

COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday 19th April 2018

The House Met at 2:30 P.M

[The Deputy Speaker

Hon. (Mr. John Killo Dawe) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

(Quorum bell is rung)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

STATEMENT(S)

STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND PROJECTS

Hon. Konchora Abduba: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. Honorable Speaker, we are aware that every person is equal before the law and has right to equal protection and equal benefits of the law. Equality includes the full and equal enjoyment of rights and fundamental freedoms. Men and women have the right to equal treatment including the right to equal opportunities in political, economical, cultural and social.

In this regard, I would like to ask Marsabit County Government to furnish this Assembly with the following in upholding the Constitution of Kenya in providing 30%` of employments and projects e.g. persons living with disability, women and youths;

How many disables, women and youth were employed since this second term of the County Government of Marsabit?

How many disables, women and youth benefited from the County contracts and projects?

If there is none, what measures are in place to correct the discrimination against these groups in our County on their economical empowerment?

This statement is actually seeking for information on those people who are marginalized in our County and even in the Country. In terms of employment as we have just said, those marginalized people have to benefit from employments. That is part of resource sharing also.

The 30% is allocated to them by the Constitution of Kenya. We are not sure if actually that is captured. The bodies concerned like the County Public Service Board and the Executive need to furnish us with that information. Of course it is not only them. Even at the County Assembly, we have the County Assembly Service Board. This also has the authority to employ the youth.

I really need this to be captured by the Clerk and presented to the authority concerned and get the feedback as soon as possible. I want this to be captured fairly and presented. At the same time, I am seeing these vulnerable groups since devolution is to bring the resources closer to the people. The resources coming closer to the people means they should improve the living standards of the common person.

I am seeing these vulnerable groups have not yet been reached completely. We must look for measures and ways for them to be reached for them to survive as the rest.

Thank you Mr. Speaker and with that I ask the honorable members to support the statement.

Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you.

Honourable Hussein?

Hon. Hussein Wako Abdi: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I stand to support Honourable Kizito's statement having in mind that these people are very much vulnerable especially the disabled.

We understand may be the youth, women and other groups may have been considered in one area or another but on the disabled we are not seeing much attention given to these group of people..

(Applause)

We are not even supposed to go very far. If you just look at our own compound- this County Assembly, we are seeing several appointments and employments going on. We don't know whether the appointment or employment is as per the rules and regulations. We have never heard of any advertisements. We are seeing people being recruited day by day. We are seeing new faces and we are also aware that some other recruitment is on their way coming as far as the County Assembly is concerned.

We cannot talk of other departments when this Honourable House is not giving any attention to these people. The disabled are totally forgotten. For the youth we can at least say or agree that some of the members of the County Assembly are in that youthful bracket. Even if you go to the County headquarters, you will find the youths there. But where are the slots for the disabled?

If we continue this way, we are not even grateful to God and not fearing our creator because these people are less fortunate. Nobody will question on their behalf if this Honourable House continues to remain silent.

As Honourable Kizito said, we want to know from the County Assembly itself the number of persons employed and if the disabled are there. If not, we would like to be told why they were not considered.

Thank you.

Hon. Sadia Osman Araru: Thank you Mr. Speaker. To add on to what Kizito has raised, on point number 2 where he asked how many disables, women and youth have benefitted from County contracts or projects and also loans.

There are those County loans that are given to people. We need to know how many youths, women and the disabled have benefitted.

I also want to ask if registration of the disabled people in the County is complete. Do we have a register for them to know their exact number?

Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you.

I think Honourable Members we are now going to the next statement.

(Hon. Leakono interjects)

Hon. Beranado Bata Leakono: before we move to the next statement Mr. Speaker, I am sorry but now on the statement made by Honourable Kizito, the issue about women, youth and the disabled, I think Mr. Kizito is a member of Culture Committee if I am not wrong.

He is supposed to furnish this House with the same information about the number of the disabled, youth and women that have been employed. I expect the Chair Honourable Qabale to get that information and bring it to the House.

When we normally make a statement, it is directed to a Committee. Now the Culture Committee which Honourable Kizito is also a member..... Now while I was seated, Honourable Kizito was asking these questions when we are expecting answers from his Committee.

May be the Honourable Chair will assist us to get the number....

(Hon. Konchora interjects)

(Hon. Konchora stood from his place)

Hon. Speaker: Yes, what is the point of information?

Hon. Konchora Abduba: The special groups are a cross cutting issue but the youths fall under the department of education. So, this does not directly go to Culture department. It further goes to CASB and the administration....

(Hon. Sadia stood in her place)

(Hon. Leakono stood in his place)

(Hon. Sadia stood in her place)

(The Speaker interjects)

(Loud consultations)

STATEMENT ON NHIF COVER

Hon. Sadia Araru: The County Assembly passed a budget of Kshs. 60million for the NHIF insurance cover in the Pro-poor docket. It's my fear that the Kshs 60 million will just got into NHIF account without our people getting to use the cards.

I would like to know;

1. Why the registration of beneficiaries from all the Wards has not been finalized and those who registered have not started using the cards because the cards have no money.
2. When will this card or insurance be in operation yet the one year duration is almost over.

I therefore, request the Chair for Health Committee to furnish this Honourable House on how this insurance is of assistance to or people.

At the beginning of the election we passed a Budget, we gave Kshs.60million for NHIF cover so that our constituents can benefit, but I am shocked to find out that even the registration is not yet over in all the Wards, I am wondering when will this card be operational, because the one year duration is almost over and our people may end up not using this cards and this money goes into the NHIF account without our people getting any medication, they cannot even use the card, thank you.

Hon. Stephen Leado: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I also stand to support Hon. Sadia, we are now approaching another Financial Year and up to now there is nothing taking place. I would also like in this statement, in each Ward they are thirty people.....(*inaudible*) and up to now we are not aware what happen to those people who are not there! (*inaudible*) we have only submitted four hundred and seventy (470), the rest six hundred, I don't know!

Hon. Beranado Bata Leakono: Thank you Mr. Speaker. On the same issue of NHIF as.... (*inaudible*) put it. We have given a lot of money and if this money is not utilized, I think it is a crime in this County!

(Applause)

Kshs.60million is a lot of money and up to now registration is done partly and what came to our notice and I want the...(*inaudible*) to note that, is that the original list from the Ward and the list at the NHIF office is different. So, people in the NHIF office which have crafted their own list and not the original list.

Now recently, they came to Log Logo, they registered around 200 people.....(*inaudible*) they were told their names were not there! And that is the original list with the Chief, from the Ward Administrators and the NHIF personalities..... (*inaudible*). The whole thing is just a cartel!

(Applause)

Because we have released.....(*inaudible*) home, then they have their own list at NHIF.... (*inaudible*) they have their own lists, I am not aware of that and (*inaudible*) don't know how this money is going to benefit. If somebody comes from the.... (*inaudible*) corner-Illeret to Marsabit because there is no facility which uses NHIF card and get (*inaudible*) of Kshs. 2000 and a transport of Kshs. 5,000 is not economical!

Somebody at Ilaut or Moite travelling all the way,(*inaudible*) to Marsabit, he'll use Kshs 6,000 for transport and the medication is only Kshs. 3,000 or Kshs. 1,000, how does it help?

Of course NHIF card helps, but in this case of Marsabit unless all the facilities are registered, so that they can accept the NHIF cards, which I believe they are only very few, then you're putting this money into wastage!

I beg this Honourable House, when the same issue comes they are supposed to think it critically to look at it, at the possibilities.... (*inaudible*) otherwise the Kshs.60million will go!.... (*inaudible*) one year we have contracted them the money will go and nobody benefited! Next year well allocate that money, the worst part of it is that 600 people, nobody knows.... (*inaudible*) but we don't know who are they? It could be.... (*inaudible*) 30 from every Ward. We have only given a list of 470 and then less 30 people per Ward.

We budgeted 500 per Ward, but we gave a list of 470 so where are the 600 people?
Thank you.

Hon. Tura Ruru Elema: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I think we are opening a Pandora's Box on this issue, some Wards say 30 missing, form my Ward 50 missing! So, there is something wrong somewhere. And if 50 are missing from my Ward and another 50 is missing then what you're talking about in terms of figures is that you're getting Kshs.6 million out of the Kshs.60 million! And Kshs.6 million out of the Kshs.60 million is 10% of that money! Assume this is meant for Administrative purpose.....

(Hon. Leakono stood in his place)

Meaning if 50 people are reduced and given 450 per Ward, that will take Kshs. 6million out of the money that is 10% even if it goes to Administration that cannot be accepted. Because maximum for administration you can take out of the money that is being given is 3% and that is Kshs 1.8million. I think they have to clarify to this House why the deductions were made, that every Ward should have 50 people benefit from this money.

The other thing I have to talk about is what my Honourable Member for Log Logo said, the list from the Ward had been tampered with. I had complains from my Ward, names were given and it was unanimously agreed by the Ward members, when I came back and the NHIF staff were handling this, many names were missing, so let us also know whether they have followed the lists that.....*(inaudible)* public participation or they have created their own to give to the beneficiaries, thank you!

Hon. Konchora Abduba: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I will be very specific..... *(inaudible)* to say that the registration is not yet over, is a total lie! Registration is over and it is gone already, what is there is that they are tampering with the registration that is why we are getting different names from the previous one..... *(inaudible)*. So, it is a big worry, I support the statement and that should be clarified as quickly as possible, thank you.

Hon. Hassan Wako Jarso: Thank you, first of all I would like to thank Hon. Sadia for bringing this statement. Initially when 500 names were proposed from each Ward, they did it on purpose, the purpose for which that number was targeted, overwhelmingly it got the support of the constituents we support. Out of that when we were told to reserve 30 names per Ward, the communication was not felt, when the House orders the respective committee to furnish this House with relevant information-we also need to know for what reasons are 30 names set aside per Wards and the source of order. It is very unfortunate that you have intentions to save five hundred lives per Ward and seven months down the line we are told the ATMs are

not loaded with cash. Having passed the Budget and the Supplementary Budget the beneficiaries are still not able to access the medical services. If the capitalization of facilities is not done and we cannot access the medical service, then we are out to service an existing scheme bearing in mind the highest cost of medical cover that our people go through, this appears to be a relief as it meets the purpose. If it doesn't meet the purpose, this House has a duty and responsibility to come out clean and bold. Health, water, education and roads in that order is the priority of this government. If the department that is prioritized can stand this shame, then this House must stand for its obligation. My request to the House is that this statement unlike the ordinary ones which are given two three weeks, this one must be addressed as a matter of crisis. It should be given the due attention it deserves. Thank you.

(Applause)

Hon. Burcha Daniel: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I totally agree with the speaker who brought this statement to the floor of this House. In fact I even doubt the four seventy which are given if they are registered. Reason being, there is a kid who is suffering in Kenyatta National Hospital and she was one of them who was a beneficiary. I went to the concerned people, the card was not even credited. So, I totally support the statement and we have to go into the bottom of this matter. Thank you.

Hon. Hussein Abdi Wako: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I also totally agree with Honourable Sadia's statement bearing in mind that when we passed this money for NHIF, the money was meant to benefit the most vulnerable member of the community. We fear after the lists were submitted by the MCAs to NHIF office the list may have been doctored and changed. If it is possible on the statements I want to submit that the original lists of all the Wards be submitted to this House so that the members affirm the names they proposed.

(Applause)

Again we have to fear God. We are human beings. We are living in this world for a season. Season being our term in this County Assembly for this five-year term and the reason why we are here is to protect those members who are not able to cater for their health. If what we are getting from this House is what is going on, I want to tell that we are failing in our responsibility on oversight. If we sleep on our job, at the end of the day we shall realize that those beneficiaries shall all be tycoons who are known in this County. We shall not be doing justice to ourselves and those people who are suppose to get justice from us.

Again we want to know where the reserved slots go to and who the beneficiaries are. I don't know if I was the only who heard, in the beginning those reserves were meant for diasporas. Who are these diasporas? We want to know whether this diasporas is balanced ethnically and is for all communities. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Good statements from Honourable Sadia. We can now give directions as sought. The one of Hon. Kizito we give it to the Chair Culture and Equal Opportunities to furnish with replies when we come back on 2nd May 2018.

The other one is department of Health and Chair Asunta is here. The names of beneficiaries from the Wards. If it is diaspora we want to know the Wards which they are coming from. That is due on Wednesday 2nd May.

Assembly rose at 3.45pm