

SAMBURU COUNTY ASSEMBLY



THE HANSARD

Thursday, June 20th, 2019

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

(Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Stephanie Lanyasunya) in the chair)

PRAYERS

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

MCA Wamba West Ward, (Hon. Benjamin Leitore): Thank you Hon. Speaker. I stand to seek the following Statement. Pursuant to Standing Order number 41 (2 c), I hereby request for statement from the Chair Education and Vocational Training concerning ECD feeding programme. School feeding programme have been defined by the World Bank as targeted social safety nets that provides both educational and health benefits to the most vulnerable children. Hence, increase enrolment rate, reducing absents and improving food security at the household level.

School feeding programme have been implemented in Kenya since 1980s. This was used to primarily to sensitize the enrolment and retention of rural children and subsidised meal programmes have played an integral part in realizing the country's level of universal primary education.

Kenya's school feeding programme has experienced continued expansion and refinement since the introduction of compulsory education of education for all Kenyan children in the year 2003. World Food Programme, in the year 2003, assets that children who get a meal in school improve performance and complete their education. Beyond performance in access to food, school feeding programme also have a positive impact on nutritional status, gender equity and educational status each of which contribute to improving overall levels of the country and human development

Hon. Speaker, according to Unite Nations, World Food Programme, 66 million primary school aged children go hungry every day; 23 million hungry children in Africa alone. Furthermore, 80% of these 66 million children are concentrated within just 20 countries. Additionally, 65 million school going children, 55 % of them are girls with 47% of them living in sub-Saharan Africa thus the need to reduce hunger while increasing school enrolment. School feeding programme has been establish to target this multifaceted problem.

Madam Speaker, schools have become a natural and convenient setting for the implementation of health and educational intervention. School feeding is just one facet of school health initiative as other programmes may include deworming, HIV/AIDS prevention and education and life and health skills education overall school feeding program have been shown to increase educational and nutritional status of recipient children and directly impact

the economic and social life of themselves and their families. Additional, school feeding directly addresses the millennium goals of reducing hunger by one-half, achieving the universal primary education and achieving gender parity in education Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, Samburu County has not been able to meet all these needs of school going ECED (Early Childhood Education Development) Centre going children thus holding them at a disadvantage of acquiring full free primary education. Madam Speaker, in relation to that; the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:

- 1) Why there has always a delay in issuance of food supplies to the ECED (Early Childhood Education Development) centers in Samburu County.
- 2) What is the budgeted allocation by the Department to ECED food supplies? And is it enough?
- 3) Does the Department have food distribution work plan? Or what is the procedure on food distribution?
- 4) What happens to such food in ECED schools that are not delivered in time?
- 5) What happens to the funds that are not utilized timely?
- 6) What measures are being put in place to ensure that food rations reach the designated centers before the school opens?

Madam Speaker I had a reason to seek for this statement because I am sure that the Members of this House are very much aware of the delays in terms of distributions to these schools and many of the Members can attest to this. This Department had a tendency of delivering food to ECED centers at the closure of the schools, at the closing dates of the school. So my question is, who are they giving this food to if they are supplying this food at the closure of the ECED centers? Who are they trying to target because I am sure it is not the ECED children.

Besides this Madam Speaker, we have been passing and approving Budgets in this Honourable House bearing in mind that as a House we have been focused on improving education to an extent of giving the ECED or the Department of Education and Vocational Training more funds. Our Budgets speaks volume to what I am trying to explain to the House.

We have been giving enough money to the Department because we know it is a service Department so Madam Speaker my concern is why is it not possible to deliver this food at the

right time, at the right and place since you have money. The issue on money has not been a problem. Madam I seek your indulgence in this because this is a statement or an issue of great importance to this County taking into consideration the need of our children and the situation they are going through when undergoing learning without food.

Madam Speaker, it is clearly spelt under the educational regulations and the World Food Program that through giving food supplements to schools, it increases the enrolments, gives the child an opportunity to be attentive and take learning seriously. We really have a problem in this County, Madam Speaker I am just trying to expound on my statement... *(Interjection by Hon. Letura on a Point of Order)*

MCA Ndoto Ward, (Hon. Raisy Letura): Thank you Madam Speaker. I think the Hon. Member should respect Madam Speaker. I think there are clear rules on dressing in this House. Madam Speaker, we have I do not know if he is a Member or a stranger in the House not properly dressed. Madam Speaker, give us a direction on Hon. Lanyasunya's attire.

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Stephanie Lanyasunya): Thank you Hon. Letura. It is true, the attire for the Assembly is very clear.

(Point of Order by Hon. Lawrence Lorunyei)

MCA Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lawrence Lorunyei): Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member who raised the point of Order is also seated next to a stranger Madam Speaker.

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Stephanie Lanyasunya): Thank you for that. The two strangers, can you walk out and dress appropriately and come back.

MCA Wamba West, (hon. Benjamin Leitore): Madam Speaker, allow me to proceed as I conclude my Statement. I have been trying to give my insight on what is happening. This one of the departments that is not delivering as expected to the people of Samburu. This is a service department that targets the young ones from poor families. This House has legislated that we promote early childhood in this County. We are being failed by the department for not delivering food in time. I seek you indulgence on this to ensure that the department expedites this matter and put it to rest, thank you madam Speaker.

Specially Elected MCA, (hon. Elizabeth Kalapata): Thank you Madam Speaker. This Statement being crucial, we ask to give a response on Wednesday afternoon, thank you hon. Speaker.

Specially Elected MCA, (hon. Osman Dube): Nashukuru. Mwenyekiti yuko hapa na ni kama anatoroka kwani amelisoma vizuri na kumpa naibu mwenyekiti. Mheshimiwa mwenzangu amesema mambo ya kweli na tunataka jibu kwa haraka na hatutaki mchezo, asante Mheshimiwa Spika.

MCA Maralal Ward, (hon. Fred Kiragu): Thank you Madam Speaker. As the Education Committee, we had just deliberated about this and the Chairman has just gone for an urgent call...

(Point of Order by hon. Lawrence lorunyei)

Temporary Speaker, (hon. Stephanie Lanyasunya): Continue hon. Kiragu.

MCA Maralal Ward, (hon. Fred Kiragu): and the Vice Chair is equally qualified and that is why she is the Vice Chair. She can responsibly talk on behalf of the Chair. She has committed to have the answer by Wednesday afternoon, thank you Madam Speaker.

Temporary Speaker, (hon. Stephanie Lanyasunya): Hon. Members, if there is no other Member who has something to say then I proceed. It is true that this is a very Statement because Early Childhood Education is really the corner stone of any County that wants to take off through Education. Hon. Kiragu has just said that when the Chair is absent the Vice is equal to the task. I think we commit the Statement to the Education Committee where they have promised to respond on Wednesday.

Specially Elected MCA, (hon. Osman Dube): Naomba isiwe tu kwa mdomo bali mambo ya kweli kuwa jibu linalofaa liletwe Jumatano. Pia Mheshimiwa Kiragu amesema kuwa Mwenyekiti ametoka kiasi lakini alikua ametulia ilipofika wakati wa swali ndipo alitoka, tunaomba majibu ya kweli na ya haraka kwani watoto hawawezi ngoja, asante Mheshimiwa Spika.

Temporary Speaker, (hon. Stephanie Lanyasunya): Most obliged.

Hon. Members, the time being 12 minutes to four o'clock and there being no other business, this Assembly now adjourns until Tuesday June 25th 2019 at 2:30 pm.