

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Thursday February 11th, 2016

The County Assembly met at the County Assembly chambers at 2.30 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker, County Assembly of Samburu, (hon. Adamson Lanyasunya) on the chair

PRAYER

STATEMENTS

Statement to Maternal health care at Maralal referral hospital.

The Deputy Speaker, (hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Hon. Members, I can see we are expecting a response to statement number 042/2015 from the Chair for Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation concerning the maternal health care following the demise of a mother at Maralal Hospital sought by hon. Modester.

MCA Lodokejek ward, (hon. Jerias Leshoomo): Thank you hon. Speaker, there is a response to statement which was supposed to be read by the Chair for Health but he is not present in the House. The statement is here and I am ready to present it.

Hon. Speaker, I will read the statement as brought in by the CEC for Health in response to the letter from the Assembly dated 2nd December, 2015. The letter refers to:

1. The circumstances that led to the death of a mother at the Samburu County Referral Hospital on 14th November, 2015 following a caesarian section.
2. Circumstances that led to the delivery by the mother outside hospital after being chased away by health workers.
3. The appropriate action to be taken against the health workers found culpable.
4. Full report on maternal deaths at the Samburu County Referral Hospital and other health facilities within Samburu County.

Response regarding to the:

CIRCUMSTANCES THAT LEAD TO THE DEATH OF PAMELA LESILELE, 18 YEAR OLD FEMALE, IP NUMBER 113/2015, A RESIDENT OF MORIJOI/MARALAL

Ms. Pamela Lesilele was a prime gravid (first time mother), with unknown Expected Date of Delivery (EDD) and gestation age because the patient was not sure of her Last Menstrual Period (LMP). At presentation, there was no documentation at ante-natal attendance.

She was brought to the hospital on 13th November, 2015, accompanied by her mother-in-law and another lady at 9.00 am. She was reported to have experienced labour at home since 12th November, 2015 from 10 pm. They brought her in a taxi and reported that the patient had fits while on the way to the hospital.

She was received at the hospital's maternity unit at 9 am by the Nursing Officer on duty. She was immediately wheeled to the examination room and while on the couch, another convulsion was witnessed which lasted for about one minute taking her sometime to regain consciousness. General examination revealed a sick-looking gravida patient in labour. Her blood pressure was 148/90mmHg, temperature 36.8 degrees centigrade, pulse 84b/minute and the respiration rate 22 breaths/minute.

Obstetrics observation revealed a term pregnancy, in longitudinal line, in cephalic presentation. Fetal Heart rate was irregular and high at 162 beats/minute. Pelvic examination revealed a cervical dilation at 10 cm, with bulging membranes, which were ruptured and clear liquor drained. An impression (diagnosis) of Eclampsia was made. A decision was made to expedite delivery in line with current protocols for management of Eclampsia. An emergency caesarian section was ordered. Consent was sought and obtained. In addition, the patient was initiated on medical management to control the convulsions (Red Magnesium Sulphate).

The patient was taken to theatre at 9 am and a caesarian section performed. A live female infant was delivered, with umbilical cord twice around the neck. Operation and immediate post-operative period in theatre was unremarkable. The patient was taken back to maternity unit at 11.20 am for post-operative observation.

At 3 pm, the patient experienced two episodes of convulsion but did not lose consciousness and the plan was to continue with Magnesium Sulphate and to give a single dose of 10 mg of Diazepam, also an anti-convulsing.

At 9 pm, 13th November, 2015, the patient experienced multiple convulsions and became stuporous. On further review, the following were conducted:

1. General examination.
2. Abdominal examination.
3. Vaginal examination.

On 14th November, 2015, the patient's condition worsened and she started gasping for air. Resuscitation was instituted with ambu-bagging and cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, unsuccessfully and the patient became unresponsive. She was certified dead at 3.30 am on 14th November, 2015.

NB: The most probable cause of death could have been pulmonary-embolism but confirmation of real cause of death can only be done through post-mortem findings.

That was the first case on the patient.

CIRCUMSTANCES THAT LED TO THE DELIVERY BY A MOTHER OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL AFTER, ALLEGEDLY, BEING CHASED AWAY BY A HEALTH WORKER.

Josephine Lekaaso, an 18 year old female. IP number 1108/2015, a resident of Ng'ari in Maralal, Samburu County.

Josphine Lekaaso, an 18 year old female, presented to Samburu County Referral Hospital in established labour and was admitted on 12th November, 2015 at around 12 noon. She had previously delivered 2 children in 2012 and 2013 respectively all through normal delivery at the hospital. For the current pregnancy, she had attended ante-natal clinic once. The expected date of delivery was unknown because she was not sure of her Last Normal Menstrual Period. Her ante-natal profiles which included Hemoglobin level, Urinalysis, Syphilis and Human Immunodeficiency Virus status were not known at the current presentation.

She was received in the maternity unit immediately and the nursing officer on duty examined her. The Nursing Officer and the Medical Officer reviewed the patient together at noon. She was in good general status and not in any distress. Obstetric examination revealed a term pregnancy with foetus in normal longitudinal lie and in cephalic presentation, high lying presentation part.

Foetal heart rate was irregular with highest rate being 172 beats/minute. Vaginal examination revealed intact bulging membranes through a dilated cervix at labour 9 cm. The membranes were ruptured and meconium stained liquor grade (ii) was drained. The presentation part did not descend despite draining the liquor with an empty urinary bladder.

The doctor planned to expedite the delivery by performing an emergency caesarian section whose indications were Foetal Distress and queried Cephalo Pelvic Disproportion due to a big baby. This information was communicated to the patient and the spouse immediately, but they were not ready to consent for the caesarian section. They requested for more time to decide. The patient was therefore admitted and was within the hospital compound. She was walking around the maternity building.

While outside at about 1.20 pm, the patient expelled a live female infant. Immediately the staff noted the happenings, they alerted the nursing officer on duty in the maternity unit who was assisting another mother to deliver in the labour ward. Josephine Lekaaso was assisted, immediately, into the labour ward where the delivery was completed with the baby weighing 3.1 kgs with no injuries. The mother was discharged on the same day, 12th November, 2015 following her request. Since she was post-Nataly stable, permission was granted.

THE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO BE TAKEN AGAINST THE HEALTH WORKERS FOUND CULPABLE

It has been alleged that the mother was chased away which led to her delivering outside the maternity ward.

In order to do proper investigations, the nursing officer who attended to the mother from admission to discharge has been suspended from duty and served with a show-cause letter. When investigations are completed, the right disciplinary measures will be instituted in accordance with the code of regulations for public servants if found guilty. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker, (hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): I am also seeing statement No. 001, 2016 from the chair of the committee on Agriculture and livestock and Fisheries concerning

vaccination against PPR, PPP and Foot and Mouth Disease in Loolmolog and Longewan asked by hon. Shadrack Lesoipa. Also statement No. 002, 2016 on the same department of Agriculture sought by hon. Jerias Leshoomo. Remember this is statement time hon. members. Hon. Lesoipa. What is it hon. Leitore?

Majority Whip, (hon. Benjamin Leitore): Mr. Speaker, although the member who sought the statement is not in, I think we cannot lack something to contribute. This is because a loss of life especially of such a young woman is very painful, and I do not think we will agree with the answers given by the department as we had pointed out severally the negligence and poor services seen in our dispensaries and our hospitals. There is an indication that the lady is 18 years and this was her first pregnancy and nobody could tell of the time on when she expected to deliver and I think that should not be a reason because I believe the medics have the machineries and the instruments to determine the age of the pregnancy and saying that it was not clear on when she was to deliver and when not to deliver is not a reason. This shows that there is a lot of negligence because these are professionals. Then who else can tell if the medics cannot tell of the time and the assistance the lady wanted? It is now a couple of months since then and it is only indicating that the officer in charge has been suspended and I do not think it is enough. A lot has happened and we also need to get concrete report even from the committee, whether they have interrogated the concerned persons or authority on the action which was further taken as a life of a person is so valuable and so it should not be taken as if it is a life of an animal. I therefore think that a lot of answers are required here. We should not allow this to happen again as the lives of people are very important, thank you.

MCA Lodojek Ward, (hon. Jerias Leshoomo): Thank you hon. Speaker, this is the statement that came from the CEC, Health. Yesterday, we discussed at length the problems that we are having in some of these committees. If you look at this statement, the statement comes direct from the CEC to the assembly without passing through the committee of this House who is responsible to peruse and confirm if the statement is genuine or replica of what was happening in the dispensaries.

What hon. Leitore said on laxity and negligence in the referral hospital is a very embarrassing thing. Coming to know the situation of that mother, it shows there is negligence from the beginning. I think if the committee should have sat down and go through this statement instead of allowing it to come direct to this House. I also urge the committees to be serious with the assigned duties as yesterday, we heard of many pending statements from several departments and they said that they will report this afternoon. And now none of those members is here now. We ought to do something to make sure some committees have to do their work as required, thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker, (hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Thank you. I will refer the statement back to the committee because I do not also know how it landed to the House to be responded before it passed through the right channels through the committee and I am only seeing two members who are of Health committee; hon. Elly Loldepe and hon. Osman Dube. So, they should take up the issue and the clerks too as the normal procedure based on the speaker's ruling to refer the statement back to the committee so that the committee responds to the House with the necessary resolutions, thank you. Hon. Lesoipa.

MCA Suguta Marmar Ward, (hon. Shadrack Lesoipa): Thank you Mr. Speaker, and before I proceed to ask a statement, I only urge my colleague, the hon. member for Lodokejek ward, it is so absurd the response that he is seeking indulgence can be able to stand in front of this House and go ahead and read it. I think before he accepted that statement then he should have gone ahead to reject it from the word go. Now that you have already read it then probably you already have gotten some of the answers of the questions asked by members. So I think it was an oversight and we should not attempt it any other time. I now proceed. I stand here to ask for a statement concerning the outbreak of several diseases among the livestock from the areas that I am representing.

Pursuant to Standing Order No. 41 (ii) (c), I hereby request a statement from the Chairperson of the sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries regarding the vaccination against

PPR, PPP and Foot and Mouth Diseases which have been identified in the areas of Logorate, Loolmolog and Longewan.

The report of the PPR, PPP and Foot and Mouth Diseases in the areas mentioned, and this might have been necessitated by the persistent migration of the livestock in those areas in search of pasture in our county. Further to this, there has never been a regular vaccination in these areas thus making it difficult and making livestock vulnerable and susceptible to these diseases. Hon. Speaker sir, in view of this, the chair should inquire into and report on:

- Whether the department is aware of such outbreaks and what remedies do they have to mitigate these outbreaks?
- Whether the department does regular vaccinations and on what intervals and seasons of the year.
- Whether the department is considering a permanent solution to avert such diseases.

To expound on that, we are very much aware that the backbone of this County, the livelihood of its people and the economy of the County at large entirely, depends on these animals. Largely, we are pastoralists and for our daily lives and the education of our children and we entirely depend on these animals, either shoats or cattle. So, this issue of the outbreak of diseases has been very frequent almost every time. I only urge the Chair to inquire from the department if there are some possible measures that should be taken by the experts from the department of Livestock. Also, if there are specific periods that these animals need to be vaccinated against the diseases. If the foot and mouth takes six months, then it should be put on calendar that after every six months these animals should be vaccinated all over. It is very frequent here because of the movements. You know that we migrate from Laikipia to the Eastern part of the County in search of pasture. These diseases may not even last for those periods that have been proposed by the experts in that field. The reason being, there are frequent migrations of animals from one county to another. We boarder Isiolo, Baringo and Marsabit. So, I urge the concerned to bring a permanent solution so that we can have a calendar for these vaccinations. PPR is a very deadly and stubborn disease among sheep. It is even becoming difficult for the farmers as students are

reporting to schools. Most of them in our area are affected and they cannot even bring them to markets just because they have been affected by the disease. I urge the concerned to take action as soon as possible to save the lives of these animals that the entire County depends on for survival, Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker, (hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Chair for Agriculture. I am not seeing the Chair, Hon. Letitik. The Vice Chair who is Hon. Pius Lobuk is also not here. I am only seeing a few Members, Hon. Lorunyei, Hon. Romano Leakono and Hon. Josephine Statian. We will slot this statement for Tuesday afternoon next week. The clerks responsible should also inform the Chair and the three Members who are here to take up and consult with the Chair. If they are not around, allow one of you to respond on behalf of the Committee. Hon. Jerias Leshoomo.

MCA Lodokejek Ward, (hon. Jerias Leshoomo): I am not responding to that but I have a request for statement from the same department.

The Deputy Speaker, (hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Continue Hon. Leshoomo.

MCA Lodokejek Ward, (hon. Jerias Leshoomo): Thank you Hon. Speaker. Pursuant to Standing Order number 41/2/c, I hereby request for a statement from the Chair of the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on the Samburu County livestock markets. The importance of the livestock sub-sector is positioned in the... *(Interrupted by the Speaker)*

The Deputy Speaker, (hon. Adamson Lanaysunya): Order Hon. Leshoomo. The statement needs to be signed. I call upon the clerks to bring it to be signed. Continue Hon. Leshoomo.

MCA Lodokejek Ward, (hon. Jerias Leshoomo): *(Hon. Leshoomo continues)*...Kenya's vision 2030 is specifically aimed at planning and implementation of four to five disease-free zones to enable Kenya's meat, hides and skins meet the international marketing standards. It foresees this leading to more domestic processing of these products for regional and international markets. The vision also highlights the following specific strategies aimed at addressing the needs of the sector transforming key institutions in agriculture and livestock production. Kenya is a clear illustration of livestock's complex social, economic and environmental role. The sector

contributes 12% of national GDP and employs approximately 1/3rd of the labour force. This is more pronounced in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALS) of Kenya where the livestock production provides livelihoods for 95% of the families and employs 10 million people. The sector suffers from decades of underinvestment and inefficiencies. Samburu County communities, consequently, depend heavily on livestock as their main source of livelihood. Despite all these, livestock markets within Samburu County namely: Kisima, Loolmolog, Ngutuk Elmuget, Lolkuniyani, Longewan, Lolgese Livestock Markets and others, do not have simple amenities such as toilets, trading shades and clean water while the County Government is always collecting revenue from these sites. In view of the above, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:

1. Whether the department is aware of this and what plans does it have for the above markets.
2. Whether the department appreciates livestock markets as one of the important revenue collection sites and responds by offering such crucial amenities such as toilets and trading shades/water.

In addition, hon. Speaker, we are all aware that highly (*inaudible*) of the livestock sector in this County and as such, we have seen several markets in our wards where revenue clerks are all over collecting cess on behalf of the County Government and yet we are not seeing any improvement in these markets. This is now the third year. I think that the department should take lead and improve the services within the livestock markets since we have seen that this is one of the livelihoods for residents of our County, Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker, (hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Since the statement sought by Hon. Leshoomo is directed to the same Committee of Agriculture. I rule that we slot the response to the statement on the same date as earlier statement sought by Hon. Shadrack Lesoipa which will be on Tuesday next week at 2:30 pm. Hon. Members, the time being half past 3 o'clock and there being no other business, this Assembly stands adjourned until Tuesday afternoon, 16th February, 2016, at 2:30 pm, thank you.