

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY
THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 19th February 2025

The House met at 10:50a.m.

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Antony Marubu) in the Chair]

PRAYER

PAPERS

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF MURANG'A FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024

Hon. Loise Mbogo: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I'm standing in for the chair. Hon. Speaker, I beg to read the following Paper;-

That, the Report of the Auditor General on the examination and audit of County Assembly of Murang'a for the year ended 30th June 2024 in accordance with the provisions of Article 229 (7) of the Constitution of Kenya, be laid on the Table of the Assembly today, February 19, 2025.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON GATANGA WATER AND SANITATION
COMPANY LIMITED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023

Hon. Loise Mbogo: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I beg to read the following Paper; -

That, the Report of the Auditor General on the examination and audit of Gatanga Water and Sanitation Company Limited for the year ended 30th June 2023, in accordance with the provisions of Article 229 (7) of the Constitution of Kenya be laid on the Table of the Assembly today, February 19, 2025.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON MURANG'A WATER
AND SANITATION COMPANY LIMITED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023

Hon. Chefman Njoroge: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I stand for my able chair, Hon. Ndunda and it is also good to inform the House that my able chair, if you allow me Mr. Speaker, he lost his father and that's why he's not able to come and represent the Papers. So, I would like the honorable members to remember him and his family and as being our colleague that what he is going through when losing a parent is not that easy. So, Mr. Speaker, it is good to do the communication information to our honorable members, the reason why we are standing in for our chair for that reason.

However, Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper; -

That, the Report of the Auditor General on the examination and audit of Murang'a Water and Sanitation Company limited for the year ended 30th June 2023 in accordance with the provision of Article 229(7) of the Constitution of Kenya be laid on the Table of the Assembly today February 19, 2025.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024

Hon. Chefman Njoroge: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Honorable Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper;-

That, the report of the Auditor General on the following audited financial statements for the year ended 30th June 2024 in accordance with the provisions of Article 229(7) of the Constitution of Kenya be laid on the Table of the Assembly today February 19, 2025.

- a. County Executive of Murang'a.
- b. Receiver of Revenue, County Government of Murang'a.
- c. County Revenue Fund, County Government of Murang'a. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

STATEMENTS

APPROVED BUSINESS OF THE ASSEMBLY FROM THE WEEK COMMENCING TUESDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2025 TO WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2025

Hon. Morris Thuku: Hon. Speaker, I beg to issue the following Statement; that pursuant to Standing Order 46(2a), the House Business and Rules Committee at last meeting approved Business that will come before the Assembly from the week commencing Tuesday, February 25, 2025 to Wednesday, February 26, 2025, as per the attached program.

Hon. Speaker, on Tuesday 25, 2025 morning sitting, there is a Paper to be laid by Leader of Majority. Report on vetting of nominees to the selection panel for members of the County Public Service Board. There is also a Paper by the Chairperson Committee on implementation. There is also another Paper from the chairperson Finance and Economic Planning on annual report and financial statements for the Murang'a County agricultural farm input and subsidy and incentives.

There is also another Paper by Chairperson Finance on Kangari municipality second quarter report, and there is also notice of Motion on adoption of a Report on vetting of nominees to the selection panel by Leader of majority. Finally, there is also a notice of Motion on adoption of a Report on implementation on status of programs under department of Finance and Economic planning. Trade, Industrialization and Health services for the financial year 2023/2024 by the chairperson Committee on Implementation.

Hon. Speaker, on Tuesday, 25th afternoon sitting 2025, there is a Paper, Report of the Auditor General on Murang'a County Youth Fund for the year ended June 30, 2024, by the Chairperson Public Investment and Accounting Committee.

There is also another Paper by the Chairperson Public Investment and Accounts Committee, Report of the Auditor General on financial statement for the year ended June 30, 2024.

There is also a Motion on vetting and adoption of nominees to selection panel for members of the County Public Service Board. And on Wednesday morning sitting February 26, 2025 there is a Motion on adoption of a report on implementation status of the programs under department of finance and economic planning.

Hon. Speaker that denotes the Statement of the week. Thank you.

[SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER]

PAPER

REPORT OF BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON MURANG'A COUNTY
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR FY 2024/2025.

Hon. Charles Machigo: Thank you Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper;=

That, the Report on Budget and Appropriations Committee on Murang'a County Supplementary Budget for the financial year 2024/2025 be laid on the Table of the Assembly Today Wednesday February 19, 2025.

Thank you Hon. Speaker.

(Hon. Charles Machigo laid the Paper on the Table)

NOTICE OF MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON
MURANG'A COUNTY SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR FY 2024/2025.

Hon. Charles Machigo: Thank you Hon. Speaker, I beg to issue notice of the Following Motion;

That, this Assembly adopts the Report on Budget and Appropriations Committee on Murang'a County Supplementary Budget for the financial year 2024/2025 laid on the Table of the Assembly Today Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Thank you Hon. Speaker.

MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON
MURANG'A COUNTY SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR FY 2024/2025.

Hon. Charles Machigo: Thank you Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion; -

That, this Assembly adopts the Report on Budget and Appropriation Committee on Murang'a County Supplementary Budget for the financial year 2024/2025, laid on the Table of the Assembly today Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Hon. Speaker, I take this opportunity to present to this House the Budget and Appropriations Committee Report on the Supplementary estimates No. 1 of the FY 2024/25 that was submitted on 10th February 2025 and consequently Tabled before the House on Tuesday February 11, 2025. This supplementary budget is unique in the sense that it does not represent reallocations but a total overhaul of the approved budget.

Hon. Speaker, this House is aware that the National Finance Bill 2024 was withdrawn following the Gen z protests in June 2025. The withdrawal led to loss of revenue expected from the new proposed taxes. In this regard, the National Assembly amended the Division of Revenue Act (DORA 2024) where the Counties Shareable Revenue was reduced from Kshs. 401 billion to Kshs. 380 billion. Consequently, the County Allocation of Revenue Act (CARA 2024) was also amended to share the new revenue horizontally among the counties. Murang'a County Equitable Share was reduced by Kshs. 241,607,500. The revenue loss is to be shared between the County Assembly and the County Executive.

This supplementary budget has increased revenue by Kshs. 242,173,132 where the recurrent budget increased by Kshs. 187,995,625 while development budget increased by Kshs. 54,177,507. The County Assembly recurrent budget is reduced by Kshs. 16.1 million. Total additions amount to Kshs. 966,176,794 while total reductions amount to Kshs. 724,003,662. Major changes in this supplementary budget include the increase on Own Source Revenue target by Kshs. 350 million, inclusion of Kenya Urban Support Program by Kshs. 35 million, redistribution of Appropriations in Aid amounting to Kshs. 220 million to health facilities, increase of fertilizer subsidy by Kshs. 105 million and inclusion of pending bills for community projects amounting to Kshs. 82.1 million.

I therefore urge this House to approve these Supplementary Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the FY 2024/25 as recommended by the Budget and Appropriations Committee.

Hon. Speaker, presented to this House is the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the FY 2024/25 revising the approved estimates for the current Financial Year. Hon. Speaker, revision of the budget estimates is provided for under Section 135 of the Public Finance Management Act 2012 where a county government may spend money that has not been appropriated if the amount appropriated for any purpose under the County Appropriation Act is insufficient of a need has arisen for expenditure for a purpose for which no amount has been appropriated by that Act, or money has been withdrawn from the county government Emergency Fund.

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Hon. Speaker, the reasons for this supplementary budget are as follows; -

- a. To re-budget and cut expenditure on some votes and following the fall of the national Finance Bill 2024 that led to reduction of the County Shareable revenue by Kshs. 241.6 million.
- b. The recent US withdrawal of USAID funding has necessitated the need to revise expenditure estimates for the health sector. Murang'a County Government has 150 people who work under USAID and 20,000 people who benefit from USAID medical drugs.
- c. Hon. Speaker, the County Treasury has reviewed performance of Own Source Revenue (OSR) for the first half of the FY 2024-25 and noted an increase of 7% from a similar period of the previous FY 2024/25. It is therefore projected that there will be a significant increase during the second half for total revenue to be Kshs. 1.5 billion by the end of the financial year.
- d. Hon. Speaker, various departments submitted requests to the County Treasury on need for reprioritization and reallocations. Departments have reviewed performance of their budgets during the first half and identified the need for additional expenditure and readjustments in line with the existing fiscal framework.

This Report comprises the Committee findings and recommendations on the submitted supplementary estimates for the FY 2024/25. Hon. Speaker, the scrutiny of the supplementary estimates for the FY 2024/2025.

Sectoral views on the respective sectoral supplementary No.1 estimate. Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order no. 224 the supplementary estimates upon Tabling were deemed to have been committed to all sectoral Committees for scrutiny as recommendation to the Budget and Appropriations Committee. The following schedule indicates key policy recommendations by the sectoral Committees. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members the schedule is per indicated below here with all the departments recommendations and observations.

Hon. Speaker, consideration of the Sectoral Committee recommendations. The Committee adopted the following sectoral Committee recommendations; The Committee reviewed sectoral Committee recommendations on the budget movements and identified the following;

- a. That all sectoral Committees recommended for approval of the estimates as proposed.
- b. That pending bills should be given priority in all sector budget implementation.

- c. That the County departments with significant budget changes need to submit policy documents to align the existing fiscal framework with new policy changes.

Hon. Speaker, inclusion of County Assembly unspent balances from the FY 2023/24 Pursuant to Section 130 of PFM (Amendment) Act, 2021 Kshs. 70 million has been included to the County Assembly CARA ceiling for the FY 2024/25 to cater for pending bills from the FY 2023/24. It should be noted that as at 30th June 2024, Kshs. 72,853,999 had not been remitted to the County Assembly thus the FY 2023/24 lapsed with expenditure that had not been settled.

This House is aware that, the County Government Approved Budget for the FY 2024/25 comprised balances carried forward from the FY 2023/24 amounting to Kshs. 597,902,936 in the resource envelope. Hon. Speaker, the amount carried forward ought to be shared proportionally between the County Assembly and the County Executive as per their unspent balances. It is also worthy to note that during the FY 2023/24 the County Government surpassed its Own Source Revenue target by 0.16%. In this regard, it is logical that every arm of the County Government receives its budgeted funds for the FY 2023/24 in full.

Hon. Speaker, changes made to the estimates of revenue and expenditure FY 2024/25 the revenue changes as per the schedule below here and Hon. Speaker and Hon Members, the changes are as indicated below here in this schedule where the shareable revenue had a movement of 241,607,500. The CRF carried forward had a movement of 133,780,632 and local revenue, we had to increase by 350,000,000.

The total revenue moved from Kshs. 10.5 Billion to Kshs. 10.7 billion. The total additional reduction budget for the financial year 2024/2025 are as per recent schedule below here. Honorable speaker and honorable members you have those schedule in your ---

We also have the schedule for reduction in terms of programs, in this schedule three where we have the subprogram and the amount that have been moved. The net changes for our sectors for the financial year 2024/2025 are as per schedule four and net changes for the financial year are as listed below where the county government coordination and administration had a movement of Kshs. 15 million that is a movement of 3.7 per cent.

County Assembly had a movement of Kshs. 16,141,000 that translate to 1.7 per cent change. Finance and economic planning had a movement of Kshs. 2 million which translate to 0.6 per cent. Agriculture, livestock and fisheries had a movement of Kshs. 200,000 which translate to

0.1 per cent. Energy, transport and roads had a change of 2.3 million which translate to 5.6 per cent, commerce trade and industry had a movement of Kshs. 900,000 which is 1.4 per cent.

Education and technical training had Kshs. 38,000,000 which translate to 5.2 percent. Health and sanitation had a movement of Kshs. 135,000,000 which translate to 4.5 per cent. Land, housing and physical planning had movement of Kshs. 32,900,000 which translate to 110 per cent. County Public Service Board had a movement of Kshs. 550,000 which translate to 1.4 per cent. The total movement was Kshs. 187,995, 625 which translate to 2.6 per cent. That was the schedule for recurrent expenditure.

Schedule five indicate changes per sector. We did not have a lot of changes in the development budget. We had finance and planning Kshs. 2,000,000 which translate to 4.35 per cent. Agriculture and livestock Kshs. 44,000,000 which translate to 8.16 per cent. We have energy and roads it had a movement of Kshs. 84,100,000 which translates to 7.10 percent. We have trade and commerce which has Kshs. 112,000,000 which translate 37.10 percent.

The other one is education and technical training Kshs. 1,000,000. Health and sanitation 49,290,000. Youth, gender and social services Kshs. 5,000,000 which translate to 2.80 per cent. The total movement was Kshs. 54, 177,507 which translate to 1.71 per cent. The overall budget changes for this supplementary for financial year 2024/2025 the schedule below here indicate the same where we have a movement of Kshs. 187,995,625 which translate to 70 percent and development budget is Kshs. 54, 177,000 movement which translates to 30 per cent and the total movement is 100 per cent. If we got to the other schedule, the Committee recommended the following:

- a) That the Supplementary Revenue Estimates No. 1 of the FY 2024/25 be approved as per schedule 1 of this report.
- b) That reallocations (additions and reductions) be approved and implemented as per Schedule two and three of this report.
- c) That the Supplementary Expenditure Estimates No. 1 of the FY 2024/25 be approved as per schedule four recurrent net changes per sector and schedule five development net changes per sector.
- d) That the County Assembly Supplementary Budget No.1 of the FY 2024/25 be approved and implemented as per Schedule 7 annexed to this Report.

- e) That Supplementary Expenditure Estimates (per sector per programme) be approved and implemented as per Schedule 8 (Recurrent Supplementary Estimates per Programme) and 9 (Development Supplementary Estimates per Programme) annexed to this Report.

The Committee policy recommendations are as follows. Having considered the above matters, the Committee recommends the following policy interventions; -

1. That the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning should ensure that approved supplementary estimates are adhered to and fiscal discipline is enhanced by all entities of the County Government.
2. That all departments should realign their work plans and strategies to the approved sector estimates to ensure that the supplementary budget is implemented seamlessly during the 2nd Half of the FY 2024-25.
3. The County Treasury should develop strict measures during the second half of the FY 2024/25 to ensure that the Own Source Revenue Target is achieved as at 30th June 2025 so that planned activities are completed.
4. The County Treasury should align monthly exchequer issues of the County Assembly with the approved Supplementary Budget to ensure all budgeted funds are expended and that the County Assembly is able to perform its performance.

That is the breakdown of our supplementary estimates for the FY 2024/2025. I urge all the members to support and adopt this Report. I call upon Hon. Bonface to second the Motion.

Thank you.

Hon. Bonface Mbau: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I rise to second the Motion as I congratulate my chair to come up with this good Report. Hon. Speaker allow me to highlight something on sectorial Committee recommendation. Allow me to touch on health department which consumes high budget. There was a very huge outcry on health department but because we did not have enough budget and because of the goodwill of our Governor, we managed to have an increment of 800 million to purchase the pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceuticals. There will be no other outcry because that money will be enough to cater for health department.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I second the Motion.

(Question Proposed)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Antony Marubu): The Floor is open for the debate. Yes, Hon. Chefman Njoroge.

Hon. Chefman Njoroge: Thank you Mr. Speaker. First let me support the Motion and also thank the chair and the Committee for a good job. Despite all the challenges which we are finding ourselves in. Everybody knows, however. Speaker I would want to emphasize on what the recommendations are. Even to strengthen and even addition of the same. It is now high time we are learning the hard way, in terms of donor funding being reduced. In terms of the political angle which sometimes can change and then it affects the whole budget then again, we find ourselves in this situation.

It is my request that if you go to the policy recommendation number c, whereby if you allow me Mr. Speaker, says the that the County Treasury should develop strict measures during the second half of the FY 2024/25 to ensure that the own source--- and I want the chairman to get it right here, own source revenue target is achieved as at 30th June 2025 so that planned activities are completed.

Mr. Speaker, I want to put more weight on that. One, how do we generate more own source revenue target and what measures should be taken? One, I would like my chair and my senior, that we should also know the investment we are doing as a County Government. The Policy which we are passing here especially like the market, are we getting 100% collection of the revenue from the markets. Do we have the targets, also the market to give us a revenue, so that we can be able to understand and to know when we are saying strictness, do we have those targets which are supposed to be given to all these our markets, so that at least we can be able to know market a which is in Muthithi ward, market b which is Mbiri, market c. How are we able to get the hundred percent. When the revenue goes down from those markets what was the causes. So that we can be able to know and implement and take measure to safeguard those revenue collection.

Two, is the issue of the parking. We are losing the parking revenue and what strict measures can we do? I will request my Chair to make a recommendation that we can be able to partner with NTSA so that we are able to know in a day how many vehicles are recorded and have not paid the parking fees. A good example is the hospitals where we are able to know how many people were treated, the payments made and how many visited, we should do the same way with parking revenue, we should have data like on that roundabout, the smallest roundabout in East and Central Africa the one that go to mentor, it is a busy road, we need to demarcate the town so that we know

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which are marked and know the revenue we are getting from that road, my able chair and the Committee members and the executive should tell us in a day that road gives us how much revenue, if it is 200,000 and it goes to 180,000 then there is a problem of 20,000 shillings and if it goes beyond that that is good for us, it is the high time we implement such kind of things.

We need to buy gadgets for our revenue collectors like the ones in Nairobi, Mombasa so that the person checking whether the vehicle has paid if it does not pay it reflects and records and goes to the phone number of the vehicle owner that you have been given one hour to pay your 70shillings, if you do not pay in an hour, it double itself and that is how we can have more revenue so that we give what is rightful to Ceaser in the right manner, I think we need to buy those gadgets and give them to parking.

In the same spirit, we need to motivate our revenue collectors, take them to seminars, give them targets, if you collect this you get this, a matter of motivation so that those people are demotivated even the parking uniforms they buy for themselves which is unfortunate, they are using their own phones for revenues, so that we can cover for the donors pulling out, the world is changing and we should change effectively.

The issue of land rates, we should sensitive our people, let us try to educate our people that is good to pay land rates or arrears so that whenever you do this, we can be able to support them in terms of ward infrastructure, hospitals and other staff because that tax is their own money and once we collect the taxes we are able to give them the services. On department of trade, the chair had five strict recommendations for targets to the department so that we can give revenue.

It should not just be there, they need targets so that unless they collect, as much as they spend, they need a target on revenue, agriculture the same thing, It is good that we have given good money to the agriculture sector but the ministry of health is taking the biggest chunk of our money, it is the high time we start the department of nutrition so that we can be able to save money, our people need drugs and nowadays there are drugs but we should know the cause of their sickness so that we can start another department in the same hospital on nutrition so that we can reduce dependence on drugs by people eating well because eating well is health and health is wealth so that our people do not just come to hospitals get drugs and the drugs and they are not able to eat nutrition food. We can start it as a pilot project and put our people in hospitals and help our people eat nutritious food so that when we save that money it will give us infrastructure. We need to learn how to collect and save so that we can implement the projects.

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Finally, I will request the chair Budget Committee to share with the members the County Assembly budget so that we can save since our budgets are tight. It is the high time that we share the budgets, we scrutinize and see how we can help the Assembly itself, where is the County Assembly budget? let us have it, let us know what is there, so that we can save money. I am talking with the knowledge that we have a development budget we can build ward offices rather than renting the offices so that the County Government can save money, we have the County Government land and we are building ECDEs which is approximately 1.5M we can build 35 ward officers and save rent which can assist and help this House save the kitty and do other things like building a swimming pool because my brother from Ichagaki loves swimming.

The point is let us save money in the wards so that we are able to do more. The county Executive should come up with another Policy like a shock absorber so that when Aids funding is removed, what are the balances of the NGOs supporting us? Assume today they decide to withdraw, will we have another supplementary budget? It is the high time we start thinking who are our development partners and if they do not give us a notice that they want to go, how can we reciprocate the same, it is the high time that the Budget Committee knows what the US does is replicated in other countries. What if Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) pulled out since they have been doing something to support us. it is a good job done by the Committee only that I wanted to emphasize and add more weight so that we can collect more revenue because we must deliver to our people and serve them diligently and move forward a healthy County is a wealthy County and a happy County.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker sir. Congratulations to the landlord, my senior, you have done a good job but the County Assembly budget, kindly make sure we get it so that we can go through it and get the wealthy and(*inaudible*)..... Thank you, Mr. Speaker sir.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Antony Marubu): Thank you, Hon. Chefman. I now call upon the mover to respond.

Hon. Charles Machigo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me an opportunity to respond. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Members for supporting this Motion and I give an assurance to those Members who have contributed to this Motion, that the concerns they have raised are going to be taken care of. Hon. Boniface, the chairperson - Health Committee, I am very happy that you really appreciate the work you have done to increase more money on medicine.

Hon. Chefman, you have raised so many issues that, if gone by what you have raised, we shall have a very good improvement in our own source revenue. On the issue of market enhancements of revenue, that will go straight to the Committee on Implementation. Most of the recommendations we have been giving in this House, it is very important the Chairperson Implementation, I know you are there, through the Speaker, that you should be furnishing this House with their status of implementation so that we can see and move.

The other issue is regarding the gadgets, that is a very good observation; equity and money which we put to projects is also very important; the target of revenue to be given to those collecting revenue. The County Assembly's budget, Hon. Speaker, I had posted those soft copies of the County Assembly budget though there are a few changes that were undertaken due to whatever we received from the executive, we were not able to receive the 72 million we were only able to receive 70 million so we have a deficit of 2 million which has had an adjustment. After this, I am going to send you the true copy, which we have now passed here, so there are some adjustments which are going to be undergone through the document that I sent yesterday.

The other one is in regards to Assembly offices, Hon. Speaker, we were trying to relocate the funds for the development of this Assembly but the law does not allow introduction of a new vote so the 40 million that is for the development of our Assembly, it goes again well with the improving of our equipment here in the Assembly or maybe the development of our Assembly. As we prepare for the next financial year budget, it is good to know that that part of development to put up offices is important, so that one is good to note and we have noted it so that maybe we can put more funds on our ward offices.

With that Hon. Speaker, I thank all members and I urge them to adopt this motion. Thank you.

(Question put and Agreed to)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Antony Marubu): Thank you and before I adjourn the House, I want to fully support Hon. Chefman, he had earlier raised information that one of our members from Ithanga has lost his father and as an Assembly, we are mourning the loss. Therefore, I want us to stand with the family in support and prayers because this is the high time that we can show our solidarity and therefore I call upon all members to have a moment of silence and we remain standing.

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(Hon. Members rose in silence)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Antony Marubu): Thank you, Hon members, you can resume your seats.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Antony Marubu): Hon. members, there being no other Business, I now adjourn this House until February 25, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

Thank you.

The House rose at 11:43 a.m.