

Wednesday, 20th May, 2020 COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SIAYA DEBATES

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

SIAYA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

THE HANSARD

Second County Assembly - Fourth Session

Wednesday, 20th May, 2020

The House met at the County Assembly Chamber at 9.30 a.m.

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

PRAYERS

PAPER

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Kinyanyi.

Hon. Kinyanyi: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir. I wish to lay on the Floor of the House the report following the FY 2017/2018.

STATEMENTS

Hon. Audi: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. There are statements that I had placed in this honorable House and the time has just elapsed. I was given two weeks, which is now over. So I just wanted to know their fate.

The one on status of Lidha dispensary on the department of Health, the chair had communicated back that whoever signed was the former CECM, which was termed illegal. However, on the issue of mango seedlings to South Gem Ward, I wish to hear from the department that is the department of Agriculture.

Also on the issue of NHIF and NSSF charges or deductions from the market cleaners, I do not know if the chair is in because I am also a member of the Governance Committee but has not heard anything. Therefore, I need a communication.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: So Hon. Audi you have issues with responses from Health and Governance Committees. Do we have any Member from the two Committees to respond?

Hon. Odhiambo: No! I will consult with the chair of Agriculture even though we are in bad times with the corona pandemic, I shall consult and I might not have an answer now. Can I give the answer in the afternoon because by then I shall have consulted with my chair?

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Hon. Audi: It is okay.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Wandera what is it?

Hon. Wandera: I also happens to be a Member of that Committee so let Hon. Edwin not act as if he is the only one! However, I did not really get what Hon. Audi was saying.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Wandera but you did not ask him to raise his voice! So do you want him to repeat what he said?

Hon. Ousa: I think we should be serious in this House. It is becoming a tradition that if a statement is brought everybody and anybody decides that it should be given 2 weeks even when they are not sure.

When Hon. Audi raised his concern, even though I am a Member of the Agriculture Committee, I know that Hon. Audi was promised a response within 2 weeks and now Hon. Edwin is saying he cannot get the response because of corona. Why was he promised that he was going to get the response within 2 weeks?

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Are you criticizing your Committee?

Hon. Ousa: We represent the people here and so we are not here for the Committees and when the Committee is not doing the right thing we must say.

Hon. Odinga: Mine is very simple. I just want to remind Hon. Ousa that we are in an honorable House; therefore, he should not address Hon. Audi as just Audi!

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I think Hon. Ousa you have heard that.

Hon. Ousa: I apologize, Hon. Audi for that.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: You are lucky the chair of Agriculture is in so I think we will have a proper answer from him.

Yes, Hon. Edwin. Are you on a point of Order!

Hon. Odhiambo: Yes, but before the chair I would like to say that in this House we need to respect the leadership all the time. You cannot answer what you do not know. Actually, concerning the mango seedlings it has been received by the clerk. I think the communication will be made in the Committee through the chair. About the cleaners ...

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Edwin, you have stated clearly that you don't have a proper answer for this and that is why you have been criticized.

Hon. Odhiambo: Yes, but we have also seen that those who were on the Floor did not have proper answer. Let the chair respond.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Let us allow Hon. Audi to repeat his request.

Hon. Audi: There is a bit of concern, Hon. Edwin is saying that it is when the Committee received it. I think we gave out this 3 weeks ago and we are representing the people here, we do not come here for picnic.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Let us not go there, Hon. Audi.

Hon. Audi: Mine is that around 3 weeks ago I gave a Statement on the issue of mango seedlings, which were to be supplied to South Gem, and there was a concern on why they apportioned the money and why they decided to supply less than what was agreed before, thank you.

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Hon. Deputy Speaker: Chair Agriculture I hope you are now at par with us.

Hon. Ochieng: Thank you, first I want to apologize for coming late I was delayed in some other matters pertaining the County running in the same department.

I want to sincerely appreciate the concerns of Hon. Member for South Gem on the issue of mangoes. I contacted the Executive over the phone and they told me that the matter falls under procurement. I therefore told them to give us a written response so that we can deal with it on our Table, which I believe will help fast track the matter.

Hon. Audi: Thank you, Chair, because it was around 2 weeks ago when I was called by the supplier that he had acquired less than what we expected, that is where my concern is. There is already a supplier who is waiting for the date to supply. Mind you, the rains are on and my people need seedlings.

Hon. Ochieng: Thank you, I was with the CECM, CEO and the Director of Agriculture and we discussed on the same. I would just like to request that Hon. Audi give us time to fast track on the matter because the issue of supplying less is what brings in the procurement team which needs to explain how they arrived at the number.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Chair, is that the response from the Executive?

Hon. Ochieng: I have just told him that I communicated to them over the phone, and they told me that they would do a written response. But because of Hon. Audi's concerns that the rains are about to clear I think we can discuss with them because the department is just down here meeting with the Budget Committee then we see what to do.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Chair, can you resume your seat. The main concern in this House is that the request has already delayed and up to date even a Member of the Committee has said that the report has not been brought to them and they are wondering why it has taken long.

It is now clear that you do not have a proper answer so can you give him a tentative date on when to expect the response.

Hon. Ochieng: Thank you, what I am giving is a progress report and as you know very well our Committee meetings are a bit limited for now that is why I am saying that for the written response he will get immediately after we sit with the other side. However, for now we can respond to why it has taken that long.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: How long should he wait for the response?

Hon. Ochieng: Roughly 1 week.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Are you okay with 1 week?

Hon. Audi: Thank you, I will be waiting.

Hon. Opanga: I think you have already closed on the Hon. Audi's matter, however, I am also raising a concern concerning statements. Personally, I also had about two statements, one for Water and the other for Education concerning construction of ECDE centers in my Ward that stalled and not in good condition as at now.

I gave the Statement request on 14th March, 2020 and up to date I have not received any response 2 months down the line while the Chair promised us response within 2 weeks. I would

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request for your guidance through the clerk at the Table to do a follow up on that so that we get a full response.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Is there any Member of Education Committee who can respond to this?

Hon. Wandera: I am not only a Member but also the vice chair of the Committee. We all know that the Government directed that we work from home therefore, it has become difficult for us to have meetings frequently the way we used to but we are going to sit and deliberate on it---

(Laughter)

Hon. Odhiambo: Point of Order, Sir!

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Yes, Hon. Edwin.

Hon. Odhiambo: You see what Hon. Opanga is following up is the Committee response. So the Member should tell us if the response is there or not because everybody is aware that there was a statement...

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Order, Order everybody!

The Hon. Member seems to have been operating from home going by his age but he is back now. Yes, Hon. Ousa.

Hon. Ousa: I will still repeat that there is no seriousness in this honorable House going by how responses are handled. I have not come up with any response because I hate the way responses are addressed. These are concerns from the people we represent, nothing else hence should be handled with the respect they deserve.

Hon. Wandera: I am going to say here again that I am also an honorable Member of this House and not just that I am also the vice chair of Committee on Agriculture and therefore when the last statements were brought among which Hon. Opanga's was, I cannot give a response that we don't have yet. Therefore, I will be lying. We said that we give the Executive time to respond then we report to you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Wandera, can you sit down! You are not answering any of the questions asked. How I wish you heard what Hon. Edwin said, that we want a comprehensive report from the Education Committee in regards to Hon. Opanga's request. Again, you are not giving the answer that I was expecting from you.

You are saying that you took the Statement request to the Executive but you want the Hon. Member to again add you more time to respond. Therefore, instead of telling us for how long to wait, you are here briefing us on behalf of the Committee. How long should he expect the response?

Hon. Wandera: One week, that is by next Wednesday.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Is this from the Committee or yourself?

Hon. Wandera: The Committee.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: So I think we are done and we are giving the Committee one week. Hon. Opanga, I hope you are okay.

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MOTION
ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members would we be upstanding for adjournment. Hon. Members, there being no other business this House stands adjourned until the afternoon Wednesday, 20th May, 2020 at 2.30 p.m. in the chamber.

The House rose at 11.48 a.m.