COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF LAMU

THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAMU

THE HANSARD

Thursday, 27th February, 2025

The Assembly met at the
Main Chambers, at 2:30 p.m.

[Deputy Speaker (Honorable Paul Kimani Njuguna) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

Deputy Speaker (Honourable Paul Kimani Njuguna): Next Order.

Clerk-at-the-Table: Staments.

STATEMENT

ECDE Centers in Lamu County -Mkomani Ward

MCA Shekhuna Abbas Shekhuna (Mkomani): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise to seek a statement pursuant to Standing Order 41(2)(c) from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Education, Culture, and Social Welfare regarding matters pertaining to Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centers in Lamu County, particularly in Mkomani Ward.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, As you are aware, ECDE centers are crucial as they form the foundation of our educational system. Unfortunately, many ECDE centers in Lamu

County, especially in Mkomani Ward, lack adequate equipment and qualified teachers.

Therefore, I would like to inquire from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Education, Culture, and Social Welfare about the following:

1. Why do many ECDE centers in Lamu County, particularly in Mkomani Ward, lack adequate equipment and teachers?

2. What steps has the County Government taken to ensure the smooth operation of ECDE centers for learners?

3. When will the concerned department provide the necessary support, such as adequate equipment and teachers, to the ECDE centers?

Deputy Speaker (Honourable Paul Kimani Njuguna): Any addition to that statement? If there is none let get the chair, vice chairperson or any member of the committee to respond.

MCA Hope Wanjiku Mwaura (Nominated): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. On behalf of the chair, I kindly request a period of two weeks to submit the report.

Deputy Speaker (Honourable Paul Kimani Njuguna): Honourable Shekhuna are you comfortable with the response?

MCA Shekhuna Abbas Shekhuna(Mkomani): Thank you Mr.Deputy Speaker. I am comfortable with response.

Deputy Speaker (Honourable Paul Kimani Njuguna): Next Statement?

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STATEMENT

Lamu Cultural Festival 2024

MCA Amina Hassan Bwanamkuu(Nominated): Thank you Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I rise on behalf of Honourable Fahd Dini to seek a statement Pursuant to Standing Order 41 (2)(c) from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Education, Culture and Social Welfare regarding the Lamu Cultural Festival 2024.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the Lamu Cultural Festival is an annual celebration of our rich and historical Swahili culture, which is very unique. This event typically attracts many visitors, both locally and internationally, thus promoting our tourism sector.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to raise a concern regarding the funding of Lamu Culture. It is primarily funded by donors and partially by the County Government of Lamu, but there seems to be a lack of proper transparency and accountability regarding its expenditures.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I seek clarification from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Education, Culture and Social Welfare on the following matters:

1. What is the total amount spent on the recent cultural festival in 2024?

2. We request the concerned department to provide a detailed breakdown of the expenditures, along with supporting evidence such as payment vouchers.

Deputy Speaker (Honourable Paul Kimani Njuguna): Any addition to that statement? If there is none let get the chair, vice chairperson or any member of the committee to respond.

MCA Hope Wanjiku Mwaura(Nominated): Thank you Deputy Speaker. I am requesting for two weeks on behalf of our chair to bring the report.

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Deputy Speaker (Honourable Paul Kimani Njuguna): Honourable Amina are you comfortable with the response?

MCA Amina Hassan Bwanamkuu (Nominated): Honourable Deputy Speaker I am comfortable.

Deputy Speaker (Honourable Paul Kimani Njuguna): Next Order.

Clerk-at-the-Table: Motion.

MOTION

CLEANLINESS OF TOWNS

MCA Beatrice Wamaitha Munge(Nominated): Thank you Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker sir, I beg to move the following motion.

AWARE THAT, cleanliness is both the state of being clean and free from germs, dirt, trash, or waste, as well as the habit of achieving and maintaining that state.

FURTHER AWARE THAT, conditions and practices conducive to maintaining health and preventing diseases are especially important when it comes to cleanliness.

COGNIZANT THAT, Chapter 42 of the Constitution states that every person has the right to a clean and healthy environment.

CONCERNED THAT, not all towns and areas in our County are regularly cleaned by County workers, despite the fact that all businesses pay for permits and licenses. As a result, many are forced to hire individuals to perform cleaning and garbage collection.

FURTHER CONCERNED THAT, when our towns are cleaned, garbage is often not collected on time, resulting in unpleasant odors that are harmful to public health and contribute to environmental pollution.

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NOTING THAT, in several towns in Lamu County, there are no public toilets, which poses a significant health risk as it can lead to disease outbreaks during the rainy season. This issue also burdens business owners, who must frequently run to their homes or neighborhoods.

THEREFORE, I URGE this Assembly to compel the County Government to:

1. Designate a specific day for weekly garbage collection in each town within the County, as all areas contribute revenue to the County.

2. Hire additional workers to ensure that the towns remain clean at all times.

3. Construct public toilets in all upcoming towns to prevent the outbreak of diseases.

(Seconded)

(Motion Proposed)

Members Contributions

MCA Francis Gakure Gakonga(Bahari): Asante sana mheshimiwa spika. Nasimama kumpongeza mheshimiwa Beatrice kwa kutambua pengo muhimu katika miji zetu. Naunga mkono mjadala huu wa usafi katika miji zetu. Mheshimiwa spika kama vile hoja inapendekeza, kuna baadhi ya mitaa naweza sema ni chipuka.Yaani mtaa ambao haikuanza kitambo.Unakuta usafi inafanywa katika mitaa za kitambo pekee au wale wanafanya hiyo kazi wameekwa kwa hizi mitaa kubwa na za zamani.Hakuna anayefanya usafi katika hizi mitaa ndogo ndogo jambo ambalo linapelekea kurundika kwa takataka.

Mheshimwa spika, umuhimu wa serikali ya Gatuzi ni kuleta huduma kwa mwananchi wa chini kabisa. Ile huduma wanainchi wanaoishi miji mikubwa kubwa wanapata basi hata wale wanaishi miji midogo wanafaa kupata kama tu wanainchi wengine. Mheshimiwa spika, utapata ya kwamba tuko na wanabiashara katika hizi miji midogo. Kuna wale wamefungua duka, kuna wale wamefungua hoteli na kuuza vyakula na pia wale wa vibanda vya kuuza mboga. Wakati wa kulipia leseni ya kufanya biashara hakuna siku wanatengwa, ila wote wanalipa ushuru sawa. Ni

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makosa serikali ya gatuzi ya Lamu kupatia baadhi ya watu huduma na wengine wanyimwe.

Nikitoa mfano mheshimiwa, niko na miji kama Tewe, Likiamu, Kihongwe na miji zingine kadhaa. Niko na hakika kwamba miji hizi hazipati huduma wa usafi. Miji kubwa kama Mpeketoni najua wako na afisaa kadhaa wa kufanya usafi lakini itakuwa vizuri zaidi ili wale watu ambao wanafanya biashara katika miji midogo watengewe angalau siku maalumu ya kuambiwa labda kuna kuja gari ya kuokota taka taka ili siku kama hiyo wanafanyi biashara katika mji mdogo waweze kupeleka taka zao.Pia hata kukitokea kupatikane afisa kadhaa wa kufanya usafi katika hizo miji nilitaja itakuwa pia kwa upande mwingine tumetoa nafasi za ajira kwa wakaazi.

Itakuwa ni makosa tukitoa mtu mfano kutoka miji ya Mpeketoni aje kufanya kazi mji wa Tewe na nina uhakika kuwa kuna watu ambao pia wanahitaji kazi katika hizo mitaa. Kuna jambo pia limezungumziwa kuhusu kupatikana vyoo. Nafahamu kuwa si kila mji inavyoo ambavyo vinaweza kutumika. Ni vizuri miji yote midogo ipewe kipaombele na kutengwe sehemu maalum ili kupatikane vyoo. Naunga mkono mada hii na naomba waheshimiwa waunge mkono mada hii.

MCA Hpoe Wanjiku Mwaura(nominated): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I stand in support of the motion. Our religion teaches us that cleanliness is second only to godliness. There is a pressing need for public toilets in all upcoming towns. Let me share an incident that occurred during the homecoming rally for Governor Timamy at Kibaoni. Many people needed to use the restroom, but unfortunately, the area did not have any facilities available. This highlights the urgent need for public toilets to prevent diseases such as cholera.

Furthermore, business people in the area, such as those at Tewe, Bahari and Majembeni, face significant risks, especially women with small children, who are vulnerable to infections when proper sanitation is not maintained. For these reasons, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I strongly support this motion.

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MCA Shekhuna Abass Shekhuna(Mkoman): Asante sana mheshimiwa spika kwa kuweza kunipa nafasi kama hii. Mheshimiwa spika mimi nataka kumuunga mkono mheshimiwa Beatrice kwa kuleta mswada kama huu. Mheshimiwa spika ni jambo la kusikitisha vile baadhi ya mitaa yetu ni chafu. Na sisi kama viongozi tunasema serikali yetu ya gatuzi inafaa kutenga pesa au kutafuta pesa hata kwa wafadhili ili vijana wetu wapate nafasi za ajira katika kusafisha mitaa zetu. Mheshimiwa spika, tunafaa kuzingatia kwamba sai tuko katika kipindi cha kiangazi na hii inamaanisha hatuko mbali na msimu wa mvua. Tusipokuwa waangalifu kunaweza kuwa na mchipuko wa magonjwa kadhaa na haitakuwa nzuri kwa wananinchi wetu wa Lamu.

Mheshimiwa spika, katika wodi yangu ya Mkomani, niko na wafanyikazi wa manispaa kumi na tano. Idadi hii ni chache mno na wodi yangu ni kama daraja kati ya *Jetty* mpya na Bandari ya Lamu. Wale ni viumbe kama sisi, si mashine mheshimiwa spika.Wanafaa wapate muda wa kupumzika. Ni lazima sisi kama bunge tuweze kuzingatia na kutafuta pesa ya kusaidia kina mama na vijana ili wapate ajira na kufanya mji wetu uwe msafi. Kuna *Jetty* mpya na Bandari ya Lamu na kuna wakati tulipata wageni na ni jambo la aibu sehemu hizo hazikuwa safi. Ukienda sehemu zingine kama hii yetu unapata mazingira ni masafi na kuna hata sehemu nzuri na nadhifu ya watu kujisaidia. Tukiangalia jetty ya mokowe, sehemu za Mpeketoni na hata katika sehemu yangu ya Mkomani hatuna hata vyoo vya wananchi. Ni aibu mheshimiwa spika kama Kaunti yetu ya Lamu kushindwa kueka vyoo na kwa nini mpka sasa tuko katika hali hii. Ni lazima mheshimiwa spika kupitia kwa wahusika tuweze kutenga fedha ya kuweza kueka vyoo kutoka Witu mpka kumalizia shela tuweze kueka vyoo vya kuweza kusaidia wageni. Tujaribu pia kusaidia vijana kupata nafasi ya kusafisha mitaa zetu.

Mheshimiwa sopika, mitaa zetu inasafishwa tu kwa ndani lakini ukitoka tu nje kidogo ya mtaa unapatana na uchafu nyingi. Inapelekea wakati mwingine mimi kutoa kutoka kwa mfuko wangu kushughulikia hali hii mheshimiwa spika. Kwa sababu hii mheshimiwa spika, naunga mkono mjadala huu ambao umeletwa na

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ndugu yangu mheshimiwa Beatrice. Ni lazima tuzingatie kwa kipindi hiki kwa upesi tuweze kufanya mgao wa kutenga buajeti ili mazingira yetu iwe safi. Naunga mkono kwa asailimia mia.

MCA John Mburu Gakonga(Hongwe): Asante mheshimiwa spika. Nimesisima kuunga mkono mswada huu ambao umeletwa na mheshimiwa Beatrice. Ni kweli kabisa mitaa zetu ni chafu na ukiangalia mpka miji zingine hazina wafanyikazi. Katika wodi ya Hongwe huwezipata wafanykazi wa kusafisha ilhali wakazi wa Hongwe ni walipa ushuru kama wananichi wengine katika sehemu zingine. Ni vizuri mpangilio iwe ili kila miji isaidike katika jambo la usafi. Ni vizuri serikali ya Gatuzi kuongeza idadi ya wafanyikazi wa kusafisha kutoka kila sehemu. Vile vile mitaa zetu hazina vyoo vya umma na kama iko basi haina watu wa kusafisha. Ni vyoo ambazavyo vingine haviwezi ingilika na utaona kuwa karibu shughuli ya biashara inaendelea. Hata maji ni shida mara nyingi. Mswada huu ni muhimu tuzingatie kwa karibu ili mitaa zetu zingare. Asante.

MCA Amina Hassan Bwanamkuu(Nominated): Asante mheshimiwa spika. Pia mimi nasiamama kuungana na waheshimiwa wenzangu kuunga mswada huu ambao umeletwa na mheshimiwa Beatrice. Kusema ukweli usafi ni kitu muhimu sana katika jamii na bila usafi hakuwezi kuwa na afya njema.nimesisikiza mswada huu na kauli ambao inajitokeza ni kuwa wafanyikazi wa kufanya usafi wako wachache. Ni muhimu wafanyikazi wa kufanya usafi waweze kuongezwa. Kule kwetu mji ni mkubwa na wafanyikazi ni wachache kuepelekea kufanywa kwa asimilia kumi tu ya usafi katika mji. Naunga mkono mjadala huu na kuhimiza kuongezwa kwa hao wafanyikazi.

MCA James Kariuki Njaaga(Hindi): Asante mheshimiwa spika. Nilikuwa nimesema nisiongee kwa sababu tukiongea kuhusu usafi ni jambo linanigusa roho hivyo ninaweza nikapandisha mori. Mimi niko katika manispaa na hakuna mji mchafu kama huu wa kwangu Mokowe.Mji ambao afisi zetu zote za Kaunti ziko. Mheshimiwa spika nikikupeleka uko pande za *Old town*, utakuta kuna mahali

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takataka zote za Mokowe zinamwagwa. Sehemu ile imeharibiwa kupita kiasi na kisa na maana ni ukosefu wa wafanyikazi wa kutosha.

Tukiongea hivi sasa mheshimiwa spika, mimi niko na wafanyikazi wawili pekee katika wodi yangu. Pole pengine ninaweza kumkwaruza mheshimiwa Shekhuna kwa sababu asilimia kubwa ya wafanyikazi wa usafi wanatoka upande wa Lamu. Wanaletwa kupitia kwa mashua wafanye kazi huku ili jioni warudi. Mimi ningependa kupitia jumba hili tukufu, kama tutataka kufanya kazi wacha wale wafanyikazi wa usafi watoke katika mji husika. Hivyo wataweza kufanya kazi muda unaofaa na kuwa na ari kama mji wao. Mambo kama haya yanafanyika sababu pengine hapa kama bunge hatujakuwa na mikakati na sasa kupitia huu mswada basi tunaweza tukawashurutisha wazingatie mambo kama haya wakati wa uajiri.

Katika upande wa vyoo mheshimiwa spika, mimi ndio napokea wageni wengi kwa siku. Vyoo ni vichache na wakati mwingine wageni wanakuwa wengi zaidi. Ni jambo amabalo ni la kusikitisha na nataka kusema kwamba mswada huu umekuja wakati unaofaa na yale yote tumechangia leo iweze kuzingatiwa. Asante.

MCA Suleiman Mohamed Farah (Witu): Asante mheshimiwa spika. Nimesimama kuunga mkono mswada huu. Nashukuru katika wodi yangu niko na wafanyikazi kadhaa wa kufanya usafi ila tu mji ni mkubwa zaidi. Katika maswala ya vyoo, sijaona hata choo moja ya umma katika wodi yangu. Ni vizuri dada yangu ameleta hoja mwafaka.Asante.

MCA Aisha Ali Abdulrahman(Nominated): Thank you Mr. Deputy Speaker. I want to join my colleagues in supporting the motion. It is very important to note that we dont have public toilets in most part of our county. I was even intending to bring a statement to the departmental committee on Health Services. Areas like Witu, the environment is not pleasing and this motion I must say it is very timely.

Moverss Response

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MCA Beatrice Wamaitha Munge(Nominated): Thank you Mr. Deputy Speaker. Thank you also to the members i n the house today. You have all responded very pisitvely to this motion. Honourable members, as Honourable Hope has put it, cleanliness is next to Godlyness. Mr. Speaker, maintaining cleanlyness is amost as important as being morally upright. It also brings a sense of pride with the community. I think there is anyone who is comfortable in staying in a place is dirty. I have recently watched a video of truck dumping dirt around the Stima Sacco plaza in Niarobi. I do not want such scenario to happen to us. Can you imagine such kind of picture in Lamu where we even do not have public toilets. Without maintaining cleanliness we risk of even contacting some diseases that are related to dirty environment.

Lamu is a tourist hub and keeping it clean is a must for us. We will even end up attracting more tourist once we are mindful of our environment. There are things that cannot be postponed, things like a nature call. There is a popular swahili qoute that says, "Mama akiniita lazima niende." There are things that we cannot ignore or postponed and many a times you find where you get a toilet there is no water. Even when we were kids, we were taught that we must wash our hands. In our County, many times we do not find water in our toilets.

It is important this house be given list or rather get a communication from the Excutive as per the Ward, when will the cleanliness going to happen so that members in here can be able to play it oversight role properly. With those few remarks Mr. Deputy Speaker, I once a again thank the members for the positive contributions.

ADJOURNMEN

[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Paul Kimani Njuguna)]: Honorable Members, there being no other business, the Assembly stands adjourned until next week on Tuesday 4th March, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.

The Assembly rose at 4:15 p.m

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