

**COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU**



**THE HANSARD**

**Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2018**

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

*Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Stephanie Lanyasunya) in the Chair*

**PRAAYER**

**MOTION**

**DEBATE ON THE SENATOR'S ADDRESS ON 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2018 CONTINUES**

**MCA Ang'ata Nanyokie Ward**, (Hon. Leshimpiro Paul): Thank you Madam Speaker. Pursuant to the provisions of the County Assembly of Samburu Standing order number 25 (2) and 24 (4), the thanks of the Assembly be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in the address of the Senator delivered on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2018. I beg to move. I call upon hon. Zamzam to second.

*(Hon. Zamzam bows in seconding the motion)*

**Temporary Speaker**, (Hon. Lanyasunya Stephanie): Thank you. Hon. Members, I now propose that pursuant to the provisions of the County Assembly of Samburu Standing Order number 25 (2) and 24 (4), the thanks of the Assembly be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in the address of the Senator delivered on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2018. You are free to deliberate on the second session of the same. Hon Leshimpiro.

**MCA Ang'ata Nanyokie Ward**, (Hon. Leshimpiro Paul): Thank you Madam Speaker. I think since the beginning of the Second Assembly, it is the first time that the hon. Senator of the Samburu County has given the address to the Samburu County Assembly. We just want to record our gratitude and our thanks to him for that speech.

In the speech, Madam Speaker, the Senator was worried of the massive unpaid bills in the county. Samburu County at the moment has pending bills amounting to about Kshs.700Million. It is also on record that this county is now the third poorest in the country with over 42.2% below the poverty line. Most of these people are marginalized.

Now, since the beginning of this second assembly we have been trying to understand what these pending bills are. Maybe the explanation of a pending bill has become a problem and might need to be reviewed. A pending bill, in my view, is a bill or a fee that the county government owes a person or a company after completion of a project. If the project has been completed and the person has a certificate of completion then that becomes a pending bill.

It seems, contrary to the norm, that pending bill is a pending bill once an LSO is given to a person or a company. So that has made us not to fully understand what a pending bill is and

how we can fight it. The Senator also gave back a feedback on how much money has been put to the Samburu County and is as up to now Kshs.17Billion, since 2013-2018.

We were all concerned on the relation of the Kshs.17Billion and the amount of work that has been done do far. If we can compare the two, the amount of money brought in and the output we are seeing they are in most cases incomparable. The outcome is too little compared to the input that was brought to the county.

The Senator also mentioned a number of other things such as the need to attract investors to our county. So far, if my memory serves me right I have not seen an investor, a serious investor in Samburu County. That raises the question on what our plan is to make Samburu an economic power house to empower its citizens. Instead of empowering our people, I think we are making them poorer. Because, if the pending Bill is at seven hundred million and that is the people we are serving and it is the same people we owe that money. I therefore do not think this County Government has brought an empowerment to its people but rather more poverty.

I know of a number of small companies which the county owes millions of monies. They were stable businesses but after getting into business with the County Government, they become poorer than they were before.

We therefore need to change our plans. If we go by what we have been doing, then, there is a possibility that we will make them more and more poor. Let us change our way of working as the population is also on increase. It is expected that there is always a three percent increase annually and that increase calls for more amenities; more social structures that need to be improved.

Again, we are expecting to hear something on the Auditor General's report because it could give us a way forward. However, I do not understand why they did not mention the report. So far I understand no auditors report has ever been attended to. From 2013, the report is just tabled and after tabling, it dies a natural death without any action being taken as recommended by the auditors. I wish to register my appreciation to the speech of the Senator, thank you.

**Specially Elected MCA,** (hon. Zamzam Ismael): I stand to support and appreciate the speech of the senator which was delivered on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018. As we all know, on the speech of the senator, there was a lot of wisdom and advice for the hon. Members and the county at large.

According to the speech, it was mentioned that Samburu County is the poorest county in the country. We are the richest in potential minerals. He urged that we tap our natural resources. According to the speech, there were a lot of challenges in the first Assembly. And today as we deliberate on the speech, there was a lot of work done by the first Assembly. As the Senator mentioned, when they started him being the Speaker, they had only three staff. As we deliberate today, we have quite a number of professional staff who assist us in so many ways in executing our duties and we really appreciate them. We therefore ought to work as a team for the betterment of our county. I know there are a lot of challenges but I urge the House that the cordial relationship which has been between the Assembly and the Executive to remain, thank you Madam Speaker.

**Specially Elected MCA,** (hon. Roseline Lesaibile): Thank you Madam Speaker, I also rise to support the speech of the hon. Senator. I noted with a lot of concern that the main role of devolution is to bring services down to the people at the grass root level. As leaders of this House, we are required to evaluate ourselves on the following:

- 1) Where were we before devolution?
- 2) Where are we now?
- 3) Where will we be in the next five years?

Will this Kshs.17 billion change the life of a common Samburu man or woman? Thank you Madam Chair.

**Temporary Speaker,** (Hon. Stephanie Lanyasunya): Thank you hon. Members. Reading from the mood of the Members, I can see that today's deliberations have been exhausted. I also want to express my gratitude to the speech by the Senator. In brief he gave a picture of Samburu before devolution and the challenges as you have already alluded to by hon. Rosaline and the rest. Devolution and these billions can only be felt by the common man that were really intended to uplift since we have been told on marginalization and we now have our own Government.

The Government, decision making and resources have been devolved and we can no longer say that the National Government has not done this and that for our County. You can only feel the impact of devolution when every cent budgeted for really counts. When millions come to the County and the lives of the people become the same or even worse then what are we saying about the fruits intended by devolution.

People have so much hope for devolution. It was like to be the panacea for all the Counties especially the marginalized ones to catch up with the rest of the Counties and in-turn drive Kenya to be a middle level economy. This is attained through the Vision 2030 which includes sustainable development goals, CIDP and all the County plans. Hon. Members, the power is in our hands. When we are given the oversight role, it was not just for the sake of it, it was intended so that many levels of Government trickled down to the common man. It was not about numbers, it was intended to uplift and bring services closer.

The numbers can only work if everyone plays their role from the grassroots to the National level. What is at stake is what role are we playing? Where does the money allocated to our County go? Is it divided equitably or is it going to the pockets of a few individuals. I think that this is happening because of illiteracy but history will judge us harshly as hon. Members, if we do not play our roles.

Power comes with benefits and influence but the benefits are supposed to go to the people. We can only influence by ensuring that this really happens. The speech is beautiful but it can only work when projects budgeted for really works as intended. Let us work hard and play our roles, thank you hon. Members for your contributions.

Hon. Members, the time being 26 minutes past three o'clock and there being no other business, this Assembly stands adjourned until Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at 9:00 am.