

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 11th September, 2024

The Assembly met at the County Assembly Chambers at 9.30 am

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen) in the Chair

PRAYER

STATEMENTS

MCA, Loosuk Ward, (Hon. Lenamparasio Phelix): Thank you so much Mr. Speaker, Pursuant to Standing Order 45 (c), I hereby request for a statement from the Chairperson of the Sectorial Committee on Education and Vocational Training, this regards to the bursary disbursement and administration of bursary fund for Samburu County.

Hon. Speaker, It has come to my attention that students studying in Secondary Schools outside Samburu County have not received their bursary disbursements for the Financial Year 2023/2024 and this is contrary to their expectations.

Hon. Speaker, The Samburu County Bursaries Act, 2015, Section 5(3)(a),(b) and (c), specifies the qualifications required for the position of Bursary Coordinator, which plays a critical role in ensuring that the bursary funds are managed properly and disbursed timely to all eligible students.

Hon. Speaker, in the statement the Chairperson should inquire into and report on;

1. Why did the Department fail to disburse bursaries to all secondary school students studying outside Samburu County for the Financial Year 2023/2024?
2. Hon. Speaker, I would like to know Who is the current Bursary Coordinator responsible for administering the bursary funds, and I should also be told what are his/her qualifications as per the requirements of the Samburu County Bursaries Act, 2015?
3. I want the Chairperson to highlight the total amount the bursary account received from the County Treasury for the Financial Year 2023/2024. He should provide a breakdown of the amounts disbursed to all schools, including the current balance in the bursary account and this should be supported by a bank statement.

Thank you Hon. Speaker.

Very briefly Hon. Speaker just to add something; as the schools were opening for the third term, in Loosuk Ward a number of students came to my office asking why they have not received bursary, especially those studying in Secondary Schools outside Samburu County.

That is just a replica of what is going on in this building because when you go to the bursary office you get a lot of parents or students especially those studying outside Samburu County asking for their cheque knowing that all bursaries for secondary schools, Day Schools, Colleges and Universities have been disbursed. It is so unfortunate that some of the students have not received their share.

The creation of bursary fund was meant to benefit all our students across the County without any discrimination or favor. Secondly Mr. Speaker; we are noticing some quire behaviour in the bursary fund in that Department. For the two years we have been in office each and every time Members have been seeking for statements concerning bursary and this shows that there have been a lot of incompetency and mismanagement of funds within the Bursary Fund Department. Mr. Speaker this drives us to want to know what the qualifications of the Bursary Fund Administrator are because he plays a key role.

We the Members understand that each and every time you go ask for your cheque the Chief Officer and the Chairperson. We are always told that the first person to sign the cheque is the Fund Administrator because he should know the available balance in the bank and maybe do a lot of scrutiny on the allocations to students before the Chief Officer and the Chairperson act. This has been the biggest problem, we do not have a problem with the Chairperson nor the Chief Officer, but the main person who has been bringing problem is the Fund Administrator, so we would like to know his qualifications

As the Chairperson reports back he should even have the copies of his education testimonials attached to the statement response. I personally think he is very incompetent to handle such funds, thank you so much Hon. Speaker let me end there.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Deputy Speaker, I know you are a member of the Committee on Education and Vocational Training

Member, Committee on Education and Vocational Training, (Hon. Lelenkeju Jackson): Thank you Hon. Speaker. I conquer with the Members for Loosuk Ward in his statement request, and being a member of Committee on Education and Vocational Training; regrettably, a lot of mess is happening in that Department

(Applause)

I must say I am quite aware of that. We have a funny Department where when you talk to the Chief Executive Committee Member (CECM) who is supposed to be the head of that Department and even when he calls the so called Bursary Coordinator; no one picks his calls, and when the Chief Officer (CO) calls, no one picks the calls, this is a mobile office that you cannot trace where somebody is

Eighty percent of the working number of days the office bearers are not available, we will sit down with the on Committee and Vocational Training and see how we can end the mess. We are fully aware that it is not only Loosuk Ward but across the County that most of the students studying outside Samburu County did not receive bursary in the last Financial Year

As I speak now, and being a member of the said Committee; I did not receive my Ward Fund bursary up to now, reasons; best known to the Coordinator. He says; I am not in the right arm of the Government so that is why I should not get bursary

I am through with my education, small as it is and I am satisfied with the level I am at, I am not interested with bursary, my children are not in the list, the ones who are suffering are the children of Wamba East Ward

(Applause)

I do not think it is justified for someone to attach my political affiliation with the education of the students of my Ward. My political aspirations are different from the education of our children; those two must be separated

(Applause)

Whether I support the system or not

(Applause)

It is mandatory that the people that I do represent get their rightful share because this is their Government, this is their money, and it is not anyone's money

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, I think I will relay to the Chairperson and request the Department that the statement response should be ready with the answers by next week Wednesday, thank you Mr. Speaker

(Applause)

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Thank you Deputy Speaker. Is next week Wednesday in order?

MCA, Loosuk Ward, (Hon. Lenamparasio Phelix): Yes Hon. Speaker, it is in Order

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker; it is our hope that next week Wednesday at 2:30 PM we get the clarification from you concerning what Hon. Lenamparasio has rose. If there are hurdles, you raise at the floor of the House so that we give other directions.

Member, Committee on Education and Vocational Training, (Hon. Lelenkeju Jackson): That is in order Mr. Speaker Sir.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Dube, we had your members yesterday; maybe I can give you two minutes so that you can...

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Dube Osman): Mheshimiwa Spika ahsante sana. Mimi kama mwakilishi wa walemavu nikona furaha sana. Tangu kaunti ianze Mheshimiwa Spika viziwi na bubu walikuja hapa bungeni jana Mheshimiwa Spika.

Naomba msamaha kwasababu jana nilikuwa na wageni kutoka Kisima na kuna pia wachezaji wa sitting volleyball nilikutana nao lakini nilikuwa na habari kwamba walikikuja bunge jana Mheshimiwa Spika.

Tangu 2013, jana ndio watu wangu walikuwa na furaha nyingi zaidi, hawajawai hudhuria nyumba hii na walishangaa kujua kwamba nyumba uendeshwa namana hii. Mheshimiwa Spika unajua kwamba kiziwi na bubu wakona shida nyingi, na nashukuru County Assembly kwa kuajiri mtu wakuwasaidia vilema, hii ni atua moja ambayo tumesonga katika Kaunti ya Samburu na Mheshimiwa Spika bado napamabana tena tupate wengine upande wa serikali ya Kaunti na Kortini, ahasante Mheshimiwa Spika.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Thank you Hon. Dube.

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Members, the time being eighteen minutes to Ten O'clock and there being no any other business, this Assembly now adjourns until Wednesday 11th September, 2024 at 2:30 PM.