REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 14th May, 2024

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 9.00 a.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Lantano Nabaala) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if we have quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Without quorum, I direct that the bell be rang for ten minutes.

(Quorum bell rang for five minutes)

Hon. Salim Edung: Hon. Speaker, we now have the quorum.

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if indeed we have quorum.

(Clerk confirmed achievement of Quorum)

Speaker: Thank you. Now that we have quorum, I direct that the bell stops ringing and that we proceed with the business of the day.

PAPERS LAID

BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION, PROGRAMME BASED BUDGET AND IFMIS HYPERION REPORTS

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. On behalf of the Majority Leader, I beg to lay the following papers;

a) IFMIS Hyperion report for the Financial Year 2024/2025 by the Department of Finance and County Development.

b) Public Participation report on programme-based budget for the financial year 2024/2025.

c) County Governments Budget Implementation review report for the financial year 2022/2023.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

(Hon. Stephen Ndiritu laid the Papers on the Table)

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Stephen. The papers as read; IFMIS Hyperion report for the Financial Year 2024/2025 by the Department of Finance and County Development, the Public Participation report on Programme-Based Budget for the financial year 2024/2025 and the County Governments Budget Implementation review report for the financial year are committed to the Committee on Budget.

NOTICE OF MOTION

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REPAIR OF ALL DAMAGED ROADS OCCASIONED BY EL-NINO RAINS

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Hon. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, AWARE THAT Part 2 of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, stipulates that County transport, including county roads is a function of the County Government;

NOTING THAT the Country has been experiencing enhanced rains since April, 2024 with alarming levels of rainfall because of El Nino conditions;

CONCERNED THAT El Niño rains have had significant impacts on roads and infrastructure in the County;

FURTHER CONCERNED that the heavy rainfall has led to erosion, flooding, damaging roads, bridges and other infrastructure which has resulted to road closures, travel disruptions and increased maintenance costs for repairs;

This House URGES the County Government to assess the extent of the damage occasioned by the floods, to determine the scope of the repairs needed and prioritize repairs based on the severity of the damage and the importance of the roads in the transportation network.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MOTION

ENHANCEMENT OF SECURITY IN THE COUNTY

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT, AWARE THAT pursuant to Article 29 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, every person has the right to freedom and security;

FURTHER AWARE THAT cattle rustling/banditry is a major menace and security threat in the County;

CONCERNED THAT the menace has since left irreparable and negative socio-economic impact which include but are not limited to increased number of widows, widowers, orphaned children, poverty, displacement of people leading to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPS), disruption of educational health programs and other economic activities owing to the destruction and/or closure of educational, health and other institutions;

FURTHER CONCERNED THAT the people living in the affected regions have been denied the enjoyment of their social, economic and political rights as guaranteed to them under the Bill of Rights as enshrined in Chapter Four of the Constitution;

This House URGES the County Government to liaise with the Ministry of Interior and National Administration to establish a County Task force on cattle rustling/banditry to:

i. Investigate the causes of the rampant cattle rustling and banditry in the County;

ii. Establishes the extent of suffering, loss and damage the cattle rustling/banditry has occasioned to the communities;

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iii. Establish a means in compensating all victims of cattle rustling/banditry occasioned by the menace;

Mr. Speaker, the issue of insecurity has been a subject of discussion in this House for quite some time. It is an issue that is affecting the economic activities and social issues in our communities. For example, last week Doldol Secondary School lost a good number of cattle which around 15 bulls that was supposed to facilitate some of the issues in the school. Those cows were stolen and bullets were sprayed in the school and around town.

It is wrong that after that, we did not hear anything from the Security Committee in the County. It is wrong that even now, our schools and homes are not safe. Nobody is safe doing business within the geographical area and especially the Northern part of the county. We are not seeing seriousness of the county while addressing this issue. We urge the National Government that even if they are giving people NPRs, NPRs with no pay does not help them.

These people are volunteering without any pay or stipend from any department. We need the County Government to form a task force that needs to investigate this issue so that we know the real cause of this issue and how we can address it. Mr. Speaker, we cannot have people being unsafe in their houses. Now, we are opening schools and kids are not safe in their schools. You are wondering where people will go. Even if we shall have an operation within the forest, it has to be done through the right way. It has to be done effectively so that it brings sanity in those areas.

Mr. Speaker, it is good that this taskforce needs to be established do the right thing without victimising anybody, without victimising leaders based on political differences but it has to come out clearly and address this issue once and for all. I want to urge Members in the House that it is the high time we have a meeting with the County Commissioner who is the Chairperson of the Security Committee within the county with all of us. We should look for a date and time we go to their offices.

We also need to hear from them on what is happening with the issue of cattle rustling and banditry within our areas. Mr. Speaker, I urge Members of this House to support this motion and come up with ways that we can address this issue. I ask Hon. Leshuel to second the motion. Thank you.

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I second this motion. This is a very important motion despite the fact that security lies within the National Government. We have a big role as the County Government. The immediate effects are on people who are on the ground. Mr. Speaker, the issue of insecurity has been here for many years. Until we come out with measures and strategies, we may not manage the issue of insecurity. It is very important for all the leaders to sit and think about this in a broad way so that we can be able to manage this.

Mr. Speaker, every day in my area there is a raid. The other day the animals were stolen in Nadongoru. Yesterday, they were stolen in Doldol Secondary. There is a lot of insecurity and we need to sit with the County Commissioner and think about how we can manage this. There is an operation going on those areas but animals are still being stolen.

We need to sit down and think about it so that we can advise the CS for Internal Security. Without the advice from the local people who are on the ground, he might not be able to understand exactly what is happening, what are the root causes and where are those animals heading to. Mr. Speaker, it is very important for leaders to sit down without any political differences and other things. We should think about the people who brought us here.

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Mr. Speaker, I second and support. It is very important but it needs a lot collaboration, willingness and engagements so that we can be able to come up with a comprehensive report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Hon. Members, I open the floor for debate.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support this motion and I am concerned if the operation is ongoing on the ground yet the banditry issue is still persistent in the same region. Do we need to relocate from this area to other areas? Mr. Speaker, I refer myself to the Bible that during the old times I used to hear that is my eye is messing up, I need to remove it. If my finger is making me go astray, I need to cut it off.

If the banditry still persists when the operation is on-going, then we need to do away with the animals. We should ensure that we do not have animals. If we do not have animals, then I am sure, we shall not have bandits. Mr. Speaker, how comes we have an on-going operation but banditry still persists? We have the government who have all the apparatus. Mr. Speaker, we need to withdraw all the animals for five years and once everything is settled, we move on.

That is my thinking but I support the motion and we need to get a solution. That is why I had to quote the Bible that if my finger is making me go astray, let it be cut. If the Cattle are the ones that are bringing these issues in our areas, they must be removed and we shall be peaceful. Later on, they shall be brought back.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nasimama kuunga mkono mswada ambao umeletwa na Mheshimiwa Lempaira. Mheshimiwa Spika, usalama ni kitu cha maana na bila usalama, nchi yoyote haiwezi kuendelea. Leo nafurahia kwamba nimeona Mheshimiwa Lempaira akileta mjadala kama huu ili uweze kusaidia wananchi ambao wanateseka upande wa Kaskazini mwa Laikipia na pande zingine za Magharibi mwa Laikipia.

Bwana Spika, tumekuwa na kilio kila wakati kwa sababu ya ukosefu wa usalama. Watu wanauawa na ng'ombe zinaibiwa. Bwana Spika, kukosa amani kutoka hizo sehemu, watu wa Mashariki mwa Laikipia bado wako hatarini. Juzi nilikuwa mahali na Mbunge wa Kaskazini mwa Laikipia na aliongea kuhusu ukosefu wa usalama. Alisema ya kwamba kama Kaskazini mwa Laikipia hakuna usalama, hata Mashariki mwa Laikipia tusifurahie. Kwa sababu hao wakishamaliza, si sisi tutakujiwa.

Inafaa tuungane sisi wote tuweze kuwasaidia tukiwa Magharibi mwa Laikipia kama Nyahururu kwa sababu hawana shida ya ukosefu wa usalama na wizi wa ng'ombe. Bwana Spika, nafurahia viongozi kutoka Kaskazini mwa Laikipia kwa sababu wanafanya kazi wakiwa pamoja. Nafurahia kwa sababu tangu kuchaguliwe Mbunge Sarah, Kaskazini mwa Laikipia kumekuwa na usalama. Mbeleni tulikuwa na Mbunge, Mathew na kulikuwa na shida mpaka Juakali. Walikuwa wanasema watatusukuma ili tufike Chaka.

Mimi nilikuwa nimechukua mikuki na vitu zangu zote ili nijihami hapo Airbase ili nikiona Mheshimiwa Lempaira wamefika hapo, tuweze kuwasaidia na kuwarudisha kule chini ndio wakae kwa amani. Sehemu hii hatuwezi tosha sisi wote. Hio ndiyo nimeona umuhimu wa kuwa na kiongozi ambaye yuko kwa sasa. Nawashukuru kwa maana nimewaona nyote mkiwa pamoja kuhakikisha usalama umepatikana.

Bwana Spika, tukikosa usalama Magharibi na Mashariki mwa Mukogodo na Segera, hakutakuwa na amani. Tuwe kitu kimoja na tuungane kama viongozi. Walio kwa mamlaka

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muwaunge mkono. Wale ambao wanaleta hizi fujo wakikubali kuongea ukweli, viongozi wanaelewa. Saa hii, ukiuliza Mheshimiwa Shuel wakati Chumvi kuna shida wanaingilia pande gani, atakwambia upande huu. Ukienda upande wa Daiga, Mugweru atakwambia shamba ambayo iko hapa Oldaiga ndipo wakora wanapitia. Wanaingia Umande ambayo iko Mashariki mwa Laikipia.

Juzi tulikuwa mazishi ambapo NPR-(National Police Reservist) mmoja aliuawa hapa Segera na akazikwa. Nafurahia kwa sababu tulikuwa na Mheshimiwa Lempaira. Yeye akasema kwamba wezi wanapitia shamba la wazungu ambalo liko hapo. Akasema itafyekwa. Mheshimiwa Salim akasema atanunua mafuta wachome hio kichaka. Nafikiri hio wamefanya kwa sababu naamini kwa kusema na kutenda. Chama chetu ni cha kusema na kutenda. Naamini mkiwa pale, nyinyi ni simba.

Nawaomba muungane na Sarah Kabisa maana nilisikia huyo mama yuko sawa kabisa. Kila wakati akisimama, anawatetea wale wananchi. Nashukuru maana Lempaira ana chama cha azimio. Sarah amechaguliwa na Chama cha azimio...

Speaker: Hon. Ndiritu take your sit for a second.

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: Mr. Speaker, Hon. Ndiritu, are you telling us that with Hon. Sarah we will have insecurity in Laikipia North? I want him to know that we discuss issues that affect security and not political alignment.

Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Stephen.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Nashukuru Mheshimiwa Lempaira kwa maswali ambayo ananiuliza. Nitamjibu peupe mchana, kamera zikiwa hapa na afisa wa usalama wakiwa hapa niseme kuwa kuchagua na kuwa na Sarah Kaskazini mwa Laikipia, ni kuwa na Amani. Hata yeye mwenyewe ametengeneza shule pale ambayo inaitwa Amani. Kama anafanya vile, kwa nini tusiseme yeye sio amani?

Najua Lempaira ataungana na mimi kuunga mkono Sarah na kukuwa na yeye kwa karibu ndio kuwe na amani. Najua kulikuwa na yule jamaa, Lempurkel, ambaye alikuwa jamaa wa fujo. Nataka kumwambia waungane kwa sababu pia yeye amechaguliwa kwa tiketi ya Azimio. Yule mtu yuko kando kidogo ni Mheshimiwa Shuel ambaye mawazo yake pia ni ya kipekee. Salim tumempeana waungane huko na ndio viongozi wakiwa pamoja na kwa sauti moja, tutakuwa na amani. Pia hapa tukiwa na sauti moja tutaenda mbele.

Nawaomba kutoka Kaskazini, Magharibi na Mashariki mwa Laikipia. Mahali ambapo tunaadhiriwa na ukosefu wa usalama, wacha tuungane tufanye kazi kwa umoja. Wale wezi ambao wanatusumbua, wengine wetu ambao tuko huko tunajuana. Mnajua kila chifu na kila mkora ambaye anaiba tukikubali kuongea ukweli. Kwa hivyo, hili jambo la usalama ni jambo ambalo tunafaa kuangalia kwa njia zote.

Nikisema usalama, sio tu upande wa ng'ombe. Nakumbuka upande wa Olmoran kukiwa na shida. Nyumba zikachomwa, watu kuteswa hadi nikaona mjumbe mmoja ambaye yuko hapa akipiga nduru. Walikuwa wamepata shida. Mheshimiwa Kamara pia alikuwa na shida na nikaona vile alichukua hatua na hayo mambo yakaisha na sasa yuko na Amani na ndiposa akakaa pale. Naunga mkono na niwaeleze tuungane na Kaunti ya Baringo, Isiolo na Samburu na tukae pamoja na tuunge mkono viongozi ambao wako kwa mamlaka. Asante.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I rise to make my contribution in regards to this motion that has been brought by Hon. Lempaira who is also a casualty. His ward

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has been attacked severally and probably this is the reason as to why he came up with this motion so that the people he represents may have peace in abundance.

Hon. Speaker, I don't know whether in the near future, I'll be called the crying baby in this House. It is so unfortunate because I have not understood how this institution is treating us as Hon. Members.

Let me give an honest opinion. Today, I needed hot water and it could not be available in this House simply because glasses cannot be availed in a big institution like this. It is so unfortunate. There is that dispenser made for the leadership of the House. This side, I've never seen one. It is embarrassing when I need water and I cut across here going for water only to find out even there is no glass. Hon. Speaker, you need to address that issue as the head of this institution.

Hon. Speaker, the motion in front of us today is very timely because I know our people are suffering. Recently, we were discussing insecurity issues in this House. There are some issues we said as a House. One, as an Assembly and leadership of Laikipia we need to have a meeting with the CS, Interior. How far have we gone with that?

We said that we need to understand the business of this issue of insecurity. Our animals are stolen and exported as meat and we said we want to have the CS for Trade meeting the Members of this County Assembly. Hon. Ndiritu has repeated again, that if you ask Hon. Shuel where animals go through to Mukogodo East, he will tell you. We said as Members of this Assembly we are the local leaders and we know what people go through in our areas. Meeting the president and MPs without the Members of County Assembly might not add value to this issue of insecurity.

Hon. Speaker, we need to ask ourselves how far we have gone with these issues. Have we called any of them? We did well when we addressed the media. We need to ask ourselves, is there a better way to address the Cabinet Secretary in this country? Don't we have a formal way of inviting a minister to the leadership of Laikipia? Three weeks ago, Hon. Lempaira was hit somewhere. Tomorrow Hon. Salim will be hit somewhere.

Hon. Speaker, Hon. Stephen has asked another question. When we were at that burial, were those bushes burnt or what did we do? It is unfortunate because most of the time, politicians like speaking words and they don't want to do it in writing because they don't want to be questioned tomorrow. You need to say that I will buy petrol, do it in writing because tomorrow we want to see you carrying that petrol. We don't want talks without documenting some of these things.

When we say we want to meet the CS, we should document that because we need to see these people on board. Today we have over 10 MPs for the ground breaking of the market. We support that. When are we going to see over 10 MPs coming here because an NPR has been killed? When will we see the whole government coming to Laikipia because a single soul has been killed?

Hon. Kanyutu just said the other day that recently an elephant was stuck in a dam. All the government apparatus were there to save that elephant. When am I going to see the government apparatus coming to save me when I am dying because of this insecurity? We need to open up and speak the truth. Leaders of Laikipia, we must wake up. Waking up meaning we must hear the voice of the MCAs, the Governor, Senator and MPs so that one day we see the apparatus of the government coming to Laikipia because of the insecurity.

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It is so unfortunate Hon. Speaker, that in some areas we held security meetings. You see a Hon. Member failing to come to such a meeting. What does that say? Some of these things are serious. It's like going for the burial of an NPR and you find Hon. Salim is not there. Hon. Lempaira who is a neighbour is not there. What could be the answer? A time will come when we should have unity of purpose. Even if I don't relate well with Kagondu, we need to have unity of purpose in this issue of insecurity irrespective of the party you were elected on, your village or your clan…

Speaker: The Hon. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want a clarification from Hon. Mugweru. Does it mean that if I have a calamity in my area or bandits in my ward, the Member of that area must have something to do with it. It is serious because in case it happens or like when we were at Hon. Salim's place, does it mean if he wasn't there then he had a hand in that? Hon. Mugweru has said that we are masters of double speak.

Today we say we are going to burn a certain forest but in the evening, I'll be guarding the same so that it should not be burnt. We say we are against the bandits but we are the beneficiaries of the same. I want to ask Hon. Mugweru not to talk in parables. We are losing lives here and a lot of money. Hon. Mugweru speak out. *Ongea kinagaubaga*, you are protected here.

Speaker: Hon. Mugweru you may respond.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, I think Hon. Member has gotten me out of context and I understand the reason. Today he is wearing a blazer that pastors love most and probably that is the angle he is coming from. My point was, let me give a better example. When attended that burial at Segera, Hon. Salim was there and he almost cried. Hon. Lempaira was also there. But truth be told if they didn't attend, we could have labelled them suspects. That is the truth.

Mr. Speaker, just like Hon. Anthony last week when there were floods in Likii, I saw him walking in water. Those are dangerous and in fact next time don't do that. I looked at you and I thought you will drown. Why did you do that? Because you had to cooperate and be with your people. If you didn't go there, we could have labelled you a suspect that perhaps you are the one who gave those people permission to settle on riparian land.

Mr. Speaker, some of these things need to be taken seriously. If that day they didn't come, then to me deep in my heart, I could have labelled them suspects. You cannot fail to attend a burial of somebody who has been working with you closely, fighting the issues of insecurity and then when killed, you cannot even attend the funeral.

Hon. Speaker, I was mentioning the leaders from Laikipia because the motion says we investigate the causes. Today, without fear, if you tell Hon. Lempaira to list the cause of this cattle rustling in the county, he will give a list of causes. Leaders of Laikipia know the causes and why these issues are there but they fear to speak openly. Secondly, they speak in gatherings and they don't want to do it in writing so that they may not be questioned tomorrow.

Hon. Speaker, all of us here and even yourself, you know the causes because you are a reformed bandit. Automatically you know the causes. Even myself, I know the causes. Why don't we do it in writing? Hon. Stephen, you know the causes but we don't want to do it in writing so that we may heal this problem permanently.

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Some of us Hon. Speaker, leaders in this County are beneficiaries of insecurity here. Some of the leaders here when they go for burials, they cry loud and at the same time they laugh. These leaders in this county. I know this issue of insecurity will come to an end because last week when I was asking about calling Cabinet Secretary, you know it is important to have the priority of everything. We had Members of Laikipia North who had gone to Statehouse.

Speaker: Hold on Hon. Daniel Mugweru, what is it Hon. Benson Kuria?

Hon. Benson Kuria: Bwana Spika, hili janga la usalama ni jambo ambalo halitaki mzaha hata kidogo Ningependa kusihi Mheshimiwa Mugweru kwa sababu ameongea juu ya Mheshimiwa Lempaira ambaye ameleta mswada huu kwa Bunge hili anaweza kutoa orodha. Kama anaweza kutoa orodha, hangeleta huo mswada kwa Bunge hili kama angekua na jambo ya kwamba amehusika. Kwa hivyo, ningependa afafanue vizuri aseme nini kinaendelea, asante.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, I think language has become a problem in this House. Hon. Speaker, I am very clear, I am saying we know the causes, I know the causes, he knows the causes and that is why he was screaming in Ol-Moran. He knows the causes, the leaders of this County and even the villagers know the causes. They have held village meetings and that is the list. We are not talking about the list of the bad, we are talking about…

Speaker: Hon. Daniel Mugweru I am giving a chance to Hon. Paul Leshuel.

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I want the Member for Umande to apologize because each and every member can understand the language in this House. Do not diminish some Members because when you speak, you assume they don't understand what you are saying. That is very unfair to the Members. Thank you.

Speaker: The feeling of the House is that you have presented a position that Members are not understanding the language of communication. Substantively, they say they do. So, can you proceed Hon. Daniel Mugweru.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, you know language is not English and Kiswahili, even parables is a language. If you don't understand a parable, then I cannot say anything else. You don't understand Hon. Speaker. Even Hon. Paul Leshuel can give a parable that is of the Maasai land. I may not interpret that parable but I will just say I didn't understand which is not wrong. I was saying the people of Laikipia North, last week they were in State House. What was the first priority for them?

The priority could be the issue of insecurity in Laikipia. The Members of this House because they were among the people who were there. If you didn't attend, that was the biggest mistake because you betrayed the people of Laikipia. Being given an opportunity to sit with the president and talk of your issues then you fail to go. I feel like that is a criminal offence. The ones who went there, did you mention issues related to insecurity in Laikipia?

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Mr. Speaker, I think we are not debating substantially here. I think Hon. Daniel Mugweru should have a little bit of respect to us. We don't bootlick anybody or any politician and I want you to know that. You can go to State House today, you can go tomorrow you can go even there and if I have made choice not to go, it's none of your business. I want you to know those who went there did not go there to present the issue of insecurity. They went there to present their stomach, they went there to present shifting to UDA which I am not ready to and I am not a party to….

Speaker: You should address through the Speaker. Proceed.

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Hon. Paul Leshuel: If we were to address the issue of insecurity, we should not be speaking in parables…

(Off record)

Speaker: It seems like we have a problem with the system.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, it was not a problem. The system knows that he did not stand on a point of order, he didn't stand on a point of clarification and you didn't even give him a chance to stand. The systems could understand that, so I won't respond to that because it was not part of the session. Because you never gave him a chance to stand, he never stood on appoint of order, it was not a point of clarification; it was nothing. So, Hon. Speaker, I may not respond to that and no one is demeaning the other.

Hon. Speaker, it is so serious when you as a Hon. Speaker, the Chair of this House when you invite Members for a meeting, I should come to listen to what you are saying. You are the head of this House and I should respect that. I should first come then maybe probably say what you told us is not right but going to the Statehouse, the first agenda should have been the issue of insecurity.

I don't know whether he was there or not but if he didn't go, then that is a big mistake because the message he is bringing here, he could have given the Head of State. The Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, the UDA Party Leader; the ruling party.

Speaker: Order member! I want to give an interjection to Hon. Kanyutu.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, I stand on a point of clarification because I am concerned, I contributed to this motion and I am wondering what is coming up because the Head of State is the Commander in Chief of all the Armed Forces. My take was that if we have an operation going on in the ground and the cattle rustling is still persistent, we need to get a remarkable solution. Now, I have gotten from the Member that that leaders from Laikipia North had a meeting with The Head of State.

Mr. Speaker, I would wish to get that clarification because previously even when I was making my contribution, I never knew that the Leaders from North had a meeting with the Head of State. If you are deliberating on an issue that the head of state had sat down with these leaders, I am hanging on the air and I would like to get that clarification from the Hon. Member.

Speaker: Hon. Daniel Mugweru, a Member has made a request for clarification and I would request that Members stick to the motion that we have.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Hon. Speaker and Hon. Kanyutu because information is power. The leaders of Laikipia North had visited state House. It was all over the media and it's probably when the elephants were in your area. It is true and some of the Members can confirm that there was that meeting. Hon. Lempaira also has confirmed because he has said that the meeting was not about security but something else that I did not understand.

Now my concern was, the Members who were there, among your agendas, did you raise this issue of insecurity because it was so important? Probably if I was there, that could have been my first agenda because it so serious and people are suffering. Those people in Umande cannot have an opportunity to go to State House but if I get an opportunity, I must represent their issues because that is why I was elected.

If it was Laikipia East, I could have gone there very early in the morning to represent the issues of Umande. That was my only concern because I was not there. The ones that were

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there, did you mention the issue of insecurity? Number two, did you remind them that we do require a meeting with the Cabinet Secretary? Sometimes it is important that we speak the truth because if we talk to you Hon. Speaker and talk to the Members of Laikipia yet we had an opportunity to meet the in charge of security, the Commander in Armed Forces and we did not raise that issue, then we are doomed.

So, Mr. Speaker, I don't want to speak much because I believe that I have already aired my contribution. It was an addition to what I had said when we had another motion here on a matter of county importance. I remember that I listed everything that we were supposed to do but this was just an addition and a concern that tomorrow we may not have the same motion and tomorrow another one and yet we are not implementing. Today, we have said this and in the next motion we need to ask ourselves whether we implemented the motion that we had approved in the House. Thank you.

Speaker: I want to give the floor to the Member representing Githiga Ward. I would urge the Members to stick to the motion that is before us.

Hon. Joseph Gitahi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Unfortunately, I am speaking last and a lot has been said but still, there are some issues that I would like to point out. First, the reason as to why you see Hon. Benson irked by the statement of Hon. Mugweru, it is that we who have been affected by insecurity are not comfortable when some people trivialize this matter. What these people lack is to understand that we have lost relatives, friends and a lot of our people have been maimed. Sometimes they are mistreated to the point of thinking that they should be out of this county.

Having said that Hon. Speaker, I want to underscore the fact that instability and lack of security are some of the causes of poverty in the modern-day societies and institutions. I want to say that if Laikipia would want a progressive society in future, we must think about developing structures that will help us address the issues of security in this county.

When the rains came, we now have the full moon and having such a situation, we are not sleeping in our areas because people fear for their lives and properties. That is why I get a little disturbed when we turn a whole important motion that has the bearing of life and properties of our people into individual popularities and people do a lot of verballing on issues they lack understanding about.

Those that have studied group dynamics and psychology understand something called bystander apathy. That person is speaking this way because they have not been at any time affected by the whole matter. So, their perspectives might be light and might say issues without seriousness. Having said that Hon. Speaker, one thing that I might point out in this motion, is the need to develop a taskforce so that we may have seamless working between the National Government and the County Government.

This government as we are speaking, they look as if they are competing and we do not have time and the energy for competition. We want the two levels of the government to come together so that we may not have divided attention on such an important matter. So, it is important that these two governments speak together. As they speak together, this taskforce will be important because currently Hon. Speaker, I will give you a very practical case that I have taken to the ground.

We have got members of the National Police Reservist and they are under the County Government as we speak. I think that it is only the County Government and we leaders who support them. We would want this taskforce to identify these gaps so that they get addressed

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because they are our only hope. Hon. Speaker, if you go to areas like Githiga, our only hope is in the NPR and in the relationship between the NPR and the National Government. This task force would be very important.

Another aspect that is very important in this motion is the issue of doing an investigation and research into the context that brings violence and cattle rustling in this county. So, it is very irresponsible when a Member says that he understands the causes of cattle rustling in this county. It is such a reckless statement. They might have a lot of weight on their faces but these words are just empty and mere rhetoric. We need a proper investigation into what is happening and the causes.

Hon. Speaker, it is only that sometimes we have not effected the practise of other assemblies because such Members should record statements with the DCI so that they help us with what has been disturbing us since I was born in these areas. So, we need an association model between the County Government and the National Government with regards to matters of insecurity.

Hon. Speaker, I also want to say that as we investigate these issues, let us also understand the background. We also have an issue with resources because these are issues that have been proven. We have got an issue with resources and the scarcity of these resources have created a lot of conflicts in the areas that we are talking about. We need to sit down and understand how these resources can be shared and distributed so that these communities live in harmony.

Hon. Speaker, I would like you to protect me from the Hon. Member from Umande as I make this submission. The motion has stated on the issue of compensation. I am not sure whether you want to disrupt me Hon. Speaker…

Speaker: Hon. Member, I am not intending to disturb you. Now that you have stopped, let me just hear what Hon. Mugweru has to say in a few seconds.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, in seconds, he has mentioned that what I said was reckless, it was not reckless but for clarification. I was saying that the leaders of this Laikipia know the causes including himself. He has stated one, the resources, so he knows part of the causes of these conflicts and therefore we know.

Hon. Joseph Gitahi: Let me continue and say that it is good that we investigate on the issue of compensation of our people. If you move from a place called Kagugu on the far end of Githiga to a point called Kamwenje, Kariaini, Rubele and Eighteen all the way to the ward of Hon. George Karuiru, a lot of people are in wheelchairs and suffer from depression. Three weeks ago, Mr. Speaker, we were in Eighteen Dispensary and one of the issues that the public health officer said is that we need more drugs for special clinics. These people have got diabetes and hypertension because of those issues.

Mr. Speaker, even in the Constitution, it is the mandate of the government to protect lives and property. So, it is important that this government compensates these people so that they are able to continue. It has been pointed out in this motion that let us investigate other social economic contexts because you will realize that the more we have got these insecurity issues, some areas are impoverished and people cannot farm and do livestock rearing and this has a direct bearing on the pockets and the livelihood of our people.

As I finish, I want to say that we must also be aware and open to ourselves on issues that might cure or however manage the problem. Before coming to this Assembly and getting into journalism, I volunteered with global peace and veteran ambassador as their publicity

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secretary and there were programmes that had been suggested that there were gangs for bikes and other issues that might mitigate this problem. So, it is important that this government opens its eyes to such issues so that we do not repeat here time and time again.

I want to use the words of Saint Paul in the Bible, *'the common phrase that I beseech you brethren that whatever we say here, let it be implemented.'* Some of us may not tire to contribute towards this motion because of the depths of these issue in our people but it is important that as we pass this motion, that we have concurrence between this Assembly and the Departments which deal with security at the county level. It is important that even as we talk, we implement.

As I sit down, a lot of people have quoted literature from the Igbo community and from a lot of scholars from that community and today I wanted us take a break. There is a scholar from the Yoruba community, professor Wole Soyinka who says that, *'a Tiger does not profess its Tigerhood, it pounces.'* So, we need to get to actions so that we can get to see the cause of the things that we are discussing here. I support this motion and I would urge all the Members of this House to support this motion for the livelihood of our people and for the prosperity of Laikipia County. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Members. I wish to give the opportunity to the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought that Hon. Kamara wanted to say something. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the Members who contributed towards this motion. Sometimes, the issues of insecurity become way too emotional to some of us. To some of us who are victims, we have lost properties, our wealth, brothers, sisters and even fathers. Sometimes when we have such an opportunity, it is good to utilize it in the best way. Sometimes, politics does not play when we talk issues of insecurity. So, your political alignments out there do not come when it comes to the issues of insecurity.

Some Members say that we need to come with strategies and measures to address this issue once and for all. It is necessary that this House does a follow up on how to come up with these strategies and measures so that we address it once and for all.

I want to tell my brother Hon. Kanyutu that livestock is our heritage and pride and our source of our livelihood, we are not going to do away with it. Those who have been given responsibility to provide security to our people must pull up their socks and do what is necessary and do what they have been tasked to do.

You cannot tell me that because an elephant comes to eat your maize at night, you cut all the maize in all farms so that the elephant does not come to your land. A solution must be found and it is not getting away with the livestock. Cows are my pride and if I don't see cows, I would be sick. The same way you see money and get happy, that is the way I see cows and get happy. So, they are there to stay and we have to be provided with security because it is our constitutional right.

The other issue Mr. Speaker, I am almost sure that you are not ready to turn into a vegetarian. You eat meat and therefore you need us so that you do not turn to be a vegetarian. That means that those that are given the task to provide security must provide it. It is unfortunate that when we are going to the Statehouse for other issues, we are forgetting the insecurity issue. It was never an agenda and it never came up in that Statehouse. I want to make it clear that the operation is there and unfortunately, banditry is still going on. I don't know

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what will be done. We have a number of security agencies moving around with a lot of big cars within the landscape of Laikipia North and we are still having thefts.

Mr. Speaker, I agree with the Members that NPR is under the County Government. I want to urge tis House that as we are going to make the budget this year, we consider putting something in our budget so that our NPR could at least be provided with rations and something at the end of the month so we can beef up the security issue within the county. Therefore, I want to urge the Chairperson of the Budget Committee, please, when we are going to do the budgeting, let us remember to give something to the NPRs so that they get the energy and motivation to lead us.

Mr. Speaker, another thing that is coming clear; it is interesting that I can see some Members from Laikipia East are now interested with what is happening in the political arena of Laikipia North. They should know that we are the ones who voted for Sarah and we did not vote for her because she is coming to sort the issue of insecurity. If she had a solution, she has been there for fifteen years and she should have already sorted it out.

So, go back to your research and get to know why we elected her there. So, don't bring out the issue of who is elected to solve the issue of insecurity. Thank you, Mr. Speaker and all the Members for supporting the motion.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: This House now stands adjourned until later today Wednesday, 14th May, 2024 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 11.06 a.m.

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