REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 23rd February, 2022

The House met at 10.50 a.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. (Mrs.) Mwangangi) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPER LAID

REPORT ON THE HALF YEAR STATUS REPORT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND IRRIGATION FOR FY 2020/2021

Hon. Kisini: Hon. Speaker, I wish to lay the following Paper on the floor of the House today, the 23rd day of February, 2022; the report of Environment, Lands, Energy and Natural Resources Committee on the Half Year Status Report for the Department of Water and Irrigation for FY 2020/2021.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kisini. I want to repeat for purposes of the HANSARD because my mic was not working at the time. We start sitting so I welcome you Members and Order Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and on Order No. 5 was the business that has just been transacted by Hon. Robert Kisini.

NOTICES OF MOTION

REPORT ON THE HALF YEAR STATUS REPORT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND IRRIGATION FOR FY 2020/2021

Hon. Kisini: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker, that aware that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have recognized the importance of water in the survival of humanity;

Further aware that the Constitution under Article 43(1)(d) recognizes the rights of citizens to access clean and safe water in adequate quantities;

Informed that as provided in Article 183(3) of the Constitution, the County Executive Committee Member in the Department of Water and Irrigation submitted to the County Assembly the half year status report for the Department of Water and Irrigation;

Cognizant that the Environment, Lands, Energy and Natural Resources Committee as provided in Standing Order 190(5) analyzed the report, conducted site visits and consequently compiled a report;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to give Notice of Motion that this Hon. House discusses and approves the report of Environment, Lands, Energy and Natural Resources Committee on the Half Year Status Report (First Half) for the Department of Water and Irrigation for FY 2020/2021.

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MOTION

REPORT ON THE HALF YEAR STATUS REPORT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND IRRIGATION FOR FY 2020/2021

Hon. (Ms.) Mutwiwa:

Hon. Speaker, that aware that on 27th August, 2010, Kenya promulgated a new constitution that would change the landscape of the country in terms of governance; Aware that the new constitution stipulated the dissemination of both political and economic resources from a centralized system of governance to the people in the grassroots in a process called devolution by providing a clear administrative framework between the National and County Government;

Noting that Article 176(2) of the Constitution provides that every County Government shall carry out its functions and the provision of its services to the extent that it is efficient and practicable to do so.

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I call on Hon. Christine Koki to second the motion.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Christine Koki, are you seconding the motion?

Hon. (Ms.) C. Koki: I second the motion. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Grace for reading the report. I believe you have a summary or a brief on the report

Hon. (Ms.) Mutwiwa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am here to give a report on Intergovernmental Devolution report.

Hon. Speaker, on 27th August, 2010, Kenya promulgated a new Constitution that would change the landscape of the country in terms of governance. The new Constitution stipulated the dissemination of both political and economic resources from a centralized system of governance to the people and in the grassroots in a process called devolution by providing a clear administrative framework between the National and County Government.

Schedule Four of the Constitution provides for the function of the County Government and this highlights all the services that should reach all the citizens through the county governments. Through the devolution, County governments not only have the mandate and budget provisions to deliver services relevant to the local population but are also required by law to involve the people in the planning process.

So far we have witnessed county driven infrastructure development through tarmacking of roads, developing of markets, construction of market shades, installation of high most lighting, provision of water for both irrigation and domestic use, provision of agricultural and extension services, facilitation of Early Childhood Development Education (ECDEs) enhancement of access to all health care, creation of investment and trading blocks, promotion of accountability in the utilization of funds, increased public participation in prioritizing of key projects and better access to information about the policy and the operational issues.

The devolution and the Intergovernmental committees is established under Standing Order 189 of Machakos Standing Orders. Its functions are stated under Standing Order 189(3). In general, the committee is supposed to make sure that devolution is working according to the later and spirit of chapter 174/175/176 of the constitution. Hon. Speaker Article 176(2) of the Constitution provides that every county government shall carry out its functions and the provision of these services to the extension that it is efficient, practicable to do so in pursuant to playing its oversight role of county government structures.

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The committee on its own motion conducted site visits in Masinga Central, Kangundo East, Upper Kaewa and Kalama wards to establish if the residents of Machakos are able to access County Government services as required. The committee was guided by the following objectives:

- 1. To find out the challenges affecting efficiency in delivery of services at the ward level and at the village level.
- 2. To establish whether the residents of Machakos are able to access county Government services within the ward level and the village level.

Committee composition

Hon. Speaker the committee is comprised of seven Hon. Members as listed below:

Hon. Grace Mutwiwa - Chairperson
Hon. Annastaciah Mutuku - Vice Chairperson
Hon. Justus Katumo - Member
Hon. Benedette Mueni "
Hon. Christine Koki "
Hon. Phoebe Koki "
Hon. Daniel Kiilu "

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Grace, I think the Table Office will guide you accordingly; may be some of these clauses you refer to like mandate is under clause 1.1 because we already know it, committee composition you can read that for the HANSARD to capture. So Table Clerk, guide the Member accordingly so that we spend as less time as possible on reading the report and spend more time on the debate.

Hon. (Ms.) Mutwiwa:

Mandate of the committee

Hon. Speaker, the devolution and intergovernmental relations committee is established pursuant to Standing Order 189(3) to carry out the following:

- Liaise with the institution of the National Government on matters on devolution;
- Liaise with institution of the National government on non-development devolved functions:
- Coordinate activities of the Assembly with the County Assembly Forum;
- Coordinate activities of the Assembly with international bodies;
- Promote inter county relations on matters of common interest;
- Promote intergovernmental relations.

Committee composition

Hon. Speaker the committee is comprised of seven Hon. Members as listed below:

Hon. Grace Mutwiwa - Chairperson
Hon. Annastaciah Mutuku - Vice Chairperson
Hon. Justus Katumo - Member
Hon. Benedette Mueni "
Hon. Christine Koki "
Hon. Phoebe Koki "
Hon. Daniel Kiilu "

Legal Framework Mode of collection

Hon. Speaker, there is explanation on how we collected the information.

Committee site visits

Hon. Speaker, this explains the wards which were visited by the committee.

Committee general findings and recommendations as per the committee objectives

Hon. Speaker, the committee conducted visits based on the following objectives:

- To access if all the county government structures and functions have been devolved to the ward level to find out the challenges affecting efficiency in delivery of services at the ward level and at the village level.
- To establish whether the resident of Machakos are able to access county government services within the ward level and the village level.
- To find out if the County Government has established Citizen's Service centre in its administrative units within the County.
- To find out the working relationship between County Government and National Government at the ward level and village level and if any challenges are found and how to liaise with the National Government where necessary.

(Hon. Speaker left the Chair)

(The Temporary Speaker [Hon. (Mrs.) Ndeti] took the Chair)

Objective one: To assess if all the County Government Structures and functions have been devolved to the ward level

With this, Madam Speaker, we came to find out that there are some problems with the County Government staff and National Government staff like in administration where there are Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs. The work relationship is not good.

We went on to find an observation that the ward administrator offices have been established in every ward as provided for by the law and the staff were permanent and pensionable. Their duties as informed to the committee are as follows:

- a. The development of policies and plans;
- b. Service delivery;
- c. Developmental activities to empower the community;
- d. The provision and maintenance of infrastructure and facilities of public services;
- e. The County public service;
- f. Exercise any functions and powers delegated by the County Public Service Board under Section 86 of the County Governments Act; and
- g. Coordination and facilitation of citizen participation in the development of policies and plans and delivery of services.

The village administrators were employed in September, 2018 and their job groups differ depending on their qualifications. All of them have similar job description despite the disparity in job groups. Others are deputy village administrators according to the appointment letters. Most of them are employed on permanent and pensionable terms.

It was observed that some villages in certain wards did not have village administrators. The roles of the village administrators as reported to the committee are from A to D where Members, you can read their roles there. The Committee had these recommendations:

Lack of village council

Hon. Speaker, Section 53(1) of the County Governments Act 2012 provides that there is established, for each village unit, a village council comprising:

- a. The village administrator who shall be the chairperson of the village council; and
- b. Not less than three and not more than five village elders competitively appointed by the village administrator with the approval of the County Assembly, considering gender balance.

Notwithstanding this legal provision, village councils are not in place. This creates a missing link as the village administrator has to make decisions solely. The Committee recommends that the County Government employs or deploys village administrators to every village without one and further establishes a village council in every ward to cover the missing links in such wards as provided by the law.

Objective two: To find out the challenges affecting efficient delivery of services at the ward level Hon. Speaker, some of the challenges affecting efficient delivery of services are as follows:

- a. Lack of transport facilitation for Ward and village administrative staff Hon. Speaker, the Committee found that the ward staff are required to conduct field work. The Senior Ward administrator and the deputy ward administrator are in charge of coordinating County Government functions in the ward, while the village administrators are in charge of the village which is equivalent to sub location. Their operations mainly involve traversing in some expansive geographical area. However, the officers have not been facilitated with transport means.
- b. Lack of airtime

The Committee was informed that the ward staff have a duty to report to their seniors on what is happening at the ground. Despite this the officers are not provided with airtime allowance and have always been using their own money to buy airtime.

- c. Lack of internet and connectivity services
 The officers have a difficulty in accessing online services since most of the offices have no internet connectivity.
- d. Lack of offices/workstations

The Committee observed that majority of the ward staff have no offices to operate from. For instance, the Sub County offices in Kathiani are rented and in deplorable state. The staff usually have to squeeze in the available space. The committee was informed that in some cases there has been lack of consultation between the ward administrators and the area MCA which has resulted to wrong priorities in project implementation.

Recommendations

The Committee recommends that the Chief Officer adopts and implements a flexible working schedule where some days are for office work and others for field work like the Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs at the National government. Further, the committee recommends that all officers for both arms of the Government need to work in consultation and coherently for the best interests of Machakos residents at the grassroots level.

The Committee noted that there were offices owned by the National Government within wards which had space. The committee recommends that the County Government, through the relevant Office, liaises with the relevant National Government bodies who can offer office space for the ward staff before the County Government constructs their Offices. In case there is a misunderstanding between the two levels of Governments, the Committee by the power vested to it, would be more than willing to help where applicable.

The County Government should provide the ward and village administrators with permanent and well-furnished offices to create a central place where the residents can find them to access services.

The County Government should introduce facilitation package for the officers as provided for by SRC regulations. It is worth noting that the village administrators have not been facilitated in any way hence end up using their own money. The officers are entitled to get their allowances as per the SRC regulations.

Objective three: To establish whether the residents of Machakos are able to access County Government services within the ward level

Hon. Speaker, through the County Administrative structures, it was noted that so far though not satisfactorily, the public has been involved in public-participation in the key prioritization of key projects and better access of information.

They have received information through *barazas* and witnessed County-driven infrastructural development through tarmacking of roads; development of markets; provision of water through drilling of boreholes and excavation of dams for both irrigation and domestic use; provision of agricultural and extension services; facilitation of early child development education (ECDE) through construction of ECDE classes has been witnessed. However, ECDE instructors were not enough.

The Committee further found that in various wards, some projects where stalled. Such projects include incomplete units in health centres, unequipped ECDE classes, unequipped Vocational training centres, market sheds among others. Some members of the public affirmed that access to healthcare was better however most of the facilities lacked drugs and essential items such as gloves. Other services such as payment of licenses were not yet decentralized and traders had to pay and wait for their permits from Machakos.

The committee also noted that some wards were disadvantaged due to political affiliation. For instance, there are wards which have not benefited from the tractor programme and other County Government programmes because of political rivalry.

In some cases the MCAs have been sidelined in implementation of Government projects in the wards. Some projects have been implemented without public participation and this is against the Provisions of Article 1 and 196 of the Constitution. This has resulted to a rift in the relationship between the County Executive officers working at the wards and the area MCAs hence poor service delivery and implementation of approved projects in such wards.

Under trade development, the committee noted that services like application of Business Permit was manual and traders had to wait for some weeks or even months to eventually receive the permits from Machakos.

Recommendations

Hon. Speaker, the Committee recommends that:

- 1. The County Government deploys trained county Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) officers at the sub-county level to coordinate and oversee the provision of early childhood education.
- 2. That the County Government provides drugs and commodity supplies in the hospitals.
- 3. The County Government embraces information communication technology to ensure convenient access to government services such as application of business permits among others.
- 4. On the onset of the new County Government regime after 2022 elections, the County Administration Department should organize a massive public sensitization

- programme on civic education as this will help the public manage their expectations from each arm of the Government.
- 5. That the County Government prioritizes the completion of stalled projects that will enhance provision of devolved services to the community. Through the ward and village administrators, the reports of all stalled projects in all the wards should be consolidated, fresh public participation done to help in decision making on how prioritization of the projects will be done depending on the available resources in the upcoming Financial Year 2022/23.
- 6. One of the roles of the Ward and village administrators is to facilitate thorough public participation and therefore, all county projects should also be subjected to public participation since sovereign power belongs to the people. Implementation of projects after public participation should be evident to the people and the involvement of village council in the process should be certain.

Objective three: To find out if the County has Citizen's Service center in its administrative units within the County

Hon. Speaker, Section 119(1) of the County Governments Act 2012 provides that, a County Executive Committee shall establish a Citizens' Service Center at—

- (a) The county;
- (b) The sub-county;
- (c) The Ward; and
- (d) Any other decentralized level.

According to Section 119(2) of the same Act, 'a Citizens' Service Center shall serve as the central office for the provision of services by the County Executive Committee in conjunction with the National Government to the County residents.

Findings

The committee observed that the County executive is yet to establish Citizen's Service center in all its administrative units.

Recommendations

The committee recommends that the County executive should expedite in the establishment of Citizen's Service center in the all the wards.

Objective five: To find out the relationship between County Government and National Government at the ward level Findings

Hon. Speaker, the Committee was informed that there was a harmonious relationship between the two levels of Government at the ward level. The ward administrators usually engage the Chiefs and Assistant chiefs in mobilizing the residents for County functions like public participation and other form of *barazas*.

However, other wards do not have a good relationship between officers of the two levels. In two wards it was reported that they borrowed Office space from the National Government and were denied. Asked why they were denied they responded that instructions came from their seniors that the county staff should not be allowed to work from their offices

Recommendations

Hon. Speaker, the committee recommends that the County Government of Machakos should endeavor to maintain the positive working relationship between itself and the National government to enhance service delivery to the residents of Machakos. The County department of decentralized units should identify any gaps or conflicts in the relationship and address them accordingly and where applicable involve the Committee as one of its mandates is to liaise with the National Government where and when appropriate.

CONCLUSION

Hon. Speaker, the Committee notes that fundamental challenges have continued to dog the weak with uncoordinated planning and execution, stalled projects, inadequate financial resources, corruption; misallocation of the available financial resources; huge pending bills, bloated workforce, nepotism in the employment and deployment of workers, persistent political wrangling and infighting, inadequate capacity at the County level to effectively and efficiently perform the devolved functions and utilization of budgetary allocations on non-core activities in contravention of the Public Finance Management Act.

The Committee appreciates the need for better and coherent planning by both arms of the Government, strengthened performance management framework, improvement in quality of County leadership, prioritization of investment in thematic areas based on comparative advantage, strengthened public participation in project identification, planning and execution, intensified financial resource-mobilization, improved governance framework to facilitate prudent utilization of resources and enforce accountability at all levels, rationalization of staffing levels, optimization of the wage-bill, institutional capacity building; determination of relevant training needs and corresponding staff training, eradication of duplicity of effort, massive sensitization of both leaders and the citizens on relevant pieces of legislation supporting devolution and strengthening of the monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework.

The Committee encourages the Executive to pay a particular attention in fully establishing and effectively managing all the Administrative units as provided by law, as the services they are expected to provide in a transformed system affect the daily lives of all citizens of Machakos County.

The committee finally recommends the Executive to benchmark with best-case examples in the Country such as Makueni County which has an effective structure of delivering services through the decentralized structures.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Hon. Speaker, the Committee is grateful to the Office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk for facilitating the Committee to successfully execute its mandate. I wish to express my appreciation to the Hon. Members of the Committee who sacrificed their time to participate in the meetings and in preparation of this report.

Hon. Speaker, it is therefore my privilege, on behalf of the Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations Committee to table the report on the status of the establishment of administrative Units as channels of devolution in Machakos County before this Hon. House for considerations and approval. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Temporary Speaker: Thank you, Mheshimiwa Grace.

(Question proposed)

Members, I now invite you to participate in this very important report. Hon. Irene Mbivya.

Hon. (Ms.) Mwende: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I wish to congratulate the Chair for Intergovernmental Relations Committee Hon. Grace for the good report and comprehensive one brought to this House. Indeed I wish to concur with the Committee that the recommendations be followed so that the county may realize devolution because devolution was brought to the counties so that we can all get development and as far as we know we know that in the last General Oversight Committee, we had a very lengthy discussion concerning drugs.

Our hospitals are still suffering because we do not have drugs so we urge the County Government to act with speed so that we may save the lives of our people and I wish also to state that we also have many stalled projects that are yet to be finalized and the County Government, no matter how much time is remaining for the term to end they can still do something so we recommend that they act with speed and bring development to this County. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I support the report.

(Applause)

Hon. Temporary Speaker: Thank you, *Mheshimiwa* Irene Mbivya. *Mheshimiwa* Robert Kisini.

Hon. Kisini: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for giving me time to also have my point on this report. I first want to commend the Chair and the committee Members for bringing to us such a wonderful report. Madam Speaker, I just want to go for the highlights which the committee has clearly told us. One of the things and that is what is happening is about the ward and village managers and their conflicts when we are working at the wards. Madam Speaker, it is very true that conflicts arise when duties are being executed at ward level.

An example is the tractor which is under the program of the MCA of the area. You might find that you have your plan, you have the roads which you want to be graded but then you might find that the ward officer goes contrary to that and there is some interference. They also have the power to say that we have instructions from above to do ABCD. So there is a conflict and I think the report has really highlighted that.

The other thing, Madam Speaker, is about the program of the tractors which the committee has clearly stated that in some cases the MCAs have been sidelined in implementation of government projects in the wards. Some projects are implemented without public participation and is against provision of Article 196 of the Constitution. It is very true Madam Speaker, that observation that was noted by the committee.

It is also saying that the committee also noted that some wards were disadvantaged due to political affiliation. For instance, there are wards that have not benefited from the tractor program and other County Government programmes because of political rivalry. So, Madam Speaker, the report is very clear and it has highlighted many things which go against what should be done in the ward. They have also talked of the ward committees which I do not think are there; in my ward there is no such committee. We have the staff but not the committees, so thank you, Madam Speaker, for the report and for giving me this chance. Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Speaker: Thank you, *Mheshimiwa* Kisini. Can I call upon *Mheshimiwa* Benedette Mueni?

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I congratulate the Chair for the good work she has done. Mine is to say that devolution is the one that has made us to be here and it has to be followed. The Executive has to know that everything (??) was devolved from the National Government so they have to follow what is supposed to be done and most of the time the Chiefs and

Assistant Chiefs do not agree to work with the people of the County which is very bad. They have to work together, they have to have offices even if they will share.

In some places we were going to the shops and they live behind the shops which is unfair and one of the *Mheshimiwa* said, in some wards, they have no place to stay and the Executive has to work with the MCA because he is the one on the ground even sometimes they are in their houses asking for what they are supposed to do and even giving salary to the people which is not supposed to be like that. The Executive has to be doing all those and even when there is something to be done they assist the people which are good. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mueni. Hon. Nziva.

Hon. (Ms.) Nziva: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I also stand here to applaud the Committee on Devolution led by Hon. Grace for the wonderful report and on objective 3, they had to find out if the County Government has a Citizen's Service Center on its administrative units within the County which is very crucial. When there is no Citizen's Service Center obvious there will be a lot of disconnect in service delivery.

On objective 5, they also had some duty to find out the relationship between the County Government and the National Government at the ward level; I think there should be a cordial relationship because at the end of the day the end level unit at the ward level are the citizens so we should be having a good relationship because without the good relationship we cannot go far, so I think it is important. You remember last time when we were going for the MCAs offices even the National Government had some challenges. So in all things we do, we should be having a good relationship. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I support the report; it is a good one.

Hon. Temporary Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Nziva. Hon. Margaret Mwikali.

Hon. (Ms.) Mwikali: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I wish to congratulate the committee and the Chair for a very well-read report and very well established and researched document that we have. Mine is just to note that the Committee was very seriously involved in recommendations and most of them are very good. The Committee noted actually what is on the ground. The committee noted that some wards were disadvantaged due to political affiliations; I think it is all about devolution; it is all about reaching *wananchi*, it is all about service delivery, equality, equity of service to our county community.

Therefore if it is a community that is being sidelined, I think their devolution will have failed. I really recommend the Committee noting that in some cases the MCAs have been sidelined in implementation of government projects. This is uncalled for, it is the worst that anyone can do to our *wananchi* on the ground because they just elected their MCA and they expect them to bring devolution and to oversight. So when the County Government does not implement because the MCA seems not to be in line with their political affiliation, I think that should be stopped once and for all. Therefore, I strongly support the Committee and the recommendations and request that it will be implemented to the letter. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Speaker: Thank you, *Mheshimiwa* Mwikali. I invite the mover to reply.

Hon. (Ms.) Mutwiwa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wish to apologize for what happened at the beginning of the reading of the report. There was some mix-up, which sent a signal like I don't know what I am doing in front of you House; there were some changes to rectify of which you know it is hard to change that which you had been prepared for. So I apologize and request in case of such, a Member reads a report to be notified before. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to

take this opportunity to thank this House of bright Members for how they have responded to this report which shows that the House is alert and it knows what its job and mandate are.

I will do some highlights of the report. The Committee on its own motion decided to investigate whether services reached *wananchi* through the County Administrative units.

- 1. In some cases, you would find the Administrative Units don't reach *wananchi* very well the way the County Administration would reach them.
- 2. The committee investigated whether devolved functions had been cascaded to the village level as provided for the constitution of Kenya Schedule Four.

Some of the matters that came up were as follows:

- a. Lack of offices for the ward and village administrators. It was so pathetic to find that these staff come from their homes, trek from a distance go round the villages, cutting across the wards might take something like 10 kilometers and that makes a total of 20 kilometres to and fro. It is so hard for them. So it is a request for the County Government to do some offices where the village administrators can report, start their work end their work and then go home.
- b. Lack of a Service Delivery Charter to enlighten members of the public on the services that were available in such levels. You go to these offices where happens to be offices for the ward administrator's, you find that there is no information on what happens in that office, what services are given from that office so you just get in, you do your reporting, your request, nothing will tell you what to expect from the office of the administrators. So this is a point which should be noted carefully.
- c. Lack of equipment, such as laptops printers. The staff don't have these laptops to do their work. What they do when doing their reports, they go to the nearest market, use their own money to do printing of their reports and present their work to the ward administrator. So that is something which is supposed to be looked at very carefully.
- d. Lack of facilitation in transport and airtime to assist in fieldwork and public participation. These staff that is administrators, village administrators are never given any cash to do pHon.e calls to reach the villages, they use their own money of which they get very little pay as salary. It is so difficult for them to do a proper service delivery to *wananchi*. That is a finding by the committee.
- e. Lack of harmonious relationship between the two levels of government, that National Government and the County Government. By this we mean administration, where there are Chiefs and the village and ward administrators are denied offices in the Chief's Camp where even there are some unutilized offices but they are denied to work from there. So, that harmony is supposed to be encouraged.
- f. Lack of harmonious relationship between the MCAs and the ward and village administrators and mostly due to political wrangles. It was said, one of the Hon. Members raised that and it is something which should be looked into very carefully because this one is deterring the community to get proper services because there is a fight in between the Executive and the MCAs.
- g. Lack of important services at the grassroots such as survey, requests of trading permits which are done at Machakos and takes a lot of time before the trader to be given the permit. That one is clear and straight. We could do some online applications whereby members of the public can go to the nearest market and download these services and get them within the quickest time possible.
- h. Stalled projects such as equipped ECDE classes and lack of ECDE teachers and lack of equipment in vocational centers and stalled health facilities. These ones have been said before by these Hon. House. So, this is something that should be looked into

- critically because ECDE classes have stalled, the have been built using public funds yet they are not in use. So it is something which should be put into practice and use.
- i. Few extension officers to assist all the farmers in the ward; that one is clear. We don't have extension workers to educate our members of the public on how they can do agriculture which can give them cash to sustain their lives.
- j. Implementation of projects without the involvement of the area MCA, who is a representative of the citizens at the ward level. I believe that all the Hon. Members in this House have witnessed that many projects are being implemented and no MCA is involved in the implementation yet the Member represents the community and is the same who presents the projects to the Executive, yet they are doing them without involving the area MCA which tends to bring division between ward administrator, village administrator and then working relationships become very hard for the area MCA.

By those remarks, thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Speaker: Thank you, Madam Grace.

(Applause)

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Temporary Speaker: This House adjourns to resume at 2.30 p.m. Thank you.

The House rose at 11.53 a.m.