REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 25th October, 2023

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

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

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk confirm whether we have quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: I direct that the bell be rung for 10 minutes.

(The bell was rung for 10 seconds)

Speaker: Hon. Kanyutu, what is it?

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, we have quorum. I think by the time the Clerk was declaring we have no quorum, Hon. Karuiru was already in the Assembly. I think he did not count the head.

Speaker: Clerk confirm to me if indeed we do have quorum.

(Clerk confirmed achievement of Quorum)

PAPER

COUNTY BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW REPORT

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the following paper;

The County Budget Implementation Review Annual Report for the 2022/2023 financial year by the County Budget and Appropriations Committee dated 25th October, 2023.

(Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki laid the Paper on the Table)

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

COUNTY BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW REPORT

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

THAT, this Assembly adopts the report…

Speaker: Are you moving or giving notice?

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Giving notice.

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Speaker: Thank you.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for the correction. I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, this Assembly adopts the County Budget Implementation Review Annual Report for the 2022/2023 financial year by the County Budget and Appropriations Committee dated 25th October, 2023.

EQUIPPING OF ECD CENTRES WITH CURRENT CBC MATERIALS

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg to give notice of 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.

STATEMENT

NTRH ELECTRICITY BACK UP SYSTEM AND SUPPLY OF MEDICINES

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for this afternoon. I have a response to a statement on the Nanyuki Teaching and Referral hospital electricity back up and supply of medicines to health centres and dispensaries;

The Health Services Committee is a Select Committee deriving its mandate under the County Assembly Standing Order No 190. It is mandated to check on all matters related to County Health Services including in particular County Health facilities and pharmacies, ambulance services, promotion of primary health care, licensing and control of undertakings that sell food to the public, veterinary services (excluding regulation of the profession), cemeteries, funeral parlours and crematoria and refuse removal, refuse dumps and solid waste disposal. The attached statement was raised by Hon Daniel Mugweru of Umande Ward on 26th September 2023, and committed to the Health Committee by the Honourable Speaker on the same day.

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Hon. Speaker, we have a response on the same, that on the night of Tuesday, 12th September 2023, the Nanyuki area experienced a power outage due to planned power rationing by the Kenya Power and Lighting Company from about 7.15 p.m. The hospital's standby generator failed to kick in resulting in a power outage that lasted until about 8.30 p.m. when the main electricity resumed. The generator failed to run because of a mechanical fault. It was established the following day that the standby generator required an engine overhaul and replacement, a process that will take up to ten days. This required the hospital to hire another standby generator on an emergency basis as the primary generator was being fixed.

Hon. Speaker, the matters raised by the Hon. Member in the statement are as follows:

1. Whether the Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital has backup power systems such as generators and Uninterruptible Power Supplies (UPS) to provide electricity during outages.

Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital is a Level 4 (but Level 5 ready) public health institution under the County Government of Laikipia charged with the provision of curative, rehabilitative, preventive and palliative health services. Consequently, the hospital is governed by any legislation, rules and regulations that have been enacted in the Republic of Kenya in addition to any international treaties pertaining to health and healthcare that have been ratified by the Kenyan Parliament and the County Assembly of Laikipia.

As to whether there are backup power systems at NTRH, we state as follows:

1. The main source of power for the hospital is the national grid (KPLC) with a 200 kVA dedicated transformer (not shared with any other KPLC client).

2. The hospital has two sources of electricity power back up comprising of a 165 kVA diesel-powered backup generator that was installed in 2011 and UPSs in key departments such as the server room…

Speaker: Hon. Kanyutu, what is it?

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, I need your clarification because whatever we have on our desks has only one point. We do not have the rest of what he is reading. It can either be uploaded or we be given hard copies. The first response is there but the rest is not in our gadgets.

Speaker: I am directing the officers to ensure that you have it.

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: Mr. Speaker, I have also noted the same thing. Sorry because I had the hard copy and only the first page of it is in our gadgets. I do not know whether to go on and then Members will be provided with it or I wait for them to be provided with hard copies or the soft copy be uploaded to the gadgets.

Speaker: It is being looked into. Maybe we can allow the Member to proceed as the hard copies are collected if it is not already appearing in the gadgets.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, we like following the report because when we are here, we represent our people. We like to follow up on whatever is being conveyed so that even when we are making comments, we do so on the response that the committee has provided. If it was in our gadgets we would not be seeking for the hard copies. If they are able to upload at this moment, we can continue.

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Speaker: Can we allow a short moment for them to work on that?

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: I think it is already in the system, but I do not know whether it is all of it. I think whoever is uploading this thing should be a bit faster and upload it in the right way. I can see that he is uploading one page after another at different levels. It should be one document so that Members can follow it up.

Speaker: Hon. Lempaira, perhaps we will allow them. They are scanning it one after the other. Give them a minute. We can go to the next order as we wait for them to come and I will give you a chance to do so.

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it is also good to note that this information is supposed to be in the gadgets before the bell is rung. If there is a way that immediately after the House Business Committee sets the agendas of today's sitting, we get this information in our gadgets or emails so that we can familiarize ourselves with the kinds of motions that we are supposed to come here and debate.

Sometimes you come here and do not even know what the business is. This is technology, so immediately after the House Business Committee decides what the business of the day is, we should get this information in our gadgets. I believe every Member here has an iPad somewhere from which he can access this information. So, we need to come up with a way of getting this information even before we come to the House instead of interrupting the sequence of the sitting. Thank you.

Speaker: Noted, Hon. Nicholas. Thank you for that. Duly noted.

MOTION

COUNTY BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW REPORT

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

THAT, this Assembly adopts the County Budget Implementation Review Annual Report for the 2022/2023 financial year by the County Budget and Appropriations Committee dated 25th October, 2023.

Preface

Mr. Speaker, the functions of the Office of the Controller of Budget are well spelt out in the Controller of Budget Act No 26 of 2016. Section 5 of the act states;

"In the performance of his or her functions under Articles 228 (4) to (6), and 252 of the Constitution, the Controller of Budget shall ensure prudent and efficient use of public funds -

a) By authorizing withdrawals from the Equalization Fund, Consolidated Fund, County Revenue Funds and any other public fund which by an Act of Parliament requires approval of the Controller of Budget for withdrawal from that fund;

b) By monitoring, evaluating, reporting and making recommendations to the National and County Governments on measures to improve budget Implementation in accordance with Article 228 of the Constitution;

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c) In consultation with the National and County Treasuries and the Public Sector Accounting Standards Board established under section 192 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012, by reviewing from time to time, the formats of requisitions and approvals of withdrawals of funds in paragraph (a);

d) By enforcing budgetary ceilings by Parliament on National and County Government expenditure; and

In performing any other function that may be assigned to him or her by an Act of Parliament".

Mr. Speaker, Section 9 of the Act requires the following functions to be carried out by the controller of budget;

1) The Controller of Budget shall, in accordance with Article 228 (6) of the Constitution, submit to Parliament quarterly budget implementation reports for the National and County Governments within thirty days after the end of each quarter.

2) The reports submitted under subsection (l) shall provide information relating to-

a) The approved budget;

b) The total funds released by programmes;

c) The absorptive capacity of funds by projects; and

d) Reasons of the decline if any.

3) The reports submitted under subsection (1) shall comprise of-

a) A report on approved expenditures, authorized withdrawals, actual releases and actual expenditures;

b) The comparison between amounts provided for in the County Allocation of Revenue Act for each county in accordance with County Government disbursement schedule approved by the Senate with the authorized withdrawals from the Consolidated Fund to county governments; and

c) a report on the receipts into the Consolidated Fund and the County Revenue Funds.

4) For the avoidance of doubt, the reports submitted under subsection (1) shall not include reports on recent economic developments and outlook, including revenue, grants and loans forecasts and receipts.

5) Despite the first quarterly report of the year submitted under this section, each subsequent report shall contain cumulative amounts from the beginning of that year.

6) The Controller of Budget shall publish and publicize the reports referred to in this section not later than fourteen days after the reports are submitted to Parliament.

Mr. Speaker, in review of the report by the Controller of Budget, the committee noted that in the financial year under review, revenue performance of the County was 92.9 percent of the Total Budget Allocation. The major challenges were the grants on Transforming Health Care where the county received 21.6% of the Total Allocation and 0% of the targeted amount. The county

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government should then put more effort to ensure that own source revenue is increased to over 90%.

Mr. Speaker, the committee also looked at the exchequer issues, Expenditure trends, pending bills, employee's compensation and various established funds. The committee reviewed expenditure by major categories including foreign travels, list of development projects undertaken by the county and contributing to highest expenditure and Budget execution by programmes and sub- programmes. The committee further reviewed observations and recommendations brought forward by the controller of Budget. All this, Mr. Speaker, is captured in the report of the Controller of Budget for the FY 2022/2023.

Committee Members

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Budget and Appropriation Committee as currently constituted comprises of the following members;

1. Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki - Chairman
2. Hon. Stephen Nderitu - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Nicholas Lempaira - Member
4. Hon. Irene Wachuka - Member
5. Hon. John Gichuki - Member
6. Hon. Paul Leshuel - Member
7. Hon. Benson Kuria - Member.

Acknowledgment

Mr. Speaker, Sir, allow me to thank all those who participated in discussing the County Budgets Report for the Financial Year 2022/2023. Lastly, the committee appreciates the Office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk of the County Assembly for the support received in discharging one of its mandates; scrutinizing the performance of the budget for Financial Year 2022/2023. It is therefore my pleasant duty and privilege, on behalf of Budget and Appropriation Committee to table this report and recommend it to the House for adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I request Hon. Lempaira to second this motion.

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and the Chair for that. I support the report and I urge Members of this House to adopt the report because when we looked at the recommendations and the observations as a committee, we recommended that the Treasury should ensure that there are timely preparations and submission of reports to the office of the Controller of the Budget in line with section 166 of the PFM Act.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, some of the things that we have noted and the recommendations that we have given are clearly indicated in the report. I support the motion. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

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Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support the report from the committee. I have gone through it but I am concerned. The committee itself have observed use of manual personal emoluments amounting to Kshs.364 million. Mr. Speaker, I am sure this House has the Labour Committee and we have not heard any advert that has engaged new people.

Mr. Speaker, on this one we need to know what is going on, what is transpiring and why manual payroll is being used. Mr. Speaker, below that the committee has also stated that there is high wage bill which accrued from 54.6% of the revenue for Financial Year 2022/2023. Mr. Speaker, as per the committee's observations, this needs to be looked at. Mr. Speaker, I am sure in this Assembly, each committee has its obligation.

If the wage bill is rising and we have not had any advert, we are crying for more engagement for our staff. I remember raising a statement concerning staffing in some of our medical facilities. You will get that a facility has one nurse. Now I am wondering, we have not had any advert where people are engaged yet the wage bill is high. I am concerned of how we shall help our people if the wage bill is high.

Mr. Speaker, we have the Service Board that is concerned with that work. I am happy that the committee has recommended that the Service Board should develop an optimal staffing structure and device strategies. My concern is, since I was elected, we have not had any engagement except the renewal of the new ones. Mr. Speaker, this needs to be checked. Mr. Speaker, it is a government requirement that manual payroll should not be applied. I am happy that the committee has observed the same.

I do not know the concerns that have made us to use the manual payment of staff but because we have the committee, they might know the reason why we are using manual payroll. The Government requires the IPPD to be followed. Mr. Speaker, I support the report. The committee have done a commendable job and the report that they brought to the floor of this House is remarkably good. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Budget Committee for bringing up the report for the Financial Year. We have noted the late submission of the Financial Reports as one of the key observations that the committee made. I do not know whether the County Government has timelines and it is clear in the PFM Act on the timelines required to submit reports. I don't think this is supposed to be the reason for the County Government to say that they had late submission of reports.

This is something that the County Government needs to improve on because these affects everything. When the reports are submitted late it means that the reports that are going to come here are going to be submitted late. I think that is something that the County Government needs to ensure that they act on. I just want to reiterate what Hon. Kanyutu has just said on high wage bill being accounted at 56%. We know our wage bill should not be more than 45%. I think the County Government is doing badly.

It is the high time that we need to scrutinise the wage bill because it is eating up our budget. That means that the budget of other departments is going to be constrained in terms of development and the development that is supposed to be done by the common citizen is limited. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand in support of the report. As I was going through the report, I saw a few errors. One, on the County Expenditure of the employee's compensation it says that the manual payroll accounts to 10.1% of the total PE cost. The County Assembly spent Kshs.5.75 million on the Committee's sitting allowances for the 22 MCAs. To my surprise, I think we are only 21 MCAs in the Assembly.

As I support the report, it will be in order when we get these reports early so that we can scrutinize to get more information on the report. If it wasn't for the Hon. Umija, I couldn't have seen the report on the gadget. As I said, we should think of the ICT Department because of these gadgets. If they do not give the reports on the gadgets, we should have printed reports so that we can share, read and get the report.

Otherwise, at some point we might adopt a report that we have not seen. It could be erroneous that can bring problems in the House. As I support the report, I wish the Chairperson for the Budget Committee to consider because budget is a sensitive thing in this House. The County to make sure before we get into the House, we have the reports printed and put in our pigeon holes. If a Member has issues, he will take the report, read and have a clear information so that we can contribute in this House.

I support the report and Mr. Speaker, this is not the first time that we have had an issue with the ICT Department. At some point, it is weird and sad that since the beginning of this year we have had issues with the ICT Department. Every day we are raising issues and I think the Speaker is not being cautious on that. Yesterday, we had the same issue and nothing was taken care of. It is the high time Members of this House sit down and figure out issues in the ICT Department.

We have an incompetent department that is not doing the job that it is supposed to do. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I support the report.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Lekopien. Your sentiments are well noted. I just want to repeat what I said yesterday that the gadgets are on high gear in implementing two times; that is installation of the congress system. As I had said earlier, this is the final month. Yesterday I apologised that due to changes of these gadgets and the systems, there will be itches here and there.

I believe that as we go for recess, when you come back, you will not have multiple gadgets before you as microphones because the final installation shall have been done, tested and ready for use. I believe we should hold on for a while as we ensure that this transition operates smoothly to the best systems. Thank you. Any other Member who may wish to contribute. If not so, I will invite the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank every Member who supported the report. According to what the Members have stated on observations and recommendations, it is key that every Member before we table the report should have the report so that we can go through the report and be acquainted with what has been tabled in the Assembly as a report on Budget and Appropriation.

As the Honourable Member has stated, it is time we have a sitting with the Finance Department so that we can discuss these issues and these recommendations. These recommendations have been recommended in a number of years. Issues of high wage bill have been there for years and we have not had resolutions on the same. As I table this report, these are

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the recommendations that we need to discuss with the Finance Department. I hope every Member has the report and thank you for the support Mr. Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

STATEMENT

NTRH ELECTRICITY BACK UP SYSTEM AND SUPPLY OF MEDICINES

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can ask Members to confirm whether they have the reports in their gadgets so that we can move on.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, I am the one who raised concerns but now we have the full report in our gadgets. It is well articulated.

Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Lempaira, proceed.

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: Thank you, Hon. Kanyutu for that information. Mr. Speaker, we are responding to a statement on Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital electricity back-up and supply of medicine in health centres and dispensaries. The matter was raised by the Hon. Member for Umande on 26th September, 2023 on the above subject matter.

On the night of Tuesday, 12th September, 2023 the Nanyuki area experienced a power outage due to planned power rationing by the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (Kenya Power) from about 7.15 pm. The hospital standby Generator failed to kick in resulting in a power outage that lasted until about 8.30 PM when the mains electricity resumed. The generator failed to run because of a mechanical fault.

It was established the following day that the stand-by generator required an engine overhaul and replacement, a process that will take up to 10 days. This required the hospital to hire another stand-by generator on an emergency basis as the primary generator was being fixed. The matter raised by the Hon. Member in the statement are as follows;

(i) Whether the Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital has backup power systems, such as generators and uninterruptible power supplies (UPS), to provide electricity during outages.

(ii) Whether the facility has emergency response plans to ensure the safety and continuity of care for patients in the event of power disruption.

(iii) How often is testing and maintenance of backup systems done.

(iv) What can the provision of medicines in dispensaries and health centres be done.

Mr. Speaker, I want to report to this House that today we had a visit to the facility and we have confirmed that the hospital has a power backup generator and the engine has been services. The response of the CECM concerned was misleading and I apologise. He stated that the hospital has two sources of electricity power backup comprising of a 165 KVA diesel-powered backup generator that was installed in 2011 and UPSs in key departments such as the server room, radiography, laboratory, theatre and critical care unit.

I want to report to the House that the Hospital has one big generator for back-up and they are in the process of purchasing a new one. It is in good condition.

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The other question raised by Hon. Mugweru is whether the facility has an emergency response plan to ensure the safety and continuity of care for patients in the event of power disruptions. I have just explained that today we were in the facility and just confirmed that we have one back-up generator and Kenya Power connection which is independent.

The other question was on how often is testing and maintenance of backup systems done? The response to that is that all equipment and back-up systems are constantly checked, and respective manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedules followed. We noted the generator has five staff attached to the maintenance and checking of the power.

On number four, when can the provision of medicines in dispensaries and health centres be done? It is also in the knowledge of the committee that Health Facilities (Health Centres and Dispensaries) received their KEMSA supplies from 18th September 2023 to 25th September 2023. Back Orders were received at the Sub County Stores from both KEMSA and MEDS from Wednesday 4th October 2023 to Friday 6th October 2023. These supplementary medicines at the Sub-County stores are distributed to the same facilities to ensure that the most essential supplies last for the entire quarter before the next supplies are due.

Further, larger Sub County Hospitals Rumuruti, Doldol, Kimanju. Ndindika and Lamuria and large Health Centres Ol Moran, Sipili, Ol Ng'arua, Ol Jabet, and Salama received their own supplementary orders from MEDS On the same day the Sub County Stores were replenished. This is above and beyond the supplies they received from KEMSA a fortnight earlier.

Recommendations To the County Assembly of Laikipia

We acknowledge this intervention by the County Assembly to assist us to effectively resolve the health operational issue and continuity in the supply of medicines in Laikipia County. We specifically recommend that the County Assembly of Laikipia:

1. SUPPORTS our outlined plans and strategies to address the current power supply and power back-up in the Laikipia Health Service, including all the budgeted provisions that relate to it.
2. APPROVES our quest to increase medicines budget to a minimum of Kshs. 300,000,000 in the next Financial Year 2024/2025 cycle to ensure that Laikipia Health Service facilities will have an average of Kshs. 750,000 available for the purchase of medicines each quarter. This will go a long way to always ensure that the great people of Laikipia access medicines all year round.

Mr. Speaker, I want to clear some report that yes, most of our dispensaries have received their supply for this quarter. An example is Kimanju, I passed by this weekend. I realised that the drugs distributed are still not enough. That is why when we do our report when we visited our hospital today NTRH, we wanted to meet the C.O and CECM in charge to make sure our dispensaries get the right quantities of the drugs they want. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Hon. Lempaira. Perhaps I may be able to hear from the Member who had asked this, Hon. Mugweru?

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have tried to go through the report in those few minutes that I have been here. I would want to thank the committee on one or two things. One, as the chair was speaking there are two things he has done. One he has told us about the

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response from the CECM. Two, in the same he is talking about the committee observation and recommendation. That is a good thing but I feel it has mixed the whole issue.

What we expected and what is here in the report is the response from the hospital. There is something that I have captured in my mind. Under the back-up generator there are five people who are employed though it is not from the response from the CECM. It is the committee's recommendation. Maybe after receiving the response maybe you took a step and visited the hospital and got some of this information.

What you have written and what you have seen are two different things. The Chair has said they found one major back-up generator. On the response, this person said they are two of them. Why I am thanking the committee is that when they received the response, they didn't just sit down but went there to confirm whether what they are told is true or false.

According to the response given here, if given time I will be able to poke holes in this response from the CECM. You know what happens in the government, somebody sits somewhere and thinks he can lie to the Hon. Members like the Chairperson for health and the committee thinking they are just here and don't know what they are doing.

It is the high time as Members of County Assembly we start telling them that they have given us the response and after reading it, we are going to give a true report against your report. We are not the Executives puppet. It is the high time to tell them yes, you responded and it's your jurisdiction but as a committee we also have our own report and we are able to read between the lines.

Hon. Speaker, the statement was raised on 26th. Secondly, on the night of 12th that is Tuesday, which we didn't know, the CECM is confessing the NTRH faced power outrage due to planned power rationing. On the same time, the power outrage lasted between 7.15 and 8.30. That is 1 hour 15 minutes. They say, the back-up generators that we are talking about failed for 1 hour15 minutes. The Hon. Members in this House are also careful in some of the things, if you go to their response that is page two. The hospital has two sources of electricity power back-up, that is diesel generator installed in 2011 and all that.

On the date that I was raising the Statement, the same people responded in this way; that they have a back-up generator that is un-interrupted. The hospital has an uninterrupted power supply for its critical laboratory, radiology and theatre machines. It only lasts for at least 45 minutes to allow for successful transfer of patients. This day it lasted for 1 hour15 minutes. They are the ones telling us that on 12th there was a power failure.

Speaker: What is it Hon. Lekopien?

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to give him a point of correction. I was in the hospital today. What they are trying to explain is not the generator but the UPS. The interrupted power supply that is connected to the computers. Thank you.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, when asking about back up, the response they are giving here is about the main source of power. They are now justifying by saying they have a transformer that is not shared with anyone. The transformer is not a back-up. If that transformer that is not shared fails, we are talking about a back-up system, not a transformer.

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We need to be careful in some of these things. These people just sit down and write a response without knowing that the committee is composed of elected Members not through *Mlolongo* way. We are not just people where *mlolongo* people queued and said we are the MCA's. They need to understand the people they are dealing with.

Hon. Speaker, if you check, the same people are saying that; further the Laikipia health service is in further stages in seeking installation of a third back-up solar system. Confirming if they are two meaning the two of them are not serving efficiently. That is why they are looking for the third one. The Chair has told us it is not two it is one. That single one is not efficient in any way. We are so careful on these things because it is our responsibility.

Hon. Speaker, if you look at the testing; all equipment and back-up system are constantly checked. What do you mean by constant checked? That means there is somebody who keeps on checking on them because it matters to the people of Laikipia but on September, they went to test the generator when power is already off and then the generator failed to start. How do you tell us that you constantly check yet on another day you tell us you check when the power is off or it failed to kick off? The same person who is telling us this. Sometimes they just think we are going to read and go but compare notes.

Mr. Speaker, why I am so much concerned is that on 12th that we did not even mention in our Statement the same people went out and hired a generator. The hired generator failed to kick off. They were hiring because theirs had failed. The hired one also failed to kick off yet it is constantly checked.

The Hon. Chair has told us there are five people although it is not here written. Maybe when the committee went they found five people. Probably those five are zombies set there and just maybe they don't even have an idea. They knew the committee is coming and placed the five people there and say that they are five. If five people constantly check, why should we have such failures? Hon. Speaker, I am so concerned because the CECM is saying that the Laikipia Health Service is already in advanced stages in seeking installation of a third back-up and that is not what I wanted.

Support to all heath facilities through partners and larger hospitals have been encouraged. Encouraged means that that are trying to talk to them but not implementing. They are encouraging them to progressively install solar back up power in the most critical departments of the hospital to increase power assurance. That means that there is no power assurance.

This is the high time they are encouraging them to invest in solar so that they may have assurance of power. So, the lives of our people in Laikipia are not safe. There is no surety of survival in that hospital and also in different dispensaries.

Hon. Speaker, about the provision of medicine, we must mark the dates because the statement was raised on 26th September and on 25th of September they are confirming that they had supplied drugs. I remember the Hon. Members who were here complaining that there are no drugs but here they are saying that they had supplied on 25th. Number three, the worst part, on 18th when the power as off, this one I cannot compete with them because OI did not keep a record on that but they are saying that they were able to restore it in 15 minutes.

Speaker: Just a minute. Hon. Kanyutu, what is it?

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Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, I wanted your guidance. This is a report but the Hon. Member had asked for a statement. Whatever we have here is a committee's report with recommendations. Can a statement really have recommendations? I suggest that we do not discuss this report because if it is a report from the committee, it is one of the best but from the department, we need the questions raised clearly being answered with facts.

On page seven, recommendation to the County Assembly while we are seeking response to the statements. How do we deliberate on that? Mr. Speaker, I think that you should give us guidance because now we are deliberating a report with recommendations given. Give us the way forward.

Speaker: What is it Hon. Lekopien?

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to get some clarity on the issues of the report. I would like to tell the Hon. Member from Umande that on the response from the CECM, while we as members and the committee of Health have been to the hospital and have given you the inside story about everything. So, I really wonder whether you wanted the report or you just want to prove that the CECM has given you false information. As I told you earlier, we were there and it took us an hour or more to confirm what the CECM had said and to be honest, all the CECM has said, 50% is not correct.

As a Member of that committee, we have gone through it, checked and given the report from our own recommendations. We are not trying to look good but we have come to give you things as they are and we promise to go back again in a week to check and confirm that things are in order. Still, we will bring the same report and tell you whether things will be taken care of or not. I just want to tell the Member to please read the report that has been given by the committee and not the response from the CECM. Thank you.

Speaker: Before we proceed, I would like to hear a comment from the Chairperson of Health. What do you say in response to what the Members are feeling here?

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: Mr. Speaker, while we are given a statement to respond on, we give you a written statement from the CECM and at the same time just as it has been stated by Hon. Mugweru, we have told you the truth of what we saw there. That visit was never planned. We went there to confirm whether there is a generator at the hospital which we can confirm; there is one big generator providing power back up to the hospital.

When we were there, the hospital was still receiving more drugs which are supposed to be distributed to most of the dispensaries. So just as Hon. Lekopien has said, I would like to urge the Members to get the right information from what we have told you right now because if we follow what some of these CECM's write, we will keep on urging you for a whole day. You have already looked at the response from him and you can get a lot of challenges.

Therefore, I would like to urge Hon. Mugweru that we are into this matter and we want to ensure that it is going to be covered. If the CECM tells us that all the dispensaries have got power backup and we know that where we come from, there are no backup generators, that is a lie. So, we want to be honest with the Members and we want to tell you that it is better we go with what we have just stated. Thank you.

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Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, I am now shocked. If what is being stated orally is correct and what is on our gadgets is wrong, I am sure that we ought not to discuss further. You are supposed to first get the report and give us a summary on whatever response you got. We either get your oral report without having the one in our gadgets. Mr. Speaker, that is why I wanted your guidance because if the oral report is contradicting the one that we have in our gadgets, why should we be in the House deliberating on the same.

Speaker: Maybe before I give a direction, allow me to give to Hon. Mugweru a chance so that we can respond to both.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, what the Members are saying is true and there is something I want us to understand on this one. I don't know of any committee report. Hon. Lekopien get this, I don't know anything to do with committee's report. I only have this one from Albert Taiti. So, whatever I am saying, I am not telling the committee but responding to a statement. After this one, the committee will come up with a report and that is the report that is going to entail the truth. If the CEC gives lies, then in the future the committee will give a truthful report but whatever I am discussing has got nothing to do with the committee.

I have not seen a Clerk Assistant, nor a Chairman's signature anywhere because it is clearly from Albert Wagura Taiti. I am only discussing the statement but nothing to do with the committee. I just want to display to you how those people respond to us and how they assume that we understand nothing. As I was starting, I said that I wish to thank the committee because they are able to identify the lies that have been given by the CECM.

The whole statement from the CECM portrays how greedy they are and that is why they are even giving recommendations. Whom are they recommending to? If you look at the recommendations, they are just looking for more money. If I am not wrong, I saw a recommendation somewhere saying that they be added Kshs.300 million. So, Hon. Speaker, I am just portraying how greedy they are because they are just interested in money and not good services and that is why they are giving all these lies and contradictory stories.

The good thing is that as Members, we have got trust and confidence with our committee. That as they sit down and look at the response that they were given by this person, they will go to the ground and now come up with a true report.

On that day, we will not dwell on Alberts stories but on the true report. From there we are going to ask ourselves, now that the Hon. Committee of this House have gone to the hospital and found that there is only one generator after the CECM told us that they are two, that is where we are going to move to the next step. Why did he lie to the committee because the committee went and found out the truth? That is how procedural we are supposed to behave. If today they are saying that they supplied drugs, the committee will go to those hospitals in relation to the response they got from him.

When you go to the hospitals and find that there are no drugs, you are going to bring a report telling us that they have lied to us that they supplied drugs only to find out that there are no drugs. From there we ask ourselves, what do we do with this liar? So, Hon. Speaker, that is why I am trying to talk about the response from the CECM but not the committee. It is clear in the response because it was just a statement. All the stories that are here are not from the committee but Albert Taiti, the CECM.

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Now the committee should sit down and research on whether there are two generators, whether they are encouraging people to have solar panels, whether they supplied the drugs and then from there you bring us a report against the response. Because this one cannot be reversed to the CECM, it is now our document and so we are going to have two documents, a true report from the committee and a false response from a CECM. We should compare and contrast because that is where we are headed.

Hon. Speaker, I was just raising those issues because I know that the committee is going to sit down. As they sit down, check on the small details so that you may come up with a true report. The reason why I am doing this, it is not putting holes on the response but just creating a room. From now, I know the chairman and the committee.

If you lie 60%, even the remaining 40% are lies, So the committee will go to the ground and move to Kimanju Hospital and Kalalu dispensary to get the truth. They will then come to us with a good report and then we say that the report from the committee is clean and the response from the CECM is fake. Then we will ask ourselves, what do we do about this? Then we face the challenge in the right way. Thank you.

Speaker: Hon. Lempaira, the chairperson of the committee, I would like to hear your response and you should let us know whether you want to set a date for a comprehensive response. Thank you.

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to promise the Members that what we did today is not going to stop. We will be visiting most of our hospitals and dispensaries without notifying them because what we saw today and where we are allocating a lot of money to, it looks very different on the ground. When we asked them this question, they answered opposite from what is on ground.

When you go to Nanyuki Referral Hospital, you will realize that we have got more than ten hostages because of little balances and bills that they cannot raise. If you calculate the cost of keeping them for two months and the cost of letting them, go, you realize that we are doing very poor in our sector.

I don't know whether the CECM actually knows that we take things very seriously and also follow them or he just gives a response the way he wants. We first want to promise this House that in the first week immediately after the recess, we will give a comprehensive and a true report on the Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital and then from there, we can decide on what to do with it.

We have got a full floor that is not in use and it has been there. We have got a building that requires little maintenance and it has never been done. We have got a lot of doctors who are on study leave and yet the county is still paying them. So, we have a lot that we need to report on. We want to tell you whether this information from the CECM is right or wrong, we will always come back to you with the right information. We will also be coming to your small dispensaries in our villages to ensure that what we budget here is felt on the ground. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, very much. First, I want to give a directive to our Serjeant at Arms fraternity. You can hear there is a lot of disturbance and noise from the crickets. Ensure that this House is fumigated while on recess.

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ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until tomorrow Thursday, 26th October, 2023 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 3.40 p.m.

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