REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Thursday, 26th October, 2023

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 2.30 p.m.

[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Anthony Theuri) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Deputy Speaker: Clerk, confirm whether we have got quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Deputy Speaker: I order the Serjeant at Arms to ring the bell for ten minutes.

(The quorum bell was rung for ten minutes)

Deputy Speaker: Clerk, do we have quorum?

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Deputy Speaker: I order the Serjeant at Arms to ring the bell for five more minutes.

(The quorum bell was rung for two more minutes)

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Mr. Speaker, I can confirm that there is quorum.

Deputy Speaker: Clerk?

(Clerk confirmed achievement of Quorum)

MESSAGES

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, I have got a message from H.E the Governor and I will read it as it is.

NOMINATION OF JOSEPHAT LODI LEKAMARIO AS THE SECRETARY/CEO TO THE LAIKIPIA COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD.

The above subject states pursuant to Section 58(a)(7) of the County Government (Amendment) Act 2020, I hereby nominate Mr. Josephat Lodi Lekamario as the Secretary/ CEO to the Laikipia County Public Service Board (LCPSB) for the approval by the County Assembly.

I have committed it to the Labour Social Welfare and Community Services Committee to adhere to the provisions of County Assembly Public Appointments Approval Act.

STATEMENTS

EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO SPORTSMAN'S ARMS HOTEL LAND ALLOCATION ISSUE IN RUMURUTI

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Umija, you need to move with my speed today.

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Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think your speed is too fast. On behalf of the Chairperson for Finance and County Planning Committee, we hereby request for an extension of time to respond to a statement on the Sportsman Arms Hotel land issue in Rumuruti.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, a statement was raised on the floor of the House by Hon. Sammy Lekopien on 27/09/23 and committed to the Finance and County Planning Committee on the same day. The committee wrote a letter to the CECM for Infrastructure, Lands, Public Works and Urban Development on the same day Ref: CGL/CA/CM/007/02/Vol. 3/010. Requesting for a response on or before 5th October, 2023.

The committee has not received any response from the department and the committee hereby request for an extension of 14 days period so that it can be able to table a comprehensive report. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker: 14 days it is in which we expect the response. We understand that Rumuruti is very crucial and so we are going to grant you 14 more days.

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I read my statement, I just have a concern with the statement that I raised about the Nanyuki Sportsman's Arms hotel. It is taking way too long because it is around two months now. It sems that the CECM for Infrastructure is not serious with the issues that we are trying to raise here because you said that Rumuruti is a very crucial issue now. In regards to the Spatial plan, everyone is looking into Rumuruti and everyone is looking for a way of grabbing a piece of land there. It would be so sorry for us as leaders to sit here sending statements to several departments asking for answers and it is taking way too long.

I think it is in order that the CECM needs to come here and answer to us as to why a crucial issue such as the Sportsman's Arms land is taking too long. I understand that is the statement I did ask the other day because that is the number of days it was given. It is okay, we will wait for it but the first statement on Sportsman's Arms is worrying. As an Assembly, we should question ourselves as to why and what is happening because as the oversight authority, it seems that whatever we are doing does not happen. At some point, I feel that we are totally toothless.

So, Hon. Speaker, we need to ask the committee to please speed it up and push the CECM concerned to give us answers to issues as they are. We also want to know exactly how the land was acquired and what is happening to it as many people are suffering in Rumuruti while other individuals are being given pieces of land. To go back to my statement, I have got tentative business for the week.

NOTICE PAPER

It is notified that the House Business Committee has approved the following tentative business to appear in the Order paper for Tuesday (Afternoon) November 7th, 2023.

A. **PETITION**- Report by the Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services Committee on a petition to enact the Laikipia County Government State Officers Retirement Benefits Bill, 2022 pursuant to Section 15 of the County Governments Act and the Laikipia County Assembly Standing Orders.

B. **PAPERS**- Report by the Finance and County Planning Committee on the Annual Development Plan for the year 2024/2025.

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C. **PAPERS**- Oversight visit report by the Trade Tourism and Cooperatives Committee.

D. **PAPERS**- Report by the Trade Committee on the Camel Derby held in Samburu County.

E. **NOTICES OF MOTIONS**- Report by the Finance and County Planning Committee on the Annual Development Plan for the year 2024/2025.

F. **NOTICES OF MOTIONS**- Oversight visit report by the Trade Tourism and Cooperatives committee.

G. **NOTICES OF MOTIONS**- Report by the Trade Committee on the Camel Derby held in Samburu County.

H. **RESPONSE STATEMENT**- Response Statement No. 010/2023 to the Chairperson of Committee on Implementation (Hon. Paul Leshuel) raised by the Member representing Sosian Ward (Hon. Sammy Lekopien) on 24th October, 2023 pertaining to implementation status of Assembly resolutions.

It is notified that the House Business Committee has approved the following tentative business to appear in the Order paper for Wednesday (Morning) November 8th, 2023.

A. **RESPONSE STATEMENT**- Response Statement No. 004/2023 to the Chairperson Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee (Hon. Joseph Gitahi) raised by the Member representing Olmoran Ward (Hon. George Karuiru) on 21st September, 2023 pertaining to a stalled warehouse in Sipili.

B. **MOTION**- Oversight visit report by the Trade Tourism and Cooperatives Committee.

It is notified that the House Business Committee has approved the following tentative business to appear in the Order paper for Wednesday (Afternoon) November 8th, 2023

A. **RESPONSE STATEMENT**- Response Statement No. 005/2023 to the Chairperson Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services Committee (Hon. Irene Wachuka) raised by the Member representing Sosian Ward (Hon. Sammy Lekopien) on 21st September, 2023 pertaining to the acting Chief Officer Department of Agriculture.

B. **MOTION**- Report by the Trade Committee on the Camel Derby held in Samburu County.

It is notified that the House Business Committee has approved the following tentative business to appear in the Order paper for Thursday (Afternoon) November 9th, 2023.

A. **MOTION-** Report by the Finance and County Planning Committee on the Annual Development Plan for the year 2024/2025.

MOTIONS

EQUIPPING OF ECD CENTRES WITH CURRENT CBC MATERIALS

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was waiting for the Clerk to mention my name so that I can press the button.

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Deputy Speaker: I have just mentioned your name and I think I am the authoritative person here today.

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT NOTING THAT Article 53 (1a) of the Constitution provides that every child has the right to free and compulsory basic education;

APPRECIATING the new education curriculum 2-6-2-3-3 that was rolled out in 2018 which is considered to be entirely skilled based;

FURTHER APPRECIATING THAT the current curriculum enables learners to develop beyond academics and to focus on how best they can use their specific talents to make a living;

FURTHER NOTING THAT the needs of children with special needs have been incorporated into the curriculum which will integrate ICT at all levels of education;

CONCERNED THAT access to quality learning resources, including age-appropriate materials and facilities is essential for successful implementation of the CBC in ECD Centres;

FURTHER CONCERNED THAT ensuring that all children, regardless of their socio-economic background or location have equal access to a quality Pre-Primary education is a challenge in many regions;

This House URGES the County Government to equip all ECD Centres in the County with current curriculum materials.

Mr. Speaker, I know that currently ECD is a devolved function of the County Government and I think that it is high time the government takes the responsibility. I say full responsibility of ensuring that the ECD centres are equipped. I know that there are ECD centres that are being built across the county.

It is not just about building the ECD centres or ensuring that there are good structures, it is also important to ensure that as much as we have the structures, we are also having equipment within the ECD centres. I want to share some research that was done in 2017 in Laikipia County. It shows that Laikipia County did not allocate funds for teachers' training in terms of refresher and short courses.

Secondly, there were very few resources that were set aside for materials. There was completely no budget line set aside for instructional materials for the teachers. This cost was usually passed to the parents. I think that with the current economic situation, we realize that more parents are finding it a burden. With the CBC curriculum, a lot of things and materials are required by the parents to support the ECDE classes.

What is the equipment that we are talking about? We are talking about equipment such as outdoor playing materials, sand pits and swings. I know it might look impossible, but we can try to make whatever we can. It is not a must that it be very modern. These things are important for the children's development and cognitive skills. It will help the children to solve problems, and they are part of the learning equipment that is required. Other equipment may include building toys, children-size furniture, storage containers, etc.

I know that recently Hon. John Gichuki had gone to visit some ECD centres and he can testify that these ECD centres are not well equipped. They are not modern. We are in a modern world; how will our children compete with other children especially in private schools?

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I know majority of us as Hon. Members have children in private schools but let us put ourselves in the shoes of the common citizens whom we represent. Their children go to the local ECDs which are sponsored by the County Government but we are not giving them the right equipment yet they are required to compete with the other children in private schools. I know that if you give a child a good foundation at the ECD level, that child will grow up being sharper and know that he/she was supported during her cognitive years.

ECD is very important, and if you do not provide a good foundation at that level, you do not expect that child to perform well when they go to primary, junior high or high school. We are supposed to support ECDs not just by having teachers but also by enabling teachers to have the required materials to ensure that these children are receiving the best quality education. I would like to call upon Hon. Salaten Eunice to second me on the motion. Thank you.

Hon. Eunice Salaten: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support the motion. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, the floor is open for debate. Hon. Leila, the floor is yours.

Hon. Leila Hussein: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As my Honourable colleague here has stated, the motion is quite thought out. She has mentioned a few necessities that are needed inside the schools. The structures are well done by the county but there are certain things within the ECD centres that are lacking. I would like to focus mainly on special needs children because when you go around you find that a lot of special needs children are pushed towards private schools because public school teachers are not trained to handle them.

Simple things like building blocks that will help with their cognitive behavioural therapy are things that can be bought rather cheaply but you find them lacking in the centres. So, I would focus mainly on that. In terms of the ICT Department, those tablets are very expensive even for us private school parents.

A tablet is literally Kshs.25,000 – Kshs.30,000 shillings and it is needed from the kindergarten level to what is now considered Grade Six. They are too expensive. I feel that we as a county, perhaps the Department of Education, can try and train teachers in a way that even if only one teacher has the tablet; because sometimes you find that the teachers do not even have those tablets. When you look at their Continuous Assessment Tests every term, it has something to do with those tablets.

So, I think there was a bit of a short change there. We did not look at this well and I am hoping that this motion gets the attention that it needs and that the Department of Education sees the need and value of investing more in these ECD classrooms for the sake of our children.

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Gathoni, I had seen your microphone on. The floor is yours.

Hon. Mary Gathoni: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the motion and also thank Hon. Umija for coming up with it. When I think about CBC, I think of how to acquire new skills, knowledge and capability.

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Gathoni, take your time. The floor is yours and the debate is jovial.

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Hon. Mary Gathoni: Thank you, Hon. Mugweru. You are making this one look hilarious. When you think about CBC, it is where parents are made to chip in for everything, and it is becoming a menace. I came to realize that we do not invest enough in education. Just like Hon. Mugweru had said sometime last week, it is up to us to stand up as a county and think about that. Thank you.

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the motion. Before I do so, I think it is in my nature or blood that I keep complaining every day. I have realized today that for the last four days; we have not had electricity in this House. You cannot charge your phone or anything here. I think it is in order that before we do any oversight, we should first do it in this House. My big worry is that if you cannot do oversight in this House, where can we do oversight? A House that we sit in and where we make laws, if we cannot put it in order I wonder if we can do anything in the County Government of Laikipia.

Mr. Speaker, we have had a few complaints each and every day. I think it is probably in my nature or blood, or perhaps it is because I sit on the opposition side. So, it is part of me that I am trying to oppose anything in the House; but today the Assembly should look for a way of giving us the services that we need in this House. If we are not getting services in this House, we might not even be able to do oversight on the government.

As I stand to support the motion, I would like to say congratulations to the Hon. Member who brought the motion because it is pretty timely. Today morning, we had the whole Department of Education, the CECM, CO and Director, and we raised a few issues concerning ECD centres in this county. The CECM himself accepted that most of these ECD centres are not standardized. They are not even equipped with the current CBC materials or even chairs. A chair is a basic thing that every child should have. Today, we were also talking with them about having a school feeding programme for our ECD children.

I would want to say thank you again to the Hon. Member for the motion, it is timely and very fresh in our minds because today we had a meeting with that department and have at least raised the issues with them. I hope we also need to urge this County Government of Laikipia to stand up and support the ECD as we all know that it is a devolved unit. The county government should take care of ECD centres. That does not mean just building classrooms and walking away. It means building classrooms, equipping them with chairs, all the CBC materials and feeding the kids from January to January.

When the children are back in school, they should be fed, they should have a school feeding programme and get all the materials that every child needs. I think it is their right to have proper ECD centres with all the standard materials for the current CBC curriculum. I think it is in order that the County Government should make sure that as long as the National Government has set the standards for all the ECDs and all the primary schools, they should follow suit and set all the standards for all the ECD centres to get the current CBC materials. Thank you, and I support the motion.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance to contribute to this motion. I support it and I thank Hon. Umija for this timely motion because these days our learning institutions are mostly based on academics. As we embrace the CBC style of learning, we embrace the skills and talents of young people. When we talk about ECDEs and CBC, we nurture the talents of our people at young stages of their lives as they grow to be productive citizens of this country.

Where we talk about talents and nurturing of talents in our schools, it incorporates a financial aspect to our parents. These materials are becoming expensive to buy whereas the

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parents are the same people who are providing food for their families, their upkeep, uniforms and the rest. So, it is time we call upon the County Government to support CBC. This comes down to a budget and Finance because provision of learning materials in these classes has become hectic to the parents of these young kids.

So, it is upon this House, the Liaison Committee and Committee on Budget to come up with ideas and try to support our learning institutions and the ECDE fraternity. We can do a budget on provision of materials for ECDE classes so that we can be able to support the CBC learning in our institutions. Thank you for this timely motion and I support.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I also rise in support of this motion. Before I thought it was a girls' day but unfortunately, Hon. Lekopien and Hon. Mwaniki decided to make it for all of us. Hon. Speaker, that is why I was so happy having a girls' day but now, Hon. Lekopien is unhappy when girls have their day and that is why he has decided to interrupt. Hon. Speaker…

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Lekopien.

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On a point of correction, we are in a House of order where no one has a day. This is an Assembly where everyone has a right to rise, support or oppose a motion. So, I just want to ask the Hon. Member to apologise to the girls. It is not their day. This is a day for the Assembly of Laikipia.

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Lekopien, I must protect Hon. Mugweru. I think he said it on a lighter note. We all know we have Honourable Members here and not girls and boys. Hon. Mugweru the floor is still yours.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, it is also important for Hon. Lekopien to also understand that in our Standing Orders, there is no correction. You cannot stand to correct somebody. There is nothing like that. That is your own Standing Order. Luckily enough, I am so patient to listen to what he has said so that I may be able to correct him now that there is nothing like that. Hon. Speaker, the motion…

Deputy Speaker: I said I am protecting but I am tempted to call you girls yet you are Honourable Members. I will have to give Hon. Leila and she must tell us what the Standing Order she is standing on because she has contributed.

Hon. Leila Hussein: Mr. Speaker, I would like Hon. Daniel to apologise for calling Honourable Members girls.

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Daniel, for our own safety you need to apologise.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, I will apologise but also take them to their dictionary that a girl is a woman of any age. That is the dictionary unless I have a wrong dictionary. I would assist one of them with a dictionary to read a girl; *a girl is a woman regardless of her age*. That is my dictionary which is very clear. Probably, if you have another dictionary, I am working with mine. Whenever I am doing my research, I might not be having time to get to your dictionary. I must be using mine.

Hon. Speaker, as much as we are saying we are looking for a budget, the mover of the motion has time to reply. I do not know why she is bothered; I do not know why she is in a hurry to speak yet you will give her enough time and also protect her. Nobody will question her or tell her anything. She will have full time. Even if she wants to leave here at 6.00 p.m., she will be in charge. So, now we are in charge. Hon. Speaker, as much as we are saying that we need modern materials for the ECDEs.

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Deputy Speaker: Hon. Majority Leader, I hope you know the Standing Orders well. So, you can tell us you are standing on which Standing Order. The floor is yours.

Hon. John Gichuki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a girl…

Deputy Speaker: I think you did not understand. On which point of order are you standing. Is it a point of correction, clarification or do you want to contribute?

Hon. John Gichuki: On a point of clarification. I just want to clarify.

Deputy Speaker: On this matter, I order you to sit. Allow Hon. Mugweru to finish. I will give you time to clarify and comment on this. Hon. Mugweru.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Majority Leader, you are the Majority Leader in the House but the Deputy Speaker is in charge. You have been directed to sit and wait until I finish. Hon. Speaker, as much as we say that we are looking for modern materials for our ECDEs, it is also important for Members to understand and note that some of our ECDE classes in Laikipia County are made of mud. I wish Hon. Lempaira was here. He could tell you that there are children in Laikipia North who sit under trees.

Today we are telling them of modern materials for ECDEs yet they have nowhere to sit. Nowadays, we are bringing up soft kids, not like us who used to sit on stones and we were able to succeed. Hon. Speaker, as much as we are talking about modern materials, we also need to get the basic needs for those kids. Some of them need classes and furniture. If you go to most of the schools that we did last year, because that is the age of this Assembly, none of them has furniture.

Today we are talking of modern learning materials for CBC. Hon. Speaker, it is important to understand that the Education Department has not been taken seriously by this Government. Even the previous government has not been taking education seriously. Imagine a whole county, we discuss about doing one classroom in one year per ward. Only 15 classrooms are done in one year. This costs us Kshs.1.5 million. If you look at the budget for development, it has only Kshs.30 million. If you go to the Agriculture Department, you will get Kshs.200 million. If you go to the Water Department, you will get Kshs.200 million. If you go to infrastructure (Land and housing) you get Kshs.400 million.

It is only Education development that gets Kshs.30 million. It is very unfortunate that we are not serious with education in this county. We take a lot of time discussing mere increment of bursaries to improve education to our students yet there are other departments that are getting big budgets that you cannot account for. Hon. Speaker, when we do not empower our young ones, then you do not have future. When you do not have proper planned programmes for our young ones then that means that they are planning to fail in future.

So, Hon. Speaker, as I support this motion, as much as we think about modern materials, we need to have basic commodities that are needed by those kids. Mr. Speaker, if probably Hon. Salim from Segera Ward stands here, he can tell you there are kids in his ward who are seated under the tree. It is rainy yet they are seated on stones and they are students. Hon. Speaker, we are in this era and we are in a county that has Honourable Members who set the budget.

We are in a county where people in Laikipia woke up very early in the morning to vote for us. Those people wake up very early in the morning and they leave the polling stations at night. For us, we cannot be able to implement something during day time. They came early in the morning, left at night; then we are unable to implement something on a sunny day at

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midday. Hon. Speaker, this is the high time we as an Assembly wake up and set a good and enough budget for the Education Department.

If we wake up today and say that we are doing four classes per ward, that is amounting to how many classes? If we do sixty classes in one year, it means that we will only need a development budget of less than Kshs.100 million. Why can't we wake up one day and say that is what we are facing this year. We want Kshs.120 million for sixty classrooms. We shall do four classrooms per ward, we equip them. They get proper infrastructure. We shall buy modern materials for CBC so that we are able to move ahead.

Hon. Speaker, as much as we invest in secondary school, university and colleges, it is important for this House to know this is not part of our responsibility. Secondary schools, colleges and universities are not devolved functions but we invest heavily on them forgetting our sole responsibility of ECDEs.

Today we have set a bursary of Kshs.75million for secondary, tertiary universities which is not devolved but when it comes to the ones that are mandated to us, we have only set Kshs.24 million for development. So, Hon. Speaker, sometimes we need to be realistic. As we set the budget, we should wake up, face the reality and invest heavily on those kids. At least then we can feel that we have constructed classes and then from there, we start talking of modern materials.

Mr. Speaker, I would also want to urge the Hon. Members who normally say that the kids learn under the trees, at least you do something there. You do a class even if you do it with iron sheets so that the government may come to improve it. You cannot just sit down there and tell us that they are seated under a tree and you need a class. When they sit under a tree, it means that even the parents and the villagers themselves are not serious to face the challenge. Do something small.

When I went to my nursery school, it was made of mud and today it is a permanent house. So, you must start somewhere. Like three months ago, I did another one with iron sheets so that from there I will be able to push the government. It is unfortunate telling the government that my kids are under a tree yet there are leaders and people in the village who can assist in getting something close to good for those students. I support and thank the Hon. Umija for coming up with a such a good motion that will help the people of Laikipia, those of families of UDA, ODM and the Independent. The motion has been brought by this queen of ODM in this House and I support it while in the government.

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Majority, I am a man of my word and now it is your time even without switching your microphone on.

Hon. John Gichuki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker but I cannot remember what I wanted to say. Thank you for the time.

Hon. Salim Edung: Bwana Spika nashukuru kwa kunipatia hii nafasi. Kitu cha kwanza ni pongezi kwa Mheshimiwa Umija ambaye ameleta huu mswada katika hili Bunge. Asubuhi ya leo tulikuwa tumejadiliana mambo kama haya Pamoja na Waziri wa Elimu. Mjadala wa leo umetupatia mwelekeo kwa sababu hayo mambo ambayo tulijadiliana leo asubuhi ilihusu elimu na madarasa katika wadi zetu. Sisi tumeangalia kwa makini sana ya kwamba fedha ambayo imetengwa katika idara ya elimu ni chache. Inahitajika kama Wabunge katika hili Bunge tuunge mkono tuweke pesa nyingi katika elimu kwa sababu sisi tulio hapa tulianza shule yetu katika chekechea. Kutoka hapo ndio tumefikia mahali hapa.

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Sisi kama Wabunge wa Laikipia tunahitaji tuangalie kwa umakini ya kwamba mambo ya elimu inawekwa kipao mbele. Bila elimu, hakuna maisha na ndiposa ni lazima tuzingatie watoto wetu walioko manyumbani na hasa ambao hawajafikisha umri wa Kwenda shule ili waweze kwenda shule ili kesho ndio watakuwa viongozi wa nchi yetu. Tukiachilia bila kuanza msingi, tutakuwa tukilaumiwa na jambo moja ama nyingine. Mheshimiwa Umija amesema ya kwamba inahitajika vifaa. Hata sasa hivi, kuna wazazi ambao wananunua vifaa mbali mbali kwa sababu wanajali Watoto wao lakini ukiangalia kwa upande wa serikali, huwa wanaangalia madarasa lakini sio vifaa vingine ambavyo huwa zinahitajika shuleni.

Huu mfumo wa CBC umeleta mambo mingi sana. Unakuta mwalimu anaambia mwanafunzi ya kwamba anafaa kubeba kuku apeleke shuleni. Sasa hivi kwa mfano, wanafunzi mia mbili kwa darasa na kila mwanafunzi abebe kuku shuleni. Hiyo ni njia moja kuonyesha ya kwamba yale ambayo yanatekelezwa katika shule inahitajika pia wazazi wazingatie kwa sababu hautaacha wanafunzi waitishwe vifaa na uwache aende shuleni bila hizo vifaa. Kama serikali inasaidia kujengea madarasa, pia sisi kama wazazi tushikilie upande mwingine katika shuke zetu.

Mswada wa leo ni mswada ambao uko na mwelekeo kwa sababu asubuhi ya leo, tulikuwa tumejadiliana mambo ya elimu na huu mswada pia ukaja wakati kama huu. Sisi tunaomba tukiwa kama Wabunge ya kwamba tunahitaji tuweke elimu kipao mbele.

Nikimalizia Bwana Spika, ukitembea katika Wadi ya Segera, hakuna mahali mwanafunzi anakaa chini ya mti kwa sababu pale niko na uhusiano mwema na wenye mbuga ambao hujenga madarasa na wengine huleta rununu katika shule zetu. Kwa hivyo, ningearifu Mheshimiwa Mugweru ya kwamba hakuna wanafunzi ambao husomea chini ya miti. Kama ni hapo awali karibu miaka saba zilizopita, ningeunga mkono lakini sasa hivi, sitaunga mkono kwa sababu hakuna mwanafunzi ambaye anasomea chini ya mti. Nakomea hapo, asante.

Deputy Speaker: I now call upon the mover to make a reply.

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to appreciate the whole House for supporting and contributing towards this motion. First of all, I just want to tell Hon. Mugweru that we are not girls. Girls are adolescents and are categorized in that manner but we are adults and Hon. Members. I can still hear Hon. Mugweru commenting and still insisting that we are girls. Anyway, I am happy to acknowledge that the Hon. Members had a meeting in the morning with the CECM to ensure that these ECDE centres are equipped. As the classes are equipped, let us also remember that our teachers also need to be retrained and also have some short courses so that they can give our children the best education. I wish to thank every Member who has contributed.

(Question put and agreed to)

PROCEDURAL MOTION

ADJOURNMENT OF ASSEMBLY SITTINGS

Hon. John Gichuki: Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

THAT this Assembly approves the application of Standing Order No. 29(3) to allow it to adjourn its sittings from Friday 27th October, 2023 and to resume on Tuesday 7th November, 2023.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to request Hon. Eunice to second this motion.

Hon. Eunice Salaten: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I second the motion.

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(Question proposed)

Deputy Speaker: The floor is open for debate. I now call upon the mover to reply.

Hon. John Gichuki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It seems that the Members are satisfied and comfortable regarding the adjournment of the sittings. On my side, I appreciate the Members for their contribution towards this motion.

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, according to our standing orders No. 29(3) and I read;

'On a day when the Assembly is scheduled to adjourn to a day other than the next normal sitting day in accordance with the Assembly Calendar, the Leader of the Majority Party or the Leader of the Minority Party or another Member of the House Business Committee shall move a Motion of Adjournment which shall be debated for not more than three hours after which the Assembly shall adjourn without the question put.'

ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until Tuesday 7th November, 2023 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 3.45 p.m.

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