

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 27th September, 2023

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

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen), in the Chair

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Honorable Members may I take this opportunity to acknowledge the presence of Baragoi primary school pupils and teachers, may you feel free to listen keenly as our legislators' debates. I thank you.

STATEMENTS

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Silapia.

Specially Elected MCA, (Lenamatiyo Silapia): Thank you Hon. Speaker. Before I raise my concern, let me take this opportunity to welcome the pupils from Baragoi primary school to this chambers. You are welcome and feel free. Hon. Speaker I sorted the statement on ECDE School feeding programs on the Department of Education and I think it is now three months down the lines I got the response but it is totally a shoddy work and you rule the other day o 5th of September to be responded again on 19th.

But Hon. Speaker, as we speak now, we have never received as the Hon. Members of this House that response up today and I am still putting the committee concern, the committee on Education on the same matter that the issue of ECDE feeding program is very touching.

It is touching the all the fifteen Wards. When you look at the Report or the response that the committee brought to this House, they have no evidence to show that what they have distributed has already reach to the schools or to the ECDE centers. So I call upon the Hon. Chair to put on toes the Department of Education to bring at least satisfactory Report to this House. We have been sorting so many statements in this House but what we are seeing, we are not going to the right direction just because each and every day we receive a response that is a very shoddy work.

So I call upon the honorable Members and also the concern to do a follow up on the same and also as you Hon. Speaker and the County Assembly management to facilitate the Hon. Members to go across the fifteen wards and come up with at least understandable Report. Because when you see that Report, the Report that they brought to this House, you will find that we have so many ghost schools that they are saying they have already distributed food. The schools which are not existing.

So I urge you Hon. Speaker and urge the Hon. Members that this committee to be facilitated so that they can come with at least understandable Report. Thank you Hon. Speaker.

MCA Porro Ward, (Leerte Patrick): Asante Mheshimiowa Spika, kabala sijasema pia mimi nachukua nafasi huu kuakaribisha watoto wa Baragoi primary School. Karibuni Assembly na mjisikie huru. Pia mimi ningetaka kuongezea uzito yenye vile Mheshimiwa Slapia amesema.

Hii ripoti ya School feeding programs imekuwa kwa muda na mimi pia ningetaka kuchukua nafasi hii kama Mwakilishi wa Poro Ward kwa sababu Poro Ward pia iko na Shule tatu ya ECDE ambayo moja kwanza haiko na nne ni mashule ya binafsi na kwa Ripoti ilisemekana ilipewa Chakula na mimi kama mwakilishi wa hiyo Ward nimeenda iyo mashule hawajapewa lakini kwa hii ripoti inaonyesha kwamba walipewa kwa hivo ningeomba komiti wakue facilitated walete Report kamili kwa sababu tunataka kujua kweli kama iyo chakula ilipeanwa kwa haki ama kulikuwa na njia ingine. Thank Mheshimiwa Speaker.

MCA Nachola Ward, (Lawrence Lorunyei): Thank you Mr. Speaker, we did Report, the response of the statement asked by Hon. Silapia long time ago. The Hon. Member asked three questions in her statement. The first question was how much budget was allocated to the school feeding program for the year 2022/2023? The second question was much ECDE food did the Department procure in the financial 2022/2023? And then question three was whether for mention program has a policy program, framework to operationalize it is activities and what are the plans to curb perennial failures? Those are the three questions asked by the Hon. Member.

As I said earlier, previously ECDE was allocated in the financial year 45 million but by the year 2023 we allocated 80 million and previously food was not transported to school on time. It was may be after one month or one month to the closing but this time food was delivered to school in time. When the school open and if it delays it is a matter of one week because of the transportation.

The question of the ghost schools was not asked in the statement. And we allowed that one and that is why I said that give us time because the statement we are reading here, we are being furnish by the Department since we are policy makers and there are implementers and we only report what they have written to us here.

Because of the dissatisfaction of the response that is why I said that you facilitate us we go to visit every mention ghost school to get the facts, so that when we come to this honorable House we have got the facts on the ground than the information being told by the Department because we do not own the information. We want to own the information that we are going to deliberate and to give response to this honorable House. And when we have been facilitated by your office today, and we program from Monday we go to those schools called ghost schools to find the facts.

When we say that food is given to private schools, but is there any private people? These are our children; these are Samburu children. When we assist we assist our children, so us is just to go and validate whether the food reached there and also for the ghost schools. So it was an extra question whereby we have admitted. Thank Mr. Speaker.

Specially Elected MCA, (Lekirenyei Serah): Ningependa kumuunga Mkono Mheshimiwa Lawrence, tungependa kuomba muda kama ya wiki mbili tuweze kuzunguka na kuangalia iyo Wards yote kumi na tano na kuhakikisha kwamba tuone ni nini chida kwa sababu Mheshimiwa Slapia kwamba hawajapata Chakula kwa muda na chakula tumechapeana kwa wakati labda kama imechelewa ni iyo wiki moja ambayo Mheshimiwa alisema. Kwa hivyo mimi ningependa tu kuomba mtupatia nafasi kidogo tuweze kuzunguka wiki mbili hivi alfu tulete habari. Asante Mheshimiwa Spika.

MCA Nyiro Ward, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Thank you Hon. Speaker, I want to join my colleagues in welcoming Baragoi primary school to the honorable House Matters Education, this is actually an issue that the Hon. Speaker has been going round left right center in the House but I think I want to echo the sentiments from my chair Lawrence in actually appreciating your facilitation to the committee.

The committee has been facilitated right from today and I think due to other technicalities maybe transport and all that because there are also other committees out maybe just like what the chair has said latest Monday we should be up and running the county trying to establish all that the concerns of members we will also get in touch with the department on this distribution of food it is sense and inevitable to say, when we talk of private schools we talk also of our kids our

learners just like when the chairman has said we did not have private learners these are our children.

The fact here is we shall establish it on the ground, whether this food is actually allocated to this schools because actually most schools are church-based and you know most of the church-based institutions they also give us well-wishers not much fee is actually called for, speaker we just want to our honorable members to be patient with us to bring a conclusive and very much detailed information on this matter please get assured we are facilitated we thank the Speaker, the management but we just need to go to the ground get facts and then there we are together we bring facts to this House, thank you Speaker.

MCA Ndoto Ward, (Hon. Lealmusia Ali): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir I would also like to add my contributions to this issue for school feeding programs but first and foremost I would really like to congratulate and welcome our pupils from Baragoi primary school kindly feel welcomed Hon. Speaker I think this issue yes it is true we had that question from the honorable member we sorted the answers from the executive but the reason why we have the we are now confined to take our committees around the wards is because their answer or their response to this question was not sufficient.

Mr. Speaker my ward is amongst the biggest ward in this county and we have of our sixty ECD classes within my ward and really the kind of food that was supplied to this institutions is really worrying because I can tell you for sure there are centers which we have so many kids around 70 kids and whatever that was supplied there was 5 bags of rice and you wonder whether this was really done using the statistics that exists here or the reality on the ground, and again we sorted to know why the kind of a budget that this ECD classes the kind of budget that was issued to this particular exercise? and we were shocked to know that so much was actually was issued for this and whatever that is on the ground is very little, again the ECD classes that we were given from the department the answers were statistics and really it bring us a statistical report here is just like bringing something that people do not understand and our question were very clear questions and the question from the Honorable Member was very clear.

What they should have done is they should have brought that whatever they should have supplied and with evidence deliveries signed by the end user not just bringing here statistics

telling us ok this is what we have supplied two point something to a kid or something like so that is the reason why we really thank you for facilitating the committee to go to the ground and bring us the reality on the ground because that is the time we can see how this was done but all said we were really unsatisfied and am sure the committee has a lot to on the ground so I would ask you kindly when you go there also involve the honorable MCAs on the ground so that we can guide you when you are there again when you visit the ward without the MCA in charge then you may bring reports that may not be sufficient again.

So, I really urge you the committee when they go they should also ensure that the MCAs concerned are on the ground and the officers with the ministry of education, because for example what have done in my ward is that I engaged my officer in charge to vanish the office with the reality with the number of students who are in each center so that this can be established. I think the chair education should ensure that when they can visit they should also get in touch with the honorable MCA who is in charge of the ward, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): Thank Hon. Speaker I think the Honorable Member for Porro ward just mentioned that he consulted with the ECD centers that are private whether they got that distribution of feeding program from the department and he has just really said that he did not receive. So Mr. Speaker let the chair for the committee on education write down that issue that we want to know whether the private schools or ECD centers privates got that distribution or not.

Mr. Speaker you know what Hon. Speaker we sorted that statement and they brought the response they just brought what the Hon member said from Ndoto ward they just brought a written not a written a typed report without even any evidence. Mr. Speaker I think when you distribute anything that is coming from the government you have to sign the delivery forms I never saw those delivery forms they could be an evidence to the department so Mr. Speaker let the Honorable Members go back you are facilitated them to go to the ground and bring us the true information by having the delivery forms that for example the Lturoto East ECD centers.

Nachola Ward MCA, (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence): Mr. Speaker as I said earlier the question asked by Honorable Members were two, they are now listen other growing questions if there are other questions they make a statement so that we can answer Mr. Speaker.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): thank you Hon. Speaker, Mr. Speaker let them bring those delivery forms so that we can know that the department can account those 80 million that we have put in the budget. So Honorable Speaker I call upon the Honorable chair for education...

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): is it a point of Order from the two of you, then let her finish continue Hon. Silapia

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): thank you Hon. Speaker for protecting me from the members of the committee I know they are really active when defending themselves and the way they have taken long to sort this statement. So Hon. Speaker let me put it clear we ask the budget for the two financial years and also if we ask the budget we want to know the distribution whether they have reached to the intended purpose or not so and how do we make sure that they have reached it just because we want to see the...

(Slight interruption from)

Thank you Honorable Speaker, let me repeat what I was saying, I know that power has interrupted us. So, Honorable Speaker let the Committee go back and bring to us at least satisfactory report just because we want to account the 80 million that we budgeted when we put on the budget 80 million for the feeding program and Honorable Speaker, let them also answer the question on the feeding program policy because they never answered it and if they could have answered it we could have gone back and see the guidelines from the policy, whether they are supposed also to feed the private schools. So, thank you Honorable Speaker, I am putting on toes this Committee to pull up their socks. Thank you.

MCA Nyiro Ward, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Thank you Honorable Speaker sir, I think when you put a cat before a horse, I am sure the horse cannot run over the cat unless maybe it brakes. We have never gone to the ground actually such that we are told to go back and bring...this is the first time we are facilitated to go and establish the facts and futures.

So, we just want to say, when we are going to the ground, any time the logistics actually allow, we will come up with what is there on the ground. We are not the Executive such that we want to

cover up anything, we are just Honorable Members from this House just like you, so we have nothing to cover up.

The matter of actually saying “bring”, “delivery” and all that, if there will be no deliveries, we will come with what is actually on the ground that is what we call facts. The Standing Order No.87 of this House calls for *let us not anticipate a debate*. So, we do not anticipate maybe we shall fail or shall bring something out of order. This is a Standing Order, so when we say we bring **(Interruption)**

let us just go by the Standing Order of the House and with this we are guided by such regulations we will come with facts.

There is no time we have come here and actually mislead the House. So, Honorable Speaker sir, just be patient with us. One fact is we have 15 Members elected from each ward who we will consult also of what they have because this is part of the investigation. So, when we go down and investigate, we will also bring up what does an Honorable Member say about maybe a ghost school, what does a Honorable Member say about...like the Honorable Member for Porro, he has established that there are private schools which actually in the program it is like they were fed but in the actual sense he has put it right, he actually consulted the concerned and the learners no food.

So, these are facts that we shall bring to the House, then the House will actually establish and give us the way forward all these. If anything, additional from what my chair has said, that we shall go guided by the fact you sorted a, b, c we will go by that. If something will be outside, this is an additional statement to be sought later on because we are guided by you wanted to know 1,2,3 we cannot say 4 when it is 3. Thank you, Speaker sir.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Thank you, Honorable Silapia we need to be fair to the Committee. They are just going to the ground to get an information on food distribution but not buying so there is no need for them coming with deliveries and all that. So, we just want them to establish whether there are ghost schools and remember I said that if there is a ghost school that is written there, then you need to tell us where did that food go. If the private school did not get the food, then where is that amount that is indicated there, it must have gone somewhere.

So that is what we need to get, maybe later on we can seek the other number four that you have said about the deliveries. That is another statement, it is a different story. Honorable chair.

MCA Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lawrence Lorunyei): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I think from the Members, it is clear that the Honorable Member give us time, not to anticipate, so that when we come, we come with full report Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, about delivery notes, those are administration issues, and no delivery without delivery notes and we are here for oversight, we are not here as supervisors. So, it is the work of the supervisors to supervise the delivery notes and every Ward has got a nursery supervisor employed by the County. So, on matter of enrollment, it is those supervisors who bring the right enrollment and then ratio is taken according to the enrollment.

Mr. Speaker, may I conclude by appreciating Baragoi Primary School, I am an old pupil of Baragoi Primary School in 1960's I studied my class one to class seven and only that I went third term in class seven, I was taken by Mr. Raphael Gituria, an English teacher because from in class one to class seven I was ever in every term position one and then when he was transferred to Suguta Marmar, I went there and I was the first in KCPE in the County and Suguta Mar mar was the first again in the County.

So, I appreciate Baragoi Primary School, it was an international school that time whereby we get people from Namanga, Mombasa, Nairobi, from everywhere and the teachers who were there, were from all over. People were transported from Maralal and there was a lorry taking them to Baragoi and when the school closed the lorry would bring them to Maralal, taking them to South Horr, those who came from Marsabit. So, it was at that time, a rose in the desert and I hope that they are going to do good to bring back that glory of Baragoi Primary School this time of that time.

It was heaven on earth that time Baragoi Primary School. So, welcome Baragoi Primary School and the teachers and wish you because examination is just at the corner, you do all the best. Thank you.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Thank you, the chairman Hon. Lorunyei, when are we getting the report?

MCA Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lawrence Lorunyei): Mr. Speaker, as you have instructed, you have just facilitated us and we are programmed to visit the school from Monday and then maybe the week after next week at that time we have written our reports and then we shall bring maybe on Tuesday, the week after tomorrow.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Thank you. So, Tuesday after next week, that is the time we are going to get a report.

MCA Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lawrence Lorunyei): Obliged Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Okay, thank you very much Mr. chairman. Congratulation first for being position one in Baragoi and I hope Baragoi Primary School and their head teacher, Mr. Lenangetai is here, the head teacher Baragoi Primary. So, I hope they will take the lead and they will do what you did being number one but I just hope they will not go transfer. Let them remain until they finish that school, so thank you very much.

Now, the report that we are going to get must be comprehensive because you are facilitated and therefore get us the ghost schools. We already know that there are some Wards that have ghost schools, there are also schools that are left out, you will also get that so that you report and give us a comprehensive report. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

Honorable Members, the time being 3:27 PM and there being no any other business, this Assembly now adjourns until Thursday 28th September, 2023 at 2:30AM.