership left the area is the same day that the contractor left and never went back. This has made us and the people of Ndonyo Wasin to think that the department and the county leadership were only doing a PR exercise.

In line with the above, the Chair should inquire into and report on:

1. What happened to the contractor since the commissioning of the project?
2. What is the department doing now at the end of the financial year and the contractor is yet to start the project?
3. Why did the department hood-wink the entire county in that particular PR exercise?

It is unfortunate that the entire county leadership would commission a project that is never there. It was one of the projects that were highlighted in the media that the county government is building livestock markets across the county. To my surprise and that of residents of Ndonyo Wasin, to date, the project is yet to start.

It will be unfortunate if that is the kind of work we do when the county leadership tours an area and the departments resort in hood-winking the public and the government including the CEO who is the Governor and the legislative arm of government. I remember, we were almost a full house in Ndonyo Wasin but to my surprise, I am told that nothing has started in that place.

This exercise deserves seriousness and the Chair should inform this house what is happening. I have no doubt that most of the projects that we commissioned that day have not yet begun. You have heard from the member for Nachola ward who says that there was a posho mill commissioned on that day and it was in the program. It is like it is a pre-arranged system to show the county leadership and the Governor that the departments are working but, in the real sense, nothing is forthcoming. Thank you.

Chair of Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, (hon. Lazaro Letiktik): Thank you hon. Speaker. I want to thank the hon. Member for the statement. What he is saying is true and I was there when the livestock market was being commissioned by the Governor. I want to request that I bring the response on Tuesday next week.

The Speaker, (Mr. Steve Lelegwe): Thank you hon. Chair. You will table the response to the statement on Tuesday at 2.30 pm. Hon. Members, the time being 5 minutes past 3 o'clock and

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there being no other business, this assembly stands adjourned until Thursday afternoon, 9th June, 2016, at 2.30 pm.