

**COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU**



**THE HANSARD**

**Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2021**

**The Assembly met at the County Assembly chambers at 2:30 p.m.**

*Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Zamzam Ismael) in the Chair*

**PRAYER**

## **STATEMENTS**

**MCA Lodokejek Ward**, (Hon. Jerias Leshoomo): Honourable Speaker, Pursuant to Standing Order 42 (2) I hereby request for a statement from the Chairperson of the sectoral Committee on Education and Vocational Training regarding the distribution of Early Childhood Development Centers during term three, 2021 across the County.

Honourable Speaker, universal access to free and compulsory education is a key tenet of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. Article 53 (1) (C) of our Constitution guarantees every child basic nutrition, shelter and healthcare. Pre-primary school-aged children are at a stage where a child requires nutritional meals for healthy mental and physical development and growth.

Following devolution of pre-primary education Pursuant to schedule four of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010; the County of Samburu has been funding Early Childhood Development feeding program since the start of devolution.

Honourable Speaker, we have to appreciate that if utilized prudently; the school feeding program will play an integral role in realizing the Country's goal of universal primary education through incentivizing the enrolment and retention of children who move from pre-primary to primary schools.

Honourable Speaker, the County of Samburu through its Budget procured Early Childhood Development food in bulk in the last FY 2020/2021 to cover for the whole year. The food was then not distributed as planned due to the COVID 19 pandemic and since schools were closed for many month food was then to be distributed later after schools opened earlier this year and was distributed as stipulated in the attached schedule shared to us by the Department.

Honourable Speaker, the food distributed to the whole County except for two Ward: Angata Nanyokie and Lodokejek simply because there was no more food in store and has become a major concern that the Department of Education is not serious in implementing the school feeding program as required.

Honourable Speaker, we are in another FY again. Previous school feeding programs have been terribly failing to reach the intended beneficiaries despite huge funding as approved in the floor of this House. Schools are starting their first term of the academic year this week. Many parts of

the Country are being hit by drought and coupled with the economic effects of COVID-19 pandemic, more parents will take their children to school in order to access food in ECD centers thereby increasing enrollment.

Honourable Speaker, in view of this, the Chairperson of the sectoral Committee on Education and Vocational Training should inquire into and report on:

1. How much ECD food did the Department procure in the FY in question? (Please provide quarterly distribution list to ECD centers across the whole County)
2. Where is the food for term three for Lodokejek and Angata Nanyokie Wards?
3. What is the total amount of Budget allocation for the said program and what and what is the amount allocated for each school or child?
4. Whether the County Government has received any donor fund to support the said program?
5. Whether the County aforementioned program has a policy framework to operationalize its activities and what are the plans to curb perennial failures?
6. Why wastage, deliberate delay or foul play in distributing ECD food should not be investigated and prosecuted?

Thank you Madam Speaker

**Temporary Speaker,** (Hon. Zamzam Ismail): Well, the Chairperson of the Committee on Education and Vocational Training is here. Hon. Shadrack Lesoipa, please can you state on that.

**Chairperson Committee on Education and Vocational Training,** (Hon. Shadrack Lesoipa): Madam Speaker I request for more time Tuesday until next week. The response will be available to this House Tuesday next week.

**Temporary Speaker,** (Hon. Zamzam Ismail): On what date?

**Chairperson Committee on Education and Vocational Training,** (Hon. Shadrack Lesoipa): 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2021.

**Temporary Speaker,** (Hon. Zamzam Ismail): Okay next week on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2021.

**Chairperson Committee on Education and Vocational Training, (Hon. Shadrack Lesoipa):**  
Afternoon.

**Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Zamzam Ismail):** Hon. Leshoomo.

**MCA Lodokejek Ward, (Hon. Jerias Leshoomo):** Thank you Madam Speaker. I think Tuesday next week is too long for pupils of Lodokejek and Anga'ta Nanyekie to wait without food at their schools Madam Speaker. The statement response is urgently required because how can the pupils stay in school without food? The Chairperson should give us the proper time he will respond to the statement.

**Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Zamzam Ismail):** Let me give the way forward. I think 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2021 is in order. We will need a substantial answer from the Committee on that date, thank you.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Hon. Members, the time being seven minutes past three O'clock and there being no any other Business this Assembly now adjourns until Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 at 9:00 Am.