

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Wednesday September 30th, 2015

The County Assembly met at the County Assembly chambers at 9.30 a.m.

(The Speaker, County Assembly of Samburu (Mr. Steve Lelegwe) in the chair)

PRAYERS

PAPERS

MCA Ndoto ward, (hon. Raisy Letura): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the report of the Committee on Labour, Social Welfare, Justice and Legal Affairs on the Village Units Delineation bill, 2015.

NOTICES OF MOTION

MCA Ndoto ward, (hon. Raisy Letura): Mr. Speaker Sir, I wish to move a notice of motion that the report on the Samburu County Village Units Delineation bill, 2015 be debated and approved.

STATEMENTS

MCA Ndoto ward, (hon. Raisy Letura): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order number 41 part 2 section (c), I hereby request for a statement from the Chair of sectoral Committee on Education, Youth Affairs and Sports concerning the discrepancies on salaries of ECD teachers. Some of the ECD teachers are paid peanuts while still discharging their duties. A degree holder is paid an equal amount to an ECD certificate holder who has only managed to finish class 7. A case in hand is one Sepherino Lenamunyi, a teacher at Sereolipi. Attached to the statement, are academic testimonials and appointment letter of the above officer. In view of this, the chair should enquire into and report on:

1. What criteria did the department use to determine the salaries of the 2 categories of officers?
2. What measures has the department put in place to appraise and capacity build ECD teachers?
3. What steps is the ministry undertaking to harmonize the salaries of the said officers?

Allow me to read the appointment letter of one ECD 3 teacher who is earning a starting salary of Shs. 11, 370, house allowance of Shs. 3, 500, a commuter allowance of Shs. 3, 000 and is also entitled to leave. The said teacher has a Bachelor of Education degree, Second Class Honours Lower Division, from Kampala International University. He is a young vibrant man who has

even gone to overseas to pursue his education. I don't want to use anybody as an example, but there is another teacher who a class 7 leaver being paid the same amount. I doubt whether we value education and we are even discouraging our people. They will notice that when you have a higher educational level, the county does not value that. Members of this house are aware that the diploma holders in ECD are also paid the same amount. It is ironical to lump all salaries of officers without minding their educational level or appraising them. On the issue of capacity building, since independence, the ECD teachers have never been employed by the government. It is only after devolution that these teachers were formally employed in a permanent and pensionable job. Some of them attended training 15 years ago and have not gone for any refresher courses. That is why we are asking whether the kind of education they are imparting to children in places like Ngare Narok have any value. You can imagine someone who attended class 15 years ago and have never been to any training. The teachers were employed recently but the department is not capacity building them by offering refresher courses. We appreciate for their employment but that is not enough because we need to go a step higher to stimulate their minds. Some were employed and given maize and beans by the community as payment or given as little as Shs. 10 per child which was not regular. They were discouraged and even decided to go back to their normal lives. If you see some of them, you cannot imagine that they are teachers and you even doubt whether they know how to write their names. That is the reality on the ground, thank you.

Chair, Committee on Education, Youth Affairs and Sports, (hon. Shadrack Lesoipa): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, it is sad if that is what is happening to the individual mentioned. In a week's time, I will be able to bring a comprehensive answer to the statement.

The Speaker, (Mr. Steve Lelegwe): Thank you hon. Lesoipa, you will table the response to the statement as sought by hon. Letura on Wednesday next week at 9.30 am. Hon. Members, the time being 10 minutes past 10 o'clock and there being no other business, the assembly stands adjourned until Wednesday afternoon, 30th September, 2015, at 2.30 pm, thank you.