

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY
OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 21st September, 2021

The House met at 3.12 p.m.

[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Museku) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPER LAID

REPORT ON THE HALF-YEAR STATUS REPORT
FOR THE FISHERIES SUB-SECTOR FOR 2020/2021

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, under this Order, we have one Paper to be moved by the Hon. Moses Mitaa.

Hon. Mitaa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Hon. Speaker, I wish to lay the following Paper on the floor of the House today, Tuesday, 21st September, 2021; the report of the committee on agriculture on the half year status report for the fisheries sub sector for the fiscal year 2020/2021. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Moses.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, again on this Order, we have two notices to be moved by Hon. Moffat Maitha, Chairperson, Justice and Legal Affairs committee and then the next one is by Hon. Moses Mitaa, Chairperson, Agriculture committee.

APPROVAL OF REPORT ON CONSIDERATION OF THE CONSTITUTIVE
AGREEMENT ON THE SOUTH EASTERN KENYA ECONOMIC BLOC (SEKEB)

Hon. Maitha: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker, the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 brought into place 47 Counties in order to decentralize resources;

Aware that the formation of the Counties was based on various factors such as geographical features, urban centers, and community of interest, historical, economic and cultural ties;

Aware that with time, Counties bordering each other realized common interest in economic development and therefore resolved to pool their resources together;

Aware that Article 189(2) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 as read together with Section 6(3) of the County Governments Act, 2012 allows Counties to set up joint committees, joint authorities and enter into partnerships with any public or private organization in accordance with the provisions of any law relating to public or private partnerships for any work, service or function;

Acknowledging that the three Counties; Kitui, Machakos and Makueni constituted a draft agreement for the formation of a regional economic bloc known as the South Eastern Kenya Economic Bloc (SEKEB);

Further aware that the Governors of Kitui, Machakos and Makueni executed the Constitutive Agreement for the formation of the South Eastern Kenya Economic Bloc (SEKEB) on the 18th day of May, 2019 and forwarded it to their respective County Assemblies for consideration;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to give notice of motion that this House discusses and approves the report of the Joint County Assemblies Committee on consideration of the constitutive agreement on South Eastern Kenya Economic Bloc (SEKEB).

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Moffat. Hon. Moses.

REPORT ON THE HALF YEAR STATUS REPORT FOR THE FISHERIES SUB SECTOR FOR 2020/2021

Hon. Mitaa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker, that aware that the mission for the department of agriculture livestock and fisheries in Machakos County is to promote innovative commercially oriented and modern agriculture through development and enactment of enabling legal framework;

Aware that Article 183(3) of the constitution of Kenya provides that the County Executive Committee shall provide the County Assembly with full and regular reports on matters relating to the county;

Informed that in exercise of the functions vested on County Assembly in Article 185(3) of the Constitution, the County Assembly through the committee of agriculture, requested for the half year performance report for the fisheries sub-sector in the Department of agriculture for the fiscal year 2020/2021;

Cognizant that pursuant to Standing Order 195 the committee analyzed the report and 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 committee on agriculture on the half year status report for the fisheries sub sector for the fiscal year 2020/2021.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Moses.

MOTION APPROVAL OF REPORT ON THE PERFORMANCE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AND SPORTS IN 2019/2020

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, Hon. Jacinta you are going to move it? Hon. Members, under this Order we have one business which is going to be transacted by Hon. Jacinta Luka, Vice Chairperson committee on youth, women sports and PEDs. Could you provide the report to the Hon. Member to read it from where she is please; the actual motion and the report itself?

Hon. (Ms.) Luka: Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker, that aware that Article 183(3) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides that the County Executive Committee shall provide the County Assembly with full and regular reports on matters relating to the County; Informed that in exercise of the functions vested on County Assembly under Article 185(3) of the same Constitution, the County Assembly through the Committee of Youth, Women, PWDs and Sports requested for the Departmental Performance report for the FY 2019/20 for the Department of Youth and Sports;

Aware that pursuant to Standing Order 190(5) the committee analyzed the requested report and consequently compiled it for tabling before this Hon. House; Hon. Speaker, I wish to move the motion that this Hon. House discusses and approves the report of the committee on Youth, Women, PWDs and Sports on the Departmental performance report of the Department of Youth and Sports for the FY 2019/20.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I wish to call upon Hon. Justus Katumo to second the motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Justus Katumo?

Hon. Katumo: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I do second. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Jacinta Luka you may read the report and you may as well go to.....leave the introduction, mandate and start with the committee composition and then go ahead with that.

Hon. (Ms.) Luka: Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Read the title of the report.

Hon. (Ms.) Luka: Sorry.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Read the title of the report then you go to composition of the committee.

Hon. (Ms.) Luka: Report of the committee on Youth, Women, PWDs and Sports on the Departmental performance report of the Department of Youth and Sports for the FY 2019/20.

1.2 COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

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

1. Hon. Geoffrey Kamulu – Chairman

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| 2. Hon. Jacinta Luka | – Vice Chair |
| 3. Hon. Justus Katumo | - Member |
| 4. Hon. Phoebe Koki | “ |
| 5. Hon. Margret Ndalana | “ |
| 6. Hon. Johanna Munyao | “ |
| 7. Hon. Christine Koki | “ |
| 8. Hon. Antony Mulu | “ |
| 9. Hon. Michael Mutiso | “ |
| 10. Hon. Grace Mutwiwa | “ |
| 11. Hon. John Musyimi | “ |
| 12. Hon. Agatha Mutunga | “ |
| 13. Hon. Francis Ngunga | “ |

1.3 REVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENTAL ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR FY 2019/20

Hon. Speaker, in the year under review, the Department had the following development needs and strategies.

1.3.1 Department's Development needs

Hon. (Ms.) Luka: May I go through the table or I skip.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Yes, Hon. Members you can see the table there. It has development needs and strategies, so there are development needs under youth empowerment and the strategies you can see there. Then you can see there is sports which has also highlighted the needs and the strategies as you can see there. Maybe you proceed on to 1.4.

Hon. (Ms.) Luka: Okay.

1.4 Planned Projects and Programmes for the Department in the FY 2019/20

Hon. Speaker, according to the Annual Development Plan FY 2019/20, the following programmes and projects were approved for implementation by the Department of Youth and Sports:

Capital Projects

Programme on Youth Empowerment

1. Rehabilitate and innovate three innovation centers.
2. Establish one new talent academy.
3. Establish a youth policy.

Programme on Sports

4. Establish two sports social hall.
5. Construct stadia.
6. Establish one sports policy.
7. Support 50 sports team by providing sports equipment.

Non-capital programmes

1. Sensitize youth through mentorship programmes with eight sensitization forums.
2. Disburse interest free loans to 100 youth venturing into entrepreneurship and innovation.

2.0 THE REVISED APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE SECTOR OF TOURISM, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORTS FOR THE FY 2019/20

Hon. Speaker, the total revised budget for the Sector was Ksh. 195,344,809. The Department of youth and sports; under the programme on management and development of sports and sports facilities, the approved budget was Ksh. 85,562,850. The actual spending by the Department was Ksh. 82,200,054 which translates to an absorption rate of 91 per cent.

3.0 INTERROGATION OF THE DEPARTMENTAL REPORT WITH THE CHIEF OFFICER

Hon. Speaker the committee invited the Chief Officer to interrogate the Departmental performance report FY 2019/20 and the following was the outcome of the meeting:

3.1 Talent Development and Support

Hon. Speaker the Chief Officer informed the committee that in the year under review, the Department trained three youth groups; from Mkenya Mchizi, link Crew and Band 67 to participate in Mavoko open music. Thereafter the same groups were engaged by the County Government to perform during the Machakos Youth Conference.

3.2 Community and Youth Empowerment (Mentorship)

Hon. Speaker, the Department empowered youth in the three out of forty wards in Matuu Ward, Kola Ward and Minyalala village. In these wards, youths benefited from youth funds for entrepreneurship, training on group dynamics, and access to free registration in vocational training centers and linkages with Community Based Organization (CBOs). Only 15 per cent was achieved in the above program through sponsorship by Community Based Organization (CBOs) who supported through funding of the above activities. This according to the committee was under performance by the Department.

Hon. Speaker, the Department also held a Youth Conference at the Kenyatta Stadium at a cost of Ksh. 7 million where facilitation was done on the following:

- Provision of dome, exhibition tents and VIP tents.
- Provision of food and beverage for more than 5000 persons.
- Provision Entertainment including a DJ, three entertainment groups, MC and sound systems.
- Provision of Media advert through social media and main stream TV, Radio and Newspapers.
- Provision of Event branding.
- Provision buying and branding parasols for activation in all 247 villages.
- Provision Staff facilitation for airtime and lunch during preparation for the event.

Asked by the committee on how the event benefited the youth, the Chief Officer responded that the Department made follow-up with employment agencies, affirmative funding and education institutions to offer internships and employment opportunities to the youth.

Sports Empowerment

Hon. Speaker the Department of Department of Youth and Sports procured sports uniform and various teams were invited to an end of year of 2019 football tournament. The teams included the following:

- Kabaddi team from Masii ward

- Uvaini football team (U-17) from Kola Ward
- Golden soccer Academy (U-15) from Athi River ward
- Razorbacks academy from Athi River ward
- Mlolongo Stars from Mlolongo/Syokimau ward
- Katoloni FC from Machakos Central ward
- Machakos United FC from Machakos County Professional team

The Chief Officer informed the committee that the Department was unable to procure uniforms for all the teams within the County due to lack of funds.

Stadia and Social Halls

Hon. Speaker, in the year under review, the Department of Youth and Sports planned to construct four stadia and four socials halls in each stadium for purposes of meetings, training, sports and other activities. The Department spend Ksh. 33,000,000 in construction of stadiums in Kinyui, Ikombe, Mavoko and Masii. As per the report of the Controller of Budget, Kinyui Stadium forms part of the list of the projects which had the highest expenditures in the FY 2019/20; an expenditure of Ksh. 16,197,135

Under sports equipment programme the Department distributed sports equipment and uniform at Ksh. 2,000,592 to 7 teams within the County. The Department established sports academies in Ikombe, Masii, Matungulu Central and Machakos at a cost of 4,000,000. This was a completion rate of 65 per cent. Repairs and renovations at Kenyatta stadium were done at 3,200,000 this was a completion rate of 40 per cent.

Capacity building for sports men, women and Officials

Hon. Speaker, the Department embarked on addressing the issue of PWDS by creating awareness on Para sports and providing training grounds for them like Sitting Volleyball team trainings at Kenyatta stadium

PWDs team were incorporated in the KICOSCA games Machakos County team, to participate in various sports. The Chief Officer further informed the committee that the Department was in the process of formulating the Machakos Sports Policy which would address the challenges faced by PWDs in Sports. The PWDs participated in Uhai Festival event which brought them together to compete in entertainment and sports activities.

PENDING BILLS

Hon. Speaker, the Department had the following pending bills for the as at June 2020.

Recurrent pending bills

DESCRIPTION	PERIOD	AMOUNT KSHS
Supply of uniforms	2019/2020	1,978,148.00
Supply of Machakos United Team Uniforms	2019/2020	592,000.00
Supply of soccer balls	2018/2019	417,000.00
Supply, delivery and application of fertilizer during Mashujaa celebration 2016	2016/2017	385,000.00
Youth Conference advertising publicity	2019/2020	1,700,000.00

TOTAL	5,072,148.00
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Development pending bills

DESCRIPTION	PERIOD	AMOUNT KSHS
Construction of Masii stadium	2018/2019	4,705,280.00
Construction of Mavoko stadium	2018/2019	4,873,680.00
Construction of Kinyui stadium	2018/2019	17,671,634.00
Construction of Ikombe stadium	2018/2019	10,946,002.00
Supply of generator at Kenyatta Stadium	2019/2020	3,950,000.00
Renovations at Kenyatta Stadium	2019/2020	3,943,524.60
Supply of ICT items	2019/2020	1,825,014.60
Construction of basketball court	2019/2020	2,795,426.00
Installation of turf	2017/2018	12,946,172.00
TOTAL		63,656,733.20

COMMITTEE OBSERVATION

Hon. Speaker, the Committee made the following observations

1. The Committee notes that the Department had good plans and programmes for empowering the Youth, as seen in the approved Annual Development Plan 2019/20. Most of the programmes to empower the youth were insufficiently funded or not funded by the County Government. Such programmes include to sensitize youth through mentorship programs and follow-up done, disburse interest free loans to 100 youth venturing into entrepreneurship and innovation, provision of sports equipment to sports team, training programs for the coaches among others. The few mentorship programs for the youth that were undertaken during the year under review were sponsored by CBOs and donors.
2. The committee observed that most of the budget allocated for the Department was utilized in the management and development of sports facilities at a cost of Ksh. 82,000,000. The committee noted that most of the development budget for the whole Department was utilized under the programme on management and development of sports and sports facilities.
3. Quite a significant amount of money was used in projects like construction of stadiums whose output has not been felt since it began, disadvantaging simple projects which actually have an impact to the youth all the way to village level. For instance, the commonly used sports fields in the ward level are in poor conditions. Leveling these fields is a project that would utilize a relatively small budget to implement yet have a huge impact in sports and nature talents of the youth at the village level.

4. The Department has not been able to finalize on the Sports and Youth policies. The committee noted that these policies are long overdue and yet the County has been running without either of them.
5. By the end of the FY 2019/20, the Department accrued pending bills worth Ksh. 63,656,733.20. Some of the pending bills go way back from 2016.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Youth are an essential component of our Nation's development and a key driver in the realization of Kenya's Big Four Agenda, Vision 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The County needs to come up with Youth and Sports Policies and legislation that places the youth in the broader context on County Development and that envisages productive opportunities to reach their full potential both as individuals and as active participants in the society.
2. The County should mainstream its budgets considering the realities and challenges faced by the youth in Kenya some of them being youth unemployment, youth underemployment, skills shortages and more so in ICT labor market, lack of collaterals and bureaucracies in accessing loans, health and related challenges, Low participation in agricultural economic activities, early pregnancies, HIV AIDs, crime, corruption, among others. Youth mainstreaming in budget making process will call for Strategies for equity and justice that enable young people's capabilities, participation and human rights to be an integral dimension of the analysis, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in inter-sectoral planning across all social, political and economic spheres. It will enable young people and adults to benefit equally from, and contribute equally to, development outcomes.
3. The County through the Department of Youth and Sports should engage in strong partnerships across stakeholders including diverse youth groups and the youth sector. The Government should further involve all stakeholders committed to youth rights, NGOs, CBOs as these formal sector operators form an important channel through which interventions targeting the youth shall be supported.
4. The County Government through the Decentralized Unit Administration should ensure that it conducts civic education to youth groups to enlighten them on the available programmes within the County and the National Youth policy interventions such as Access to Government Procurement Opportunities 2016, the Affirmative Funds like Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDEF), UWEZO, Kenya Youth Employment Opportunities Programme among others.
5. In consultation with the Department of Youth and Sports, the committee is aware that all pending bills that accrued in the period under review have not been fully cleared. The National Treasury issued a circular dated 16th June, 2020 Ref DGAPE/A/180 cautioning that the pending bills should be referred as first charge as required under the public finance management act. In this regard, the County Executive through the Finance and Revenue Department should ensure that paying of any pending bills is prioritized before any new projects commence. Upon receipt of this report, the Department should furnish the committee with a progress report on the payment of pending bills within 60 days.

CONCLUSION

Hon. Speaker, the Youth are the strength, wealth and drivers of innovation in Kenya. Deliberate and systematic efforts are necessary to appropriately equip and empower the youth to attain and realize their full potential and in turn, drive the attainment of development objectives set out in Kenya Vision (2030).

Sports are a very important part of our life. It is in fact a technical part in giving us our identity. In this day and age, many people have earned themselves titles and awards owing from their performance in different levels of international events. The County needs to set up vibrant and sustainable programmes for sports to ensure that talents of our citizens are fully utilized all the way to the village level.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Hon. Speaker, the Youth, Women, Sports and PWDs committee is grateful to the Office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk to the County Assembly for the support accorded during the Committee sittings. I wish to express my appreciation to the Hon. Members of the Committee who sacrificed their time to participate in the meetings of the Committee and in preparation of this report.

Hon. Speaker it is therefore my privilege, on behalf of the Youth, Women, Sports and PWDs Committee, to table the Report of the Departmental performance for the year ended 30th June, 2020 in this Hon. House for consideration and adoption. Thank You, Madam Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you very much, Hon. Jacinta Luka.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Katumo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, going through the report, especially review in the performance of this department of youth and sports and given the parameters that are given especially on page three the needs and then try to actualize them and then when you move and look at page seven, where you find the department succeeded so much in creating so many pending bills at the day instead of bringing that aspect of bringing nurturing talents and then empowering the youth and PWDs, I find it not very good.

Secondly, when you look at what they have done especially in the talent development and support in the community and youth empowerment, you look at the activities that have been given there you find that they are very few activities that could not fit in that cycle of trying to empower or do something. Then you look at what they are saying about capacity building for sportsmen and women and officials and down there when they say in page 6 on 3.5, the title capacity building then what you see there is trying to address the issue of PWDs by creating awareness. You see that is very different.

Hon. Speaker, then I really do not understand when they say that they have been able to assist the sitting volleyball team training at Kenyatta stadium; I am not aware whether we really at any given time prepare to do that and so forth. So, what I am saying looking at the report and the recommendation and especially the observations, it leaves a lot to be desired because looking

at what the department embarked in trying to construct stadiums across the county in various places and up to know that facilities have not been in use.

Then it appears that we spend a lot of money leaving white elephants and purpose of doing the same has not been achieved and not in not foreseeable future we don't see how this will be used and utilized for the particular purpose they were envisaged. Hon. Speaker, that leads me to give a conclusion that we need to know how our monies are spend and for what purpose if what we intend to do for a particular department is not actualized and therefore, we don't get value for money trying to uplift.

Actually, you move around in Machakos County in the various places, you find our youth are idling around; they have nothing to do, they are indulging themselves in very funny behavior and this is a time bomb if nothing is done as we have tried to see ways and strategies to resolve, it becomes very difficult.

The point is that we have been giving this department money to make sure that these things are done and for what reason that the stadiums are not complete, some of these things that we anticipated to have been done by the end of the financial year and review has not been done, but what is accumulated are pending bills having not been paid and projects not finished and therefore it goes without saying that this department and Chief Officers must have a lot to answer to this House on why things have not been done and why our contractors have not been paid, why projects are not complete as expected. Thank you, but I support the report, nevertheless. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Moses Mitaa.

Hon. Mitaa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I first want to applaud the committee for providing this report to the Assembly. I also want to thank my colleague Hon. Jacinta for tasking us though the report. Hon. Speaker, this department of youth and sports has actually failed us from onset. This is a department which has nothing tangible despite them getting resources to come up with projects and programs. Matters to do with youth are very sensitive; we all know the demands and expectations from the youth around our County and to my surprise from what I have seen, those in charge Hon. Speaker, instead of engaging on tangible projects, I have seen they have dwelt much on capacity building and we know some issues which are being undertaken.

There is no way we can maybe later asses if it is amounts spend, impact and when they talk of organizing a program at the People's Park, they are giving us figures like 5000. They are just increasing the numbers, Hon. Speaker, and if you make a follow up on what did we achieve from that, there is nothing to show but there is money which was spend on such forums, Hon. Speaker.

On the issues to do with sports, Hon. Speaker, I was actually approached to organize a ward tournament and I was so fast to call my ward teams and we expected much from what we were being told to organize. But Hon. Speaker, up to date we could not proceed with that tournament because out of 12 teams in the ward, I was only provided with three sets of uniforms, Hon. speaker. That left me wondering whom do we give this uniform and whom not to give; two balls for a ward.

So, Hon. Speaker this is a department which is failing in planning; if they would plan for us to have one major thing which has yields, I would say we are doing something. Instead of

coming up with programs which are just there to formalize, yes, we had this program so that now they look for ways of explaining that they have consumed the funds provided to the department.

So, Hon. Speaker, in fact, my feeling is if the department cannot have that power to show our youths because our youths have so much expectations from us, they say we have neglected them and yet we are here giving funds to the department for them now to organize for programs which would reach our wards so that our youths would also have a feeling that we have them in our hearts. So, Hon. Speaker, instead of just having a department by name, we can equally deny the department funds and look for other ways on how those funds can reach programs for the youths in our wards.

So, Hon. Speaker I want to thank the committee as I also urge this House to look at the departments which are just there for the sake of being there, we identify departments which have tangible projects on the ground and we narrow funds to those departments. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Moses. May the mover of the motion respond please?

Hon. (Ms.) Luka: Thank you, Hon. Speaker and Members for contributing towards this report and for sure the department has failed the county and much is needed from the department because when you look how the funds has been used, there is no transparency and everything should be seen how it has been utilized. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Jacinta.

(Question put and agreed to)

I just want to make one comment before we adjourn Hon. Members on this specific report. I concur with what the committee findings have been personally also. I have noted that we have issues which we are laying blames to the department but being a member of the budget committee, actually I remember this year, we had to intervene as a budget committee and provide an additional Ksh. 10 million specifically to cater for provision of services to our youths like balls, uniforms, football boots in the various wards.

The Chief Officer actually budgeted this money and was all slashed; it had been left with Ksh. 450,000 for construction of stadia. So, when you look at the department, you would see a department has Ksh. 100 million, but that Ksh. 100 million is for construction of two stadia and the rest of the other activities which we are talking about here had not been provided for in the budget and therefore, my comment is that the department needs, through the committee, to ensure that the various activities which our youths are engaged in which keep them busy, which are supposed to be under this department.

For example, why would we be providing Ksh. 120 million for construction of stadia yet with only Ksh. 20 million you can be able to almost level all the common playing fields which are being used currently to play. Why not set aside Ksh. 20 million and level 40 fields in each ward for our youths to utilize? That would be a low-cost and high-impact activity but we are concentrating on high-cost activities whose returns will only be felt years and years into the future forgetting that we do have youths right now who need to be nurtured and take of sports today.

On PWDs, the amount of money which I have seen being provided, it is us who again included an amount of Ksh. 10 million in this year's budget for PWDs; nothing had been provided for PWDs. When I hear them, talking about the PWDs siting volleyball team is training in the Machakos Kenyatta Stadium and I have never personally heard Hon. Katumo and their team saying they are practicing there, if you cannot facilitate small things like that for our people including ensuring that we sponsor them for all the activities which they do, they do a lot of activities not only volleyball. They do weight lifting, they do sports, they do basketball, they do a lot of activities and I do not see those facilities being provided for by their department. So, I think it is high time we concentrate on these things.

Talent identification is no longer there. The only talent I hear or I see is a few teams gathered from the wards and they come and perform some disco dancing competition here and that is it and we are told that is talent identification. We need to have programs for the youths which emanate right from the ground and which are structured in such a way that there is continuity. If it is soccer then we need to have the soccer being supported from the wards, the junior teams which are feeding to the county team, which is feeding to the national team with a structure which is churning out these youths in a structured way to achieve what they want to achieve.

Therefore, I am in agreement of what the report has said and I urge the committee not to relent in ensuring this department is held under microscope. I heard the Chief Officer once complaining he does not even have tea in his office. He appeared before a committee and he said in his office they don't even take tea and that he does not have an imprest and that is the man who is in charge of tourism, youth, culture, sports, all those things yet he cannot buy tea in his office.

So that tells you actually how much we are concentrating on the youths and it is high time we turn around and ensure that we empower the department also for it to be able to perform the tasks it is supposed to perform to for our people.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker: With those remarks, Hon. Members, the House is adjourned to resume on Wednesday the 22nd September, 2021, at 10.00 a.m. Enjoy the rest of your evening.

The House rose at 4.11 p.m.