

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 26th May, 2021

The House met at 10.11 a.m.

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

PRAYERS

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, let us have the Serjeant at Arms ring the bell for 10 minutes.

(Quorum bell rung)

Serjeant at Arms can you stop the bell; we have quorum.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Hon. Speaker: Good morning, Hon. Members. We can start the business of the day and I will start with a communication under Order No. 2.

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FY 2021/2022

Hon. Members, Section 129(2)(a) of the Public Finance Management Act (PFM) provides that the County Executive Committee Member for finance to submit to the County Assembly the Budget Estimates, supporting documents and any other Bills required to implement the budget expect the finance Bill by 30th April of that year;

Hon. Members, further Section 129(3) of the same Act requires that each County Assembly Clerk to prepare and submit to the County Assembly the Budget Estimates for the County Assembly and a copy shall be submitted to the County Executive Committee Member for finance.

So Hon. Members pursuant to those provisions of the law, the County Executive Committee Member for finance submitted budget estimates for the County for FY 2021/2022 on 4th May, 2021.

You notice that that was a period when the Assembly had been closed and was under the lock down. So pursuant to Standing Order 206(3), it is required that upon being laid before the Assembly the Budget Estimates shall be deemed to have been committed to the respective sectoral committee without question put for each such Committee to deliberate upon according to the respective mandate.

Hon. Members, because you were not sitting that time for the Estimates to be laid on the Table, I committed the Estimates to the Budget Committee and the other Committee so that they could be processed. We did not want to be late on the process and I remind you Hon. Members that further under Standing Order 206(5) the Budget and Appropriations Committee is to discuss and review the Estimates and make recommendations to the Assembly taking into account the recommendations of the sectoral committees, the views of the County Executive Committee and Member responsible for public finance.

Hon. Members, the Budget Estimates for purposes of complying with the procedure which could not be complied with when we were under lockdown, the Estimates are hereby now committed to the Budget and Appropriations Committee and also to the sectoral Committees pursuant to the Standing Order 206(3) and (5)

Hon. Members, Section 131 of the PFM Act 2012 requires that the County Assembly shall consider the County government Budget Estimates with a view to approving them with or without amendments. This is supposed to be done in time for the relevant Appropriation law to be passed and any other laws required for the implementation of the budget and all this is supposed to be done by 30th June of that year.

Going with where we are currently, we are still within time and that is why the Committee has been working on the Estimates. Noting that the submission of the Budget Estimates was late, it was supposed to have been done by 30th April, 2021 and we received on 4th May, 2021 at a time when we were under lockdown, I am urging the Hon. Members that, the Budget and Appropriations Committee and the sectoral committees do urgently consider those Estimates so that the Assembly can be in time to pass the Appropriations Bill by 30th June, 2021.

CHANGE OF CASB MEMBERSHIP

Hon. Members, Section 12(1) of the County Governments Act provides that there shall be a County Assembly Service Board (CASB) for each County Assembly. Under Section 12(3) of the same Act as amended by Section 47(a) of the County Assembly Services Act, 2017 it provides the following as the composition of CASB:

- i. The Speaker of the Assembly - Chairperson
- ii. A chairperson elected by the Board Members from the members appointed under paragraph (c).
- iii. Two Members of the County Assembly nominated by the political parties represented in the County Assembly according to their proportion of Members in the County Assembly.
- iv. One man and one woman appointed by the County Assembly from amongst persons who are experienced in public affairs but who are not members of the Assembly.

So, Hon. Members, under those requirements of the law, I received a communication from the Assembly Majority Party Whip, Hon. Mitaa, MCA Kangundo Central, nominating Hon. Francis Kalumu to represent the Assembly Majority Party in the CASB.

(Applause)

So, Hon. Members, that communication holds to the effect that Hon. Francis Kalumu was nominated to CASB by the NASA Coalition which is the Majority party in the House and to replace Hon. Peter Joseph Mutiso and that was as per the resolution of the Majority Assembly party.

Hon. Members, I congratulate Hon. Francis Kalumu for the new appointment and I wish him the best I assure him cooperation from the Board and other Members and I also want to thank Hon. Peter Mutiso; he served well when he was in the CASB. Remember we are all equal to the task; it is just that the positions are so few, we cannot all sit in that Board. So I wish the two of them well in their endeavours whichever they are. That would be the end of the communication.

PAPER LAID

AMENDMENTS OF THE CALENDAR OF THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE SECOND ASSEMBLY

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, under this Order we have one Paper as listed in the appendix for the House Business Committee; I see Mheshimiwa Museku is listed as the one to present but he is not here. Members of the Budget Committee are not here because of the Budget Estimates; I thought Hon. Kamitu is in that Committee and he is the senior most in this House now as we sit other than the Speaker. Hon. Kamitu, proceed please.

Hon. Kamitu: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 25, I wish to lay the following Paper on the Table of the Assembly today, Wednesday 26th May, 2021; the Report of the House Business Committee on the amendments of the Calendar of the Second Assembly for the Fifth Session adopted by the House on 10th March, 2021. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kamitu.

NOTICE OF MOTION

AMENDMENTS OF THE CALENDAR OF THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE SECOND ASSEMBLY

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, under this Order we have again one business as listed in the appendix and it will be prosecuted by Hon. Kamitu; it is related to Order No. 5.

Hon. Kamitu: Thank you, Madam Speaker, once again.

Hon. Speaker, that aware that the Calendar enables the Assembly to plan the execution of its business and it sets out a schedule of days for the House Sittings and days of recess;

Aware that Standing Order 24(1) provides that the regular Sessions of the Assembly shall commence on the Second Tuesday of February and terminate on the first Thursday of December;

Hon. Speaker, further aware that Standing Order 25(1) requires the House Business Committee, with the Approval of the Assembly, to draw up the Calendar of the Assembly;

Aware that Standing Order 25(2) provides that once the Calendar of the Assembly is approved by the House, it shall be published in the Gazette, the Assembly website and at least two newspapers of national circulation;

Further, Standing Order 25(4) provides that, despite the provisions of Standing Order 25(2) the Assembly may, by resolution, alter its Calendar or the adjournment date;

Hon. Speaker, Standing Order 151(5)(a) provides that the House Business Committee shall prepare and if necessary from time to time adjust the Assembly Calendar with the approval of the Assembly. The Committee prepared an Assembly Calendar for the Fifth Session and was approved by the House on 10th March, 2021. The Committee has prepared amendments to the approved Calendar as a result of Covid-19 third wave interruptions;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to give notice of motion that pursuant to Standing Order 25(4), this House resolves to alter its Calendar (Regular Sessions) for the Fifth Session (2021), as adopted on Wednesday, March 10th, 2021 as per the report of the House Business Committee on the amendments to the Calendar of the Assembly for the Fifth Session tabled in the House today, 26th May, 2021.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kamitu.

MOTION

THANKS OF THE ASSEMBLY FOR THE EXPOSITION OF PUBLIC POLICY CONTAINED IN THE ADDRESS OF THE GOVERNOR DELIVERED ON 25TH MAY, 2021

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, under this Order, we have one business by Hon. Kamitu, the Leader of the Minority Party in the Assembly and MCA, Tala Ward.

Hon. Kamitu: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker, that aware that Standing Order 18(1) provides that the Governor shall address a special sitting of the Assembly once every year and may address the Assembly at any time;

Aware that, H.E the Governor, Dr. Alfred N. Mutua addressed the Assembly on 25th May 2021;

Noting that the Governor's Address outlined the roadmap which the County Government of Machakos should take to ensure the County realizes high economic growth;

Aware that Standing Order 20(4) provides that whenever the Governor delivers an address, a Member may as soon as practicable thereafter, lay the address on the Table of the Assembly following the reading of such address; Further aware that Standing Order 20(5) requires that debate on the Governors Speech should not exceed four sitting days;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to move the motion that, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 20(5), the thanks of the Assembly be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in the Address of the Governor during the sitting of the Assembly delivered on 25th May, 2021.

Thank you, Madam Speaker and I call Hon. Ndawa to second the motion. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kamitu.

Hon. Ndawa seconded.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ndawa. Hon. Members, you remember that the Governor yesterday read the report in this House; the report is already read to you as per the Speech so what I will do is to propose the question so that you can debate and normally under the Standing Order, we say it is not debating, but the Assembly giving its thanks for recording for the exposition of the Speech.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Members, the motion is open for debate; Hon. Kamulu.

Hon. Kamulu: Thank you, Madam Speaker. The address by our Governor yesterday was very vivid and well placed in the Assembly but I have some observations as far as that Speech is concerned.

Madam Speaker, one area I was concerned about and which impressed me in this section of health is the fact that the Governor used a Kiswahili phrase that *nguruwe muue lakini haki yake mpe*. To me that was the best because he admitted that although we have done a lot in the health sector, something may be remaining.

One area I expected the Governor to address is about drugs because sometimes we hear there are no drugs in the hospitals which normally is an outcry. However, this was a good summary of what the County has done since 2013; the Governor was giving us a summary of what he has done in his period of jurisdiction.

Madam Speaker, I did not see the Governor giving us what he expects to do in the remaining period although he gave us most of what he has done. I expected him to give us what he intends to do further as far as the health sector is concerned.

There is also another area of concern in the speech especially where the Governor was summarizing with a question. For instance, during the health area where he said only in Machakos County and where in Kenya do you have a County cancer center? Only in Machakos County while this is repeated all over but as an Assembly, I don't think whether we have that comparison within the other counties to rank ourselves to that position. I think this was a way of enriching the speech.

Madam Speaker, on agriculture, I had a lot of interest on what actually has been done and it is true that our farmers are getting seeds which has improved production and also fish it is exactly how it was said. However, Madam Speaker, the seeds which are actually given to our farmers is not enough. So, I expected the Governor to give a way forward and say that there is a plan to increase the amounts given to the farmers because when we give the seeds to the farmers in our areas, we only give a few individuals but most of them do not receive it. So, there is need to increase the same.

I remember the Cooperatives Bill which actually had proposed a revolving fund to the cooperatives; Madam Speaker, I also expected that one to be addressed as a way of improving the cooperatives in our county especially the coffee sector which actually is not doing badly and

also the avocado, the milk cooperatives and so forth. Such a revolving fund in fact if it is addressed and granted, I think it will assist the farmers in our areas.

Madam Speaker, when we come to area of water, there are boreholes; actually a large number I cannot recall the exact figure but it was over I think 600 and if you calculate in relation to the wards, each ward at least has to have 15 boreholes according to the figure actually we were given. Madam Speaker, I want to applaud the county because the boreholes are there and they are economical because they use solar, so the users do not actually pay anything and they use it for free.

However, if you go in a ward like Upper Kaewa where I come from, I have only around four, with two which are functional. This period during the Second Assembly we have not sunk one, so Madam Speaker, my appeal and expectations is that we should have equal distribution of this development to all the wards instead of concentrating in certain areas leaving others. So, that is an area which I also observed in that manner.

In energy, we have to applaud the Governor because of the picture which actually he has given us of CCTVs which are allover but we want them to be functional; let them be functional let them not be there because of the sake. The *Mulika Mwizi* all over in the villages and everywhere actually they are assisting in terms of security but still we need more because we have smaller towns and markets which actually do not have *Mulika Mwizis*.

However, the Governor and the county have tried; Machakos is not where it was before actually this devolved way of governing came things have changed so we have every reason to thank the Governor for that speech but we appeal to him that during the remaining time what is remaining in the budget, let it be utilized properly so that he can sum up his tenure in the best way possible.

The roads Madam Speaker, I cannot go without mentioning. The tarmacked roads we applaud the county for that, but does the tarmac affect all the sub-counties or it is within specific areas? Let those areas without tarmac, for example a smaller region Upper Kaewa/Iveti, just a region from Kathalani to Kaviani market, just two kilometers. Madam Speaker, you see if that one is done, Kathiani will have at least some *lami* in my area or in the other areas. That is distribution of the work.

In areas like Kathiani, in terms of the roads, we thank the Governor for giving us a tractor in every region but you see the tractor is there but sometimes it has no fuel. For example, we had one in Kathiani and it was in Mitaboni and as I speak it was taken back to Machakos and over about four months we have not graded any roads in Kathiani. So, let the county make sure the tractors do their work, let them try and see that there is fuel all through. Murrum is the most important thing in the upper regions according to the topography; if you go to Kathiani, Iveti hills when we grade the roads way, we have done already they are destroyed by the rains and during rains they are impassable.

So why not have a policy where murruming is done in all the roads so that when we are grading during rains time the roads are passable. That is my appeal and I support the speech of the Governor; it was very vivid and it was a good report summary of what he has done as a government Machakos county since 2013 up to now. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kamulu. Hon. Ndawa, Sorry I will come to you Hon. Whip.

Hon. Ndawa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I stand also to give my views on the speech that was delivered into this Hon. House by His Excellency the Governor yesterday. Madam Speaker, we were all here and everybody heard what the Governor said yesterday. I want to say that the Governor took us on a journey from 2013 up to date and in his speech, he narrated the achievements that have been seen in Machakos county.

Madam Speaker, one thing I want to thank the Governor, in his speech, he said that he would like to thank the Second assembly for the support and cooperation; that means now the Governor recognizes other stakeholders and he also thanked the Hon. Speaker of this House for guiding the House to deliver its mandate. So that is something that we should be proud of.

Madam Speaker, in the speech of the Governor, he tackled almost every department starting with department of water. Madam Speaker, we were given the number of boreholes, we were given the number of earth dams, the weirs and any other development on that department and I want to confirm that what was said, to me is true because I have been living in Machakos; I am not a resident who just relocated from another county to Machakos and every Member here can ascertain before devolution and now there is a very big difference.

We want to appreciate the 2010 Constitution which created the devolution because if devolution was not there, we would be requesting things from Nairobi and it may not be coming the way it is coming now. So, Madam Speaker, on that issue of water, I want to say the county has done a good job. In the department of health, Madam Speaker, in his speech what he said it is exactly because he said before he came in, we had few Level 4 hospitals and now we have a Level 4 hospital in every sub-county, so meaning we have nine level four hospitals.

The residents of Machakos used to travel long distance, according to his speech, and that is very true. I remember very well, Madam Speaker, I border Matuu now Matuu Level 4 hospital, before it was elevated to be a Level 4 hospital, patients used to come there and they were always referred to either Thika or to Machakos and the few residents or neighbors who had vehicles could not sleep because when a patient comes to Matuu hospital they will be told go to another hospital and they had no means so they will look for anyone who is near who has a vehicle to take them to Machakos.

I remember one night, Madam Speaker, I took patients to Thika five times in one night. Since now Matuu was elevated to Level 4 and ambulances were brought, nobody knocks my door now to request for assistance to take a patient to hospital. So, I want to thank the Governor, I want to thank the Machakos County Assembly because the Assembly is the one which approves the budget and I want to thank all the stakeholders who are working with the county.

Madam Speaker, on the issue of security, although security is not devolved, it is a function of the national government but we have a work to do because those who are going to be affected by insecurity are residents of Machakos and unless the county invests in security, it means now the residents will not be secure and their properties will not be secure also. Madam Speaker, the county government has erected so many *Mulika Mwizis* in every town in Machakos, we have CCTV cameras though some may not be functional, but anything that is electrical can fail anytime. So I want to thank His Excellency the Governor for that initiative to ensure that at least we have light which can reduce the numbers of cases of theft. So, on that department he has done a wonderful job.

On side of food security, which is in agriculture, he has tried because some of the dams done in our wards Members are using the dams for both domestic and also for irrigation purposes. I remember very well in 2019, Madam Speaker, when Machakos county was declared county number one in the country; the reason why we were declared number one that was

contributed by a ward known as Matuu. How did Matuu help the county to come number one? There is a dam known as Scheme Community earth dam and that is where people have utilized the dam to the maximum.

Every person who is near that dam have these vegetable, they sell vegetables they pay fees, they sell vegetables they invest in other things, so when officers from Machakos went to that dam and took those photos and shared them, that is the dam which assisted Machakos to be number one and I would request if the His excellency the Governor can continue ensuring that the county dozers are serviceable so that we can make more dams in every ward we have a dam so that as Matuu people get income from the dam, those from Ndalani can also get and those from Muthetheni can also get so that we can fight this animal called hunger or the issue of lack of food.

In education, we have done a wonderful job because I believe almost every elected MCA can cite an ECDE class in his or her ward and I am very sure when I am saying this Hon. Members who have wards can confirm that. In my ward, I remember when we were given the Ksh. 10 million for wards and we were requested to front the projects that we would wish to have them done in our ward, I remember that time I did five ECDE classrooms. So, I would request the Governor on that issue also to think of coming up with another program like the one he came with of about Ksh. 10 million. That Ksh. 10 million programs had a lot of impact to the elected leaders, so I am requesting if he can also think of allowing Members, at least allocate Members at least a kitty so that a Hon. Member can sit in his ward and say we are going to do A-B-C-D.

On the issue of transport Madam Speaker, it is true many roads have been built and many kilometers of tarmac that one is confirmed. So in short, all that the Governor gave us it is true picture of what is happening and nobody can question that. In his address, Madam Speaker, he requested for cooperation between the Assembly, the executive and other stakeholders and in his speech, he also requested the leaders to think critically, I remember the words he used he requested us to think critically. He requested us to be innovative, to be creative, so that we can come up with solutions facing our people.

Madam Speaker, all these development was done because of the cooperation. I was very keen, His Excellency the Governor did not mention the First Assembly; he talked about the Second Assembly. So, it means to my understanding the Second Assembly is more active than the previous one. The Second Assembly is more cooperative than the previous one.

Madam Speaker, as you are aware we have never thrown any chair here in this Assembly and the other one we used to hear people throwing eggs to the others so m maybe that is the reason why the Governor did not talk about that other Assembly. This is a wonderful Assembly and I request I wish to pray to God to ensure that all the Members who are sitting in this Assembly come back in 2022.

Madam Speaker, after talking all this, there are some gaps which are not tackled by the Governor. The Governor might be willing to work but he might be working with lazy people in his executive and Madam Speaker, failure of one department can affect another department. Madam Speaker when the roads are not done or when the roads are not passable, the greatest casualty is the elected Member of County Assembly of that ward where that road is.

So, Madam Speaker, I would wish to use this opportunity also to request the Governor to ensure that his team do what they are supposed to be doing and let them do what they are supposed to do in the right time; let there be no delay because if we delay the electorate will start fighting the elected MCA and most of them will run away from that MCA and to bring people

back to you, it is going to cost you a lot. So, I am requesting the Governor now to come up and rescue the Members because if no development is seen in the ward now it means now the elected Member will have to exit because he is nothing.

On my side I am not complaining because I have seen many projects done. I have seen, right now we have projects going on; I am requesting that we allocate fund for more projects to be done in our wards so that the Governor himself can have something to show and also the elected MCA can also have something to show.

Then the other thing I am requesting, I am requesting the Governor is if the project is completed as we put that picture, I am requesting and this is just a humble request that we have two photos, one for His Excellency the Governor and another small one for the elected leader of that particular ward so that people of that particular ward can know that this gentleman is working with this other one and that one is going to assist us.

Hon. Speaker: This gentleman and this gentlewoman or this lady. We also have ladies who were elected even those who are specially-elected they assist them.

Hon. Ndawa: Thank you, for that correction. Both gentlemen and gentle ladies and I am very sure if that is done our people will not have difficulties in going to meet the electorates. Otherwise, if we don't do that, we have about 590 days remaining to election, so the remaining period, we are requesting now the Governor to work very hard. Let him sack those who are not doing and bring people who are ready to work so that when we say we are starting this project it is completed within the stipulated time.

Madam Speaker, in short, I want to say the speech was excellent and I want to thank the Governor for taking care of Machakos and I want to take this opportunity also to wish him good luck as he now enters into national politics and request my fellow Hon. Members, when that time comes, let us back our Governor so that he can be the fifth President of the republic of Kenya. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mitaa. Thank you, Hon. Ndawa.

Hon. Mitaa: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the opportunity to air my contribution towards His Excellency Governor's speech yesterday. Madam Speaker, first I want to applaud him for the time and coming to share with us his achievements for the last eight years or nine years, Madam Speaker. However, Madam Speaker, it is I appreciate you for giving us the opportunity to critique the statement, the speech by His Excellency because we all have different perceptions.

Personally, the speech didn't meet my expectations and I have reasons as to why the speech did not meet my expectations. However good it was in the paper, on the ground, it reads different. My reasoning is that my expectation was that the achievement was supposed to be accompanied by the amounts tax received by this county government of Machakos since 2013 *vis-a-vis* the projects which were being mentioned, Madam Speaker. To me it would have given me the opportunity to evaluate what was being said and what is on the ground, Madam Speaker.

As we speak, today is 2021; a good example is the ward which I represent Madam Speaker. That ward has not benefited, it is only that I did not want to disturb my colleague Hon. Ndawa. There is no single ECDE in Kangundo Central ward and I can take Hon. Members on the ground and ascertain there is no ECDE class. The projects which are there, one they put a slab and the contractor left, the other one they constructed two lines and the contractor left. So, I would wish or I would request my colleagues at least to speak from experience. We can be specific to our wards and we leave the neighboring wards in our contributions, Madam Speaker.

Another good example for Kangundo Central, Madam Speaker; the law is very clear that each ward ought to have one vocational training center. Go to Kangundo Central ward, for the last nine years the Governor has not constructed a single VTC in Kangundo Central ward. Another good example, Madam Speaker, from the speech, His Excellency stated that in every location there is availability of an ambulance. In Kangundo Central ward, we have two locations; there is no single ambulance in that ward, Madam Speaker.

He talked about water, this water he talked about, I appreciate what has been done Madam Speaker, but we need to consider the terrain we represent. In Kangundo Central ward is hilly and when you talk about solar panels driven, boreholes driven by solar panels, Madam Speaker, they cannot take water at the top of the hills and also by two because of the setting, there is no sun to pump the water. We have been requesting, through the residents of Kangundo Central ward, because they have been unable to drill water on top of the hills so our people are really suffering.

So when he talked about three kilometers, some of our residents are going more than those kilometers. I am not opposing development but let the residents drive the importance of development in their areas. When it comes to the roads, yes, we have been trying Madam Speaker, but for this reason---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Ndawa, let the Member finish, if you heard him say let each Member talk from the experience of their ward; let us hear what he has experienced in his ward and no add ups. Proceed, Hon. Mitaa.

Hon. Mitaa: Hon. Speaker, thank you for that. Hon. Speaker. I want to be clear also in terms of health. In 2013 the Governor through his government had a very good vision; he came up with super health centers. I have Hon. Kamitu, I have Hon. Nzomo who neighbor my ward and we have Ngiini health center which was constructed in 2014, they did something little and then they abandoned the project. So, I was actually expecting for His Excellency the Governor to give us an update like of pending projects and now that we are about to give a budget, we would have talked about a budget which is to complete any pending projects because when I looked at his statement it was very clear this was an exit speech. He is on his way out from running affairs of this county government of Machakos and he highlighted all those achievements but he left some issues hanging.

Much of expectations of my colleagues as much as some cannot maybe air their views in open is that they expected at least for his statement to talk about this fiscal year which is coming and any issue which is pending because this is the only budget this Assembly will have right to pass and oversee its operationalization, Madam Speaker. As much as I appreciate him, I would request if an opportunity could be granted, just the way it was granted yesterday for us to listen at him, for him also to listen to our views.

(Applause)

How I wish he would give us time like the way we are contributing now, for him to have the opportunity to listen to what this Hon. Member has about his ward, he would also give another MCA, Hon. Member opportunity also to issue or else to air issues from the ground Madam Speaker. But as it looks, that privilege is not given Madam Speaker; we are only given the privilege to listen at him but we cannot respond and---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mitaa, yesterday although it was not on the HANSARD, when we were taking the group photo, I heard the Governor talk of a *Kamukunji*; did he? So let us push for that *kamukunji*.

Hon. Mitaa: Hon. Speaker, that is not the first *kamukunji* we have held with His Excellency the Governor.

Hon. Speaker: I hear you. Proceed.

Hon. Mitaa: My request is that we have a *kamukunji* which is recorded in the HANSARD, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you.

Hon. Mitaa: Because those *kamukunjis* do not have minutes, whatever we discuss there is just ceremonial then we leave, Madam Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: What will happen, Hon. Mitaa, when we finalize today's response to that speech, the HANSARD report would be prepared and forwarded to the Governor with a letter so that he can appreciate the feelings of the members. Actually it is a public document but now that members have feeling that he needs to really understand where each one of you is coming from. It would be given to him officially. Proceed, Hon. Mitaa.

Hon. Mitaa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am actually about to conclude and I want to state again that we appreciate his time and his speech which accompanied his achievements but personally, as a resident of this county of Machakos, I have a feeling that we have not yet achieved. We are not yet where we ought to be because as much as the Governor talked about politics while he is doing his work, he did not state that there is any amounts of money he has not been able to spend because of politics.

How I wish when he talked about politics he would have told us there is some amounts of money which are lying somewhere at CBK because I did not have time to work but Madam Speaker this Assembly has given all the funds to the Executive. He cannot claim at any given time there is any single penny which this Assembly has not given to the Executive but on the other side we have pending issues Madam Speaker.

So, personally I feel I need to air my views in open; I am not fighting the Governor, the Executive, I appreciate but we need to pull up our socks even though time is not on our side. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mitaa. Hon. Kieti then Hon. Masesi and Hon. Katumo and Hon. Kalumu then we will go to other members.

Hon. Kieti: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to start by thanking the Governor for finding time to come and address us and at the same time share with us the experiences that he has gone through in his duty to serve the people of Machakos. I also want to thank him for appreciating our efforts to ensure that he delivers and also thank him for appreciating that you have coordinated this House so that it meets its mandate.

At the same time, Madam Speaker, I want to start by saying or a quote by Winston Churchill. He said that a good speech should be like a woman's skirt; long enough to cover the subject and short enough to create interest. Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: We may---

(Laughter)

Mheshimiwa Kieti, yet that adage is there but I think the womenfolk will go and challenge it in court one of this fine days. It okay we have read it over and over, please proceed. I said it in a light touch but that is a upon the womenfolk---

Hon. Kieti: Madam Speaker, I want to emphasize that the speech was long enough but it did not meet our expectations or the interests and my expectations in some areas just like Hon. Members have said. One thing we appreciate that what is said in the health sector is very encouraging and is very true but at the same time we have some challenges within that sector which we expected or I expected the Governor to address. The issue about the CT Scan, the morgue, drugs that one of Hon. Members has mentioned. These are issues that are very touchy; we may have good wards but without drugs, CT scans, because we have seen patients been moved from the wards to a private entrepreneurs so that they may take the CT scans and those other radiographic services.

So those are issues that the Governor ought to have addressed and told us his plans to ensure that all services that the people of Machakos need would be carried from one stop and that is from either Level IV or Level V so that we do not have patients going to the hospital and when they reach there they now start moving from place to the other, to private enterprises to seek medical attention of some nature.

At the same time, agriculture sector, Madam Speaker, there is an issue that the Governor addressed and when you started in your communication, you started by saying at independence, the ambition of our President we had those three key issues that were to be addressed and one of them was hunger and at the moment the governor said we have so many hectares of land that have been ploughed. Madam Speaker, I want to say that those of you who have visited the agriculture offices site that is there, just go there and see the tractors that have ploughed those hectares of land in our *shambas*; you will get shocked because we have over 50 tractors that are

lying there and that is a very big shame when you are talking about *shambas* that have been ploughed and the tractors that ought to have done that work are still lying here.

What I expect the Governor is to tell us what we expect in future as far as that department is concerned, that is the department of agriculture because we cannot depend on what happened yesterday; the future is more important than today. We appreciate what he has done but what plans does he have for tomorrow; that is my major concern, Madam Speaker.

As far as the chicken distribution is concerned, he addressed it very well but I also want to say that we needed some more clarification on what he needs to do come tomorrow and at the same time, I think we have been short changed in the area of fish farming because in the speech I think I heard about Machakos been one of the key producers of fish. I don't know from where and I don't know from where but I only know of one farmer who is practicing privately but when we talk about being one of the key producers of fish, I think we need to know that there is God. I think the best way to put it was that in future we want Machakos to be leading in production of fish. I think that would have aroused our interest or my interest because we scientists depend on tomorrow not today or the past.

At the same time we have an area that he also talked about, the area on roads, it was addressed and I do not want to belabour a lot on it but it is true that something has been done on our roads but still more is needed as far as the grader programme is concerned also murraming of our roads is concerned.

Just to summarize because other members may wish to have something, Madam Speaker one of the areas that are expected the Governor to address was implementation of our budget. In fact some of this projects that we are crying about, projects that have taken so long to be completed is due to the implementation of our budget. I want to say that, I don't know whether we have ever attained 30 per cent of implementation of the budget that we pass for the last two to three years. I stand to be corrected but according to me the projects that we have been asked to give over the years to be done in this financial year, for the first three years it is as if there is nothing on the ground that we can show and that is my humble request that one of the areas that I needed or I expected the Governor to address was how he intends to implement the forthcoming budget.

We understand last year and part of this year there was corona but the implementation of the budget is very key because we need these projects to be carried out in our wards. Then as I sit down, Madam Speaker, I want to say that as politicians and also as ambassadors of our people on the ground, including the executive, I just want to remind everyone of us that we have God and we need to serve those people not because we want to come back here in 2022 but because it is the expectation of the Almighty God that he sees those people being served and get what is rightful for them. Thank you Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kieti. Hon. Masesi.

Hon. Masesi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. First and foremost, I would like to appreciate the speech by the Governor which was read yesterday the 25th day of May, this year 2021 and Madam Speaker, I want to agree in the long speech that we have achieved something all through the seven years. Madam Speaker, we cannot say that there is nothing which is going on in the ground but still when we check at the speech, I just want to echo the sentiments of my immediate contributor that the Governor could have given us the way forward on each department.

Madam Speaker, if you check on health department which the Governor did fully make so many comments on but Madam Speaker, the reality is as we speak now we still have pending bills to do with the CHVs, Madam Speaker cleaners in Level V hospital have gone without pay for the last six months and I was hoping that the Governor could have told us how the department intends to sort all this.

Madam Speaker again when you look at.....Governor said that we bought 70 ambulances and up to date up to date how many are operational. We have so many wards and villages going without ambulances and we always have an issue to do with fueling whereby in most cases members of the public have to fuel those ambulances for the services.

Madam Speaker, we all know that health is wealth and most of our members of the public, it is even a challenge to have a plate on the table and when someone is being sent to do a CT Scan, Madam Speaker those scans the lowest is Ksh. 10,000. So Madam Speaker, when we are referring our people to those private facilities and we are having a budget not less than Ksh. 12 billion yearly, each annual year, and we all know that there is no single year when the exchequer releases or when we went without being financed fully by the National Government. Whatever amount we budget you get the whole amount, nothing goes back to the National government so when you cross check our budget with what we have done we are even below average, checking on what we have achieved.

The Governor could have mentioned that we are getting around Ksh. 10 billion to Ksh. 12 billion each year so for the last nine years, we are talking of something to do with Ksh. 100 billion. What do we have on the ground, 30 per cent of this amount is Ksh. 30 billion. Do we have projects worth or close to this amount on the ground? There must be value for money when we are speaking and as an entity or an oversight entity, these are the questions we need to ask our Governor whether we have done 30 per cent of all these funds we have been getting.

The Governor also has told us that there is a budget to buy those machines at least for this Second Assembly to make sure that members of the public will also feel us when they get these services in our absence may be in the Third Assembly.

Madam Speaker, when we check on agriculture, the Governor mentioned that we have given 36,616 bags of fertilizer. Madam Speaker, these bags are gotten at a subsidized price but the Governor put it as if they are given free when I doubt whether we have ever given free fertilizers to our people. That is something the Governor made it clear (??).

Again in trade department, he did mention that we have cabro-making factory. I don't think we have this factory but we have a cabro making machine and the main concern here is; how will this benefit the county because I have seen us contracting, the county government contracting itself to do projects and at the end of the day payments are done so you wonder how this has happened. We will be getting the cabros there by buying them or they will be given free to our people.

Madam Speaker, the day before yesterday, the Governor again accompanied our President to go and launch KMC besides the court orders. Madam Speaker, we have seen Machakos before devolution I do not think the same piece of land, our size if we have really maintained it because I want to believe the transfer of that KMC at the end of it we will lose ownership as a county and again funds which we ought to have questioned the transfer of that KMC to the National Government (KDF).

Madam Speaker, on the issue of proposals all the way forward, I just want to say the only *Kamukunji* which we had which was fruitful was for the financial year 2018/19, that is where members got projects worth Ksh. 10 million. Madam Speaker, if we can have such

a *kamukunji* for this financial year, each and every person would be very happy and I thought the Governor would have mentioned that at least let members give projects worth a certain amount for this financial year.

We have gone down almost three years; 2019/20, 2020/21 and now we are heading to 2021/22 financial year and we have some wards which do not have any county projects going on. We have some wards which do not have any project which the Governor termed as major projects. Madam Speaker, what happens of those and members of the public are always pushing us. In fact, a bigger number believes we have not achieved anything on the ground and am afraid that we shall face it rough if God will take us next year when it comes to election next year, it will be very tough for us to convince members of the public to re-elect us when we have nothing to show on the ground.

So I thought that Governor would have told us on the way forward and how the government intends to sort the pending bills. Madam Speaker, besides being a requirement by the law for us to settle all pending bills, I want to believe we have very big amounts which have gone unsettled. Some members who took loan to do this projects have even died and Madam Speaker, I want to assure you that it is a very small number which have been paid and some of them are not even pending bills because some projects you will find that they are being paid even when they have not been finished but members of the public who had contracts with us all the way from 2013 have not been paid.

So, Madam Speaker, I wish the Governor could, and we have gone for two years in the name of settling this pending bills, not doing any development in the name of we are settling this pending bills but still we have so many pending bills. Madam Speaker with those few, I want to rest my case and wish that when we meet with the Governor in that *Kamukunji* which should come very soon, Madam Speaker, we will discuss matters development, in the one year we have in the office. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Masesi. Hon. Katumo.

Hon. Katumo: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I raise to applaud that speech by the Governor that was done yesterday in this House and to say that gave us some insight to reflect upon. Actually in His speech he called upon us to critically think and reflect on things and I think I did some reflection on the same in terms of looking at the speech and some speeches that I could lay my hands on that he has done in the past and especially *vis-a-vis* the manifesto that he did in 2013 and 2016/17 and I want to say that I was together with Hon. Kamitu, Hon. Mueni and we were here in the last Assembly so we are enriched with what was contained in that speech.

I want to say in the speech there is something that caught me that the Governor has continued to call cooperation between the Assembly and the Executive and I think that is very important that we cooperate and I think this Second Assembly has cooperated so much. Hon. Ndawa touched on it and he was looking straight on me; we have cooperated so much and that is good but I want to say, cooperation is not one way.. When we cooperate by giving them budget, convenient opportunity to work that should be reciprocated to us but that has not been forthcoming because we have not seen that happening.

I want to say that Madam Speaker, when I looked at the speech in the lenses of the two separate arms of government, you find that the executive, through the Governor's speech continue to remunerate what they have done in terms of development. I did not find in the speech

where we come in, in terms of the roles of mandate and MCAs, our roles are three-fold, one we have continually and I think we are well-placed within the Assemblies of Kenya that we have continued to pass laws to make legislation. The question is; within that speech, what has the executive done in trying to implement what we have done?

I have an example to give here. In 2016 I was a promoter of Peoples with Disabilities Bill and it became an Act in the same year, but since then it has not been implemented. When the Governor was giving what he has done in terms of my constituency, he said that they have been able to give 20 wheelchairs, few canes here and there, given *sijui* what we call the hearing aid; 20 wheelchairs since 2013. I have even given more myself and what I am saying is it is not fair when we continue to do our role faithfully to executive and then in return they are not doing the same.

You can imagine I thought though the Governor did not give us the challenges that he has continued to face, he has not even given us what he is intending to do on that constituency that I represent and exactly why he has not been able to implement and also not able to tell us why he has not utilized the budget that we were given for this particular ward every other year. Therefore, I feel it is not even fair when we get speeches of this kind where they are just blowing the whistle what they have done but they are not checking pitched in reference to the budget and allocation that we give every other time.

You know it is good to write a composition; you can give metaphors, similes, and things like that just to qualify your composition for good marks and marking but in reference to the topic given that you are going to write, it tells you they direction that you are going to take and therefore any speech should be pitched on three things. First, on the budget that you have been given, secondly on the intentions of the citizens and residents of this county and their wishes that have been put there in terms of priority, and finally the wishes of members that represent the same people and therefore it is not right when we are just given stories after stories, we are given this and that and they are not of course pitched on any guidance.

Madam Speaker, I was looking and he quoted Mandela here and I want to see whether I can see it. He quoted this great nationalist and he said, "the great Nelson Mandela, summed up why we all have today and I quote "what counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived, it is what difference we have made in life of others that will determine the significance of life we lived." That is very important; what Mandela said. It can be paraphrased but I do not think the Governor can say that.

When I meet my PWDs in the streets of Machakos in Matuu, in Mlolongo and Mavoko can any one of them say that they have seen any difference with the County Government? Can they say that they have improved their livelihood in terms of having a County Government, and I think that quote is misplaced? Madam Speaker I want to finish.

Finally in the speech, you find that the Governor is inviting us that he is moving to National politics versus to county politics and he invited members in this House and he said that charity begins at home and I agree, that word the British say, those other people saying but where is home. This Machakos County is home of our H.E. the Governor and he is inviting us to help him attain that dream but when I look around Madam Speaker this must be understood, what is happening. I have been moving around Machakos with Ward Development Fund committee, trying to look at projects that have been done against the budget that we gave especially for 2020/21, 2018/19, 2019/20 and you go to some wards, you find that nothing has been done as such.

Now when you do developments in a biased way, you have your favourite MCAs where you are taking development then the majority you are not taking development there and then you are inviting us, I think there is a lot to be desired. That invitation does not meet the threshold. When you go to Iveti, when you go to Hon. Kieti's place, when you go to any other place like Mavoko in general and you do not find an ECDE class, or roads and then you want ogo to national politics, you must think twice because if charity begins at home you must love, you must show that you are above petty politics. You must show that you are a father; you must show that you are a national leader. A national leader does not involve himself in petty politics where you discuss little things but you do development regardless. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Katumo. I will come to you Hon. Mueni; I had indicated that we will have Hon. Kalumu after Hon. Katumo then now we will have Hon. Mueni. I will come there Hon. Annastaciah.

Hon. Kalumu: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: And I think Members if I can make an appeal to you because the issues are so similar, let us just now make our comments a little brief. We have three Members from the extended sitting who also want to comment and I notice we are approaching 12 o'clock. I think you understand what I mean.

Hon. Kalumu: I understand. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to give or air my issues concerning the speech of the Governor which was given yesterday. I would like to say first of all that I will not say nothing has been done because a lot has been done but what matters is comparison. You compare the amount of money that has been budgeted for and the implemented projects. Madam Speaker, since inception of this Assembly, this Second Assembly we were here and the first letter we received, we received a letter from one Deputy Governor H. E. Hon. Francis Maliti indicating to us that we should various projects from our wards to be implemented and from there we waited and waited until a certain point when we did not receive or see anything going on in our wards.

The exercise continued the following year whereby we came and approved a budget and all of you were here. What has been here is that we pass a budget concerning these issues the Governor raised. For example, he talked of a cancer center which is there, he talked of UHC which is there and many have benefitted from it. Generally, there are some improvements in the health sector and the only big challenge is that the doctors and nurses are there but there is no medicine. How is it that you can have all the doctors gives some medicine to be taken and the hospital is not having any.

Madam Speaker, the other issue the Governor tackled is water and he talked of many projects that have been done by the county all through. He talked of 676 boreholes and I do not want to talk of a term which I was not there. That First Assembly I was not there but since I became the Member for Kithimani ward only three boreholes have been sunk and part of them are part of the Ksh. 10 million that we agreed on the projects with the Governor.

So according to the budget that we give to the water department Madam Speaker, little is achieved because we pass a budget and you hear that we want to do 100 boreholes in that financial year. If you go back to those reports of the budgets we approve you will find that every fiscal year we talk of boreholes. How they are implemented and where they are implemented is a

question. The dams are there some several weirs are there but what is lacking in implementation of those projects he said is equity across the wards because I border well with one Matuu ward and Matuu ward has been receiving a lot of projects more than my ward and that has created a lot of animosity in my ward.

That has created a lot of fighting in my ward and even being termed as if I went to fight the Governor simply because nothing is being done in my ward. In fact, Madam Speaker, what we call corporate social responsibility from my side is what I normally I do take to my people. One time I remember I repaired one of my roads with my own lorries, fuel and everything else. So you are seen as if you are the impediment and the problem of the people to receive development from the government. The biggest question is; what is the connection between the elected Member of County Assembly of a certain ward with the implementation of a certain approved budget.

They said co-operation and Hon. Katumo has talked about it. Madam Speaker, we have co-operated very well. There is no given time we have not given budget to the executive. Any time they call upon us to bring projects we bring them and they are put as annexure to that budget and we go sing we have worked for your people now just wait but time is a very good factor. Time goes and lapses without implementation of such projects so if the way we have co-operated all through is the way the executive had co-operated we would have been very far and had a very good name in our wards. I am not saying we are having very bad but in terms of development, Madam Speaker, we are having a problem.

We still have education ECD classes are there. When the Governor was here *alisema mgala muue na haki mpe*. I would like to request him to at least accept positive criticism because it will be there because that is our work. I do not want and I have never been malicious at any one given time, Madam Speaker.

Polytechnics are there, some of the wards like mine have built one new polytechnic. Transport we have managed a little because we have the grading program but the problem is the KRB projects because the division of the money. There is one time we agreed very well that every ward will receive Ksh. 6 million worth KRB projects. Madam Speaker, it turned again that that will not be followed and we agreed that in a *Kamukunji*. So we have problem in implementation and what should have formed a big share of his speech would have been implementation because that is the problem.

The other factor is futuristic because what we want to hear is what to do tomorrow because what has been done has been done and what has been said as not done has been seen. We wanted to hear about the remaining one year which we did not hear and that did not go well with my expectations because I am relying on that one year to see whether I can at least do something to my people or the Government can do something to my people at least to raise a level percentage of coming back because as of now things are in quagmire.

The handshake brought very good things. Co-operation, let us now come together and listen to each other we listened because we thought the handshake would bring good things and goodies to our people. The handshake only brought co-operation for one arm of the government. The Assembly itself, the co-operation, we have not received any co-operation from the executive side. We never heard the Governor talk of corruption which is failing us. I expected the Governor to tackle something to do with corruption because it has been a problem--

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Kalumu, he mentioned.

Hon. Kalumu: He mentioned?

Hon. Speaker: I heard and I think he said the fast one to offer himself to be audited.

Hon. Kalumu: Okay, I remember.

Hon. Speaker: I remember?

Hon. Kalumu: Yes, I remember. Let us go and move fast kindly so that we can hear the views of the others.

Hon. Kalumu: Thank you. The other factor was collection of revenue. We wanted to hear him say that we want to improve collection of revenue because that is where our tie is. We want to hear what he is planning to raise revenue for us because without money even those projects we cannot manage them.

The other thing was job creation for our people. Yes, he talked of them but over the years Madam Speaker, we have approved budgets here with some money for the youths, money for the women groups and PWDs. By the end of it, a certain supplementary budget comes and takes over all those other issues and the money is reallocated to other areas. So we want to see if we approve a budget for unemployment tackling issues to do with unemployment that is job creation at least to see that money going to where it was intended.

The other factor is talent tapping. Madam Speaker, we need to....I want to request the Governor to see how he can raise issues concerning talent tapping because football has become one factor which is bringing income across our world. He talked of toilets in markets some of the toilets in our markets Madam Speaker, are not even done though we hear that one contractor was given all that work and yet the implementation was never done.

The other thing is infidelity of the rule of law. Here we approve so many motions, laws, Bills that become Acts but Madam Speaker, we do not hear that operationalization of a certain law which we passed or implementation of a certain motion which we passed here in our Assembly. So my biggest question is if we pass motions here all the time and it is not implemented are you not killing our morale?

Hon. Ndawa: Point of order, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Yes, point of order Hon. Ndawa?

Hon. Ndawa: On Standing Order 27.

Hon. Speaker: Extension of time?

Hon. Ndawa: Yes, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: I have a mind of advising that we take another day because under the Standing Orders, you have four days to debate the motion on the speech of the Governor and it is already past noon. So we will have...I was just waiting for *Mheshimiwa* Kalumu to finalize then

we will adjourn so we can have another day to continue because a number of Members want to express their views.

We have three Members in the extended chamber and there is Hon. Annastaciah, Hon. Kamitu the mover of the motion has a lot then we have Hon. Mueni. So once we are through with Hon. Kalumu we will adjourn and have this matter balloted for the earliest next day.

Hon. Ndawa: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the guidance.

Hon. Speaker: Yes, because even if you extend, it is still going to 1 o'clock and so---

Hon. Ndawa: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Kalumu: Madam Speaker, let me conclude by saying that much has been done but not to the expectation of the Hon. Members and if a good co-operation is built that if the Governor has certain projects that he wants implemented through a certain budget, let him say that if it is water for example let him say okay I want to handle or tackle roads across the wards and from there you are requested for a road or you are requested for a dam and then let projects be implemented if they are proposed because if I keep quiet having given some projects to be implemented through a certain approved budget, then people will say I am okay.

Madam Speaker, I am not okay because many projects I have given to the executive through approved budgets have not been done. Thank you, so much for giving me the chance to air my views.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Members, we still have about 20 minutes to reach the official time for adjournment on an ordinary sitting. Hon. Mueni?

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: Thank you, Madam Speaker. It is good that I started with the Governor in 2012. I was more than his supporter than *Mheshimiwa* Kamitu.

(Laughter)

We were sitting at Garden Hotel with him the first day he started his politics. He told me; 'Mueni you will not see any water going to the Indian Ocean' and up to this time the water is going to the Indian Ocean. To me, I am going to talk about Katangi where there is a lake or a dam which is there and even up to now I wish my *Mheshimiwa* for Katangi is here the water is going down. Nothing has been done. Yesterday I had a call from a primary school called Makila; I wish Hon. Kamitu you can go there. The ECDE class is falling and you say that in every school you have a class for ECDE. The Governor is good but his people they just eat the money but not doing the work which they have been given by the Governor. Madam Speaker, I will not go more than that. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you very much, Hon. Mueni. We have Hon. Jeremiah Munguti in the extended chamber. Hon. Munguti?

Hon. Munguti: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I stand here to applaud the Governor for the good speech that he addressed yesterday and when he emphasized on the

things that have been done in Machakos County. Madam Speaker, in everything that has been done there is always some misgivings but one thing I understand is that I was told by my strategic management lecturer that when advantages of anything that you are doing surpasses the disadvantages, then Madam Speaker, you ought to say that that was excellent.

Madam Speaker, I will start on health sector where I will applaud the Governor for doing much of the health sector issues. Madam Speaker, when I entered this Assembly that was 2017, Machakos County had few amenities and especially where our people were getting health issues. I take an example of my ward, Muthetheni ward. Madam Speaker, there were only two Level III hospitals. There were few employees who could attend to the people and since 2017, we have opened about three other health dispensaries which are given services to our people. To me Madam Speaker, I would say that is a mileage to our people. When you walk around in every ward in Machakos County, at least we have a dispensary or a Level III hospital which is giving our people drugs.

Madam Speaker, I would also want to talk about the UHC which is something that came to our County and has helped our people. I remember last week, I had a patient in Machakos Level V who was suffering from cancer and Madam Speaker, this patient was treated and the bill was amounting to about Ksh. 145,000 and that patient has just been released to go home without payment. That is a mileage to our people.

Also Madam Speaker, when you look at the facility of Machakos Level V, despite some issues like the x-rays Hon. Kieti was talking about some CT- Scans are not available but we know those are some of the things which are missing and maybe in due time they shall be available.

Also Madam Speaker, I will talk about the water issue under the sector of water. Madam Speaker, in my ward when the Governor was giving the speech he talked of treatment plants. I am one of the beneficiaries of a treatment plant in Muthetheni earth dam which is covering 50 acres of land and water is being supplied in Muthetheni ward people. This is a mileage to our people and I want to believe where there are no such dams we have other boreholes which are giving services to our people.

Also Madam Speaker, as Members we are talking about, we have education and in the education sector, it is not in all wards that we have gotten ECDE classes to that Madam Speaker, I would say that majority of our wards have gotten ECDE classes. For instance, when I look at my ward, I have received about three ECDE classes and one vocational training college which is giving education the level which is expected in our country.

Madam Speaker, when I come to agriculture I want to say Muthetheni ward has benefitted in terms of agriculture because among the six wards which got funds from World Bank, Muthetheni ward was among them and we have a program called Kenya Cereal Enhancement Programme Climate Resilient Agricultural Livelihoods Window (KCEP-CRAL) which at least the County Government gave Ksh. 42 million and among the money, Muthetheni ward has gotten Ksh. 14.6 million in terms of agriculture.

We have done value addition to our farmers and when you look at issues of fisheries; yes the Governor talked about Machakos leading in terms of fisheries and I want to echo his words because in my ward I have about four dams which have been put about 11,000 fingerlings and now they are at mature level where my people can do fishing. This has been done in several dams and my people now have become self-employed because they are fishing and at the same time selling fish to the local market that is improving the livelihood of our people.

Madam Speaker, also in terms of agriculture we have benefited from seed distribution from the County Government which our people have improved in their farming. Also Madam Speaker, the other issue I would like to talk about is about labor, public service and ICT. Once I was the chairman for labor when we started from 2017 Madam Speaker, this county was in a bad state of workers who were not in permanent basis. Who were in contract basis and could not get their pay but as at now Madam Speaker, majority who were on contract basis have been put on permanent and pensionable terms.

What I would like to request the Governor is that in terms of infrastructure and also in ICT, if we could get in each ward an ICT center for our youth so that they can create employment for our youth, this will be a good thing to be done to our youth especially in terms of job creation.

In terms of industrialization and trade you will bear me witness that Madam Speaker, Machakos County as the Governor reiterated that in Machakos County we have got about more than 400 factories built in Machakos County. I know it has improved the livelihood of Machakos people but it has some reservations because you find that majority of the workers who are working in those factories majority do not belong to Machakos people. Therefore I would like to request His Excellency, through this department of trade, that he can at least follow the law which says at least 70 percent of the residents of Machakos County should be workers of those factories.

In terms of trade also, Madam Speaker, we have seen that majority of our markets have improved because they have been installed with *mulika mwizi* and also modern toilets. Like in Muthetheni ward, we have Muthetheni market and we have new market and also Mbaani market which have been fitted with modern toilets and other areas where we have latrines and therefore it has improved in terms of health sector because many a time, our people have suffered from cholera and diarrhea because of poor infrastructure of toilets and latrines but for now I can see this is a thing of the past.

Madam Speaker, what else I can say is about energy. We have got the green energy way and majority of our boreholes within our wards have been installed with solar panels and given our people services in terms of water and therefore according to me at least 80 per cent of the Governor's speech was exactly what has been done and therefore I want to congratulate him for the good work he has done and all we have some reservations that we need to have some of the sectors to be improved like in terms of roads.

Majority of our road network are good but the feeder roads have not been done to the expectations of our people. Otherwise, I would like to say thank you, for the good speech that was given and those are my sentiments. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Jeremiah.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker: So Hon. Members, at this point we will adjourn the sitting. It is going to continue at 2.30 p.m. here on the 26th day of May, 2021. Have a good afternoon.

The House rose at 12.22 p.m.