

MURANGA COUNTY ASSEMBLY THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 27th May 2015

The House met at 2:45 p.m.

(The Speaker Hon. Nduati Kariuki in the Chair)

PRAYERS

MOTIONS

ADOPTION OF BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM ON THE MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUDGET ESTIMATES

Hon. Peter Mweri: Mr Speaker sir, I wish to move the following motion;-

That, this Assembly adopts the Budget and Appropriation committee Memorandum on the Murang'a County Government Budget Estimates for the financial year 2015/2016 laid on the table of the Assembly on May 26, 2015.

Mr Speaker, this Memorandum came about because of the budget estimates that were submitted to this Assembly on 30th April, Mr Speaker before the estimates were submitted, the Assembly through the budget committee had written to the Hon. Speaker requesting him to alert the executive, that the budget that will be presented be in line with the law.

After that the budget was later submitted on the same day in the evening after the Assembly had already gone on recess. After presentation, the Hon. Speaker gave a directive to the Budget committee to scrutinize the budget and establish whether it was in line as required by the Public Finance Act and the Fiscal Strategy Paper.

After the committee scrutinized the budget before it was tabled, they found that the budget had a lot of anomalies and consequently he committee wrote a Memorandum requesting for the budget to be returned to the executive so that it can be harmonized and be as per the requirements.

Mr Speaker, the committee had observed the following; the CEC member for Finance failed to submit summaries of budget policies which were well highlighted in the County Fiscal Strategy Paper including revenue, expenditure and debt financing contrary to section 131 (a) of the PFM Act 2012

The CEC member for Finance failed to submit to the Assembly a Memorandum explaining how the resolution adopted by the Assembly on budget estimates have been taken into account contrary to section 13(i) (a) of the PFM ACT 2012

The committee noted with a lot of concern on the vote heads and some of the votes had far much higher allocations and some of the programmes had no policies to support execution of those votes.

Mr Speaker, the Budget and appropriations committee in a report on the County Budget Outlook paper had recommended that the local revenue to grow at a rate of 10.41% which is the current revenue growth factor according to Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, Economic Survey 2015. In this regard 530, 374, 712 adjusted at 10.41% gives a total of Kshs. 585, 586, 719 as the projected local revenue. However, the executive had allocated revenue much higher than what I have mentioned as the appropriate increase depending on what we collected last year.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the members have copies of the Memorandum. Some of the intended projects, most of them were not included in the County Fiscal Strategy Paper and some of them with huge amounts of money require policies, programmes like education interventions, elderly vulnerable and poor support, which are outlined in the estimates presented require policies

We have the Ward Development Fund Act, unfortunately, some of these programmes like the Ward Development Fund were not included in the tabled estimates, the Act had recommended at least 17% of the total revenue. This revenue was intended to cater for unforeseen projects in the wards. That item had also not been featured. We also noted that most of the programmes featured in the budget have been allocated colossal sums of money yet they were not provided for under the CIDP and the County Fiscal Strategy Paper.

Mr. Speaker, when the committee looked at the budget, we thought it important that a Memorandum be sent to the executive so that they can align the programmes. We gave them seven working days to revise and work as per the CIDP, CFSP and Public Finance Management Act 2012 and before the days elapsed, the CEC Finance wrote a letter to the Clerk stating that the budget should be tabled as presented on 30th. Afterwards we did not have an option than to table the budget and submit it to the sectoral committees because, the committees have the mandate and power to align the budget the way it is supposed to be. In this regard, the budget now has been submitted to the sectoral committees which are now supposed to work on it and align it accordingly.

Mr. Speaker, as members are aware, the last two financial years we have been in office, we have realized that there is no equitable distribution of resources per ward and that is the main reason why we thought the Ward Development Fund is essential so that the minor projects like bridges can be catered for in the fund.

Mr. Speaker, we also noted that on 19th May, Commission on Revenue Allocation sent a guideline stating that in the past the counties have been allocating funds to mega projects. We need to confine ourselves to the essential needs of our electorate.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge this Assembly to support this report, if we fail to, we will be committing political suicide. We are now aware of what we are supposed to do, our people's requirement and it will only be fair if we work on a budget that will be helpful to our electorate.

As per the Memorandum, as I have stated, the recommendation from the committee was the executive to revise the budget and comply with the PFM Act 2012, unfortunately this did not happen.

I will urge the sectoral committees to work on the budget and ensure it is in line with this memorandum. Mr Speaker, the copies are with the members, I hope they have gone through it. I urge the committees to support this memorandum so that we can have a base to restructure this 2015/2016 budget. I call upon Hon. Kimani Gitau to second the motion.

Hon. Joseph Kimani: I stand to second this motion. My able chairman has explained almost everything in the report. I will refer to item number 29, of the Memorandum and state that we wrote this Memorandum because the submitted budget did not conform to Section 129 and 130 of the PFM Act. The Budget did not comply with our County Fiscal

Strategy Paper adopted by his Assembly, the budget did not take into account the resolutions and recommendations that this Assembly has passed.

On that note, the budget did not comply with our CIDP and the resolutions of the County Budget Outlook Paper as adopted by the Assembly. Mr. Speaker, you also note that the executive without any written comment on our budget, slashed our budget from Kshs. 894 million to Kshs. 694 million, by exactly Kshs. 200 million which was contrary to section 129 (4) of the PFM Act.

From the memorandum, the committee noted that most of the programmes given a lot of money have not been provided in the CIDP and in the County Strategy Paper; they have no legal and institutional backing or policy guidelines for implementation.

We also noted that according to the budget, they had allocated money to functions which belong to the national government. It is unfortunate because County governments will be measured by the devolved functions. We feel that some of these monies should be re-allocated to county functions. I stand to second the motion.

(Question Proposed)

Hon. Duncan Njuguna: I stand to support the Memorandum and the motion. We are in the budget making season and everyone in Murang'a County is waiting to see what we have for them. As the Chair of the budget committee has said, as we discussed within the committee and came up with the report, we only had one recommendation number 30 to the County government of Murang'a for the budget estimates, they were to reply the memorandum that we had submitted to them before Friday May 15, 2015, but that date is long gone now and the reply we got was very inadequate and they did not address whatever we had requested as a committee.

The Public Finance Management Act 2012 states very clearly the guidelines to be followed when making the budget estimates. I tend to think that as an Assembly since we decided to follow the path of dialogue and also doing things the way they are supposed to be done; I think that was misconstrued to mean that we are not capable of doing what others have done. We did this because of the love for the electorate and that is why we did not go the impeachment way or censuring the executive because we know that it will not help the people of Murang'a.

With this I will say that we previously we have been allocating money to votes that do not have policies and with that if we confine ourselves whenever making budget to whatever is in the CIDP and the fiscal strategy paper then we will help the people of Murang'a. That is the path we have chosen Mr. Speaker sir so that we do not repeat the mistakes we have done of allocating money for free things and other projects that we do not see their end like the milk program and also the functions that are not devolved.

With that I would like to support the memorandum and since we did not get an adequate reply as an Assembly we should go with the legal structures and make the budget that will conform to the laid down procedures. I thank you very much Mr. Speaker sir.

Hon. James Kagoni: I thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I rise to support this memorandum and to thank the budget committee under the leadership of their able chair for being able to scrutinize the contents of the budget and for standing firm so that we may improve and correct a mistake that has been there previously.

I would remind the members that in the process of making a budget there are four vital documents that you cannot ignore while making a public budget. You cannot ignore the Constitution, the Public Finance Management Act 2012, the Fiscal Strategy Paper and the CIDP. The four documents form the basis of any budget that is done by any government.

When I stand here I am fully aware that we have 33 days to the deadline of when we are supposed to have a budget for the year 2015/2016. A time like this last year June 30th 2014, I was the most frustrated person when I was trying to urge the House that we should not pass a budget that was not itemized. That happened and our oversight role has already been compromised before and now as we could not be able to oversight the money for this county in the right way Mr. Speaker.

Having said that, it is good for the members to know that we are here only as custodians of the peoples' money. We are few of us because we represent many whose voices cannot reach here but we are the people who should deliver their voices here and say what their expectations are.

It is frustrating to see that when there is an implementation of a project by the executive and you as a member cannot be able to tell what it is all about or what is happening, we appear like fools to the public when we cannot ascertain why some of the things are being done and we appear like the wrong people to represent the people because we cannot be able to question some of these things. The problem happened when we were not keen on the budget.

I am happy this time round we are able to speak with one voice on the issues that have been raised on the budget by the budget committee. When you look at point number 25 of this memorandum they have highlighted quite a number of things that one cannot be able to explain what they are, what they stand for and how they will be implemented.

When you allocate Kshs. 35 million to funeral support program I do not know whether you are forecasting that people will be dying at a high rate Mr. Speaker or rather perhaps what you want to be doing with such kind of money. Thing that is very funny and not prospected in the CIDP.

When you allocate Kshs.59 million to education interventions, things that we do not know what is called education interventions because reading a book can also be called education intervention and you allocate a whopping Kshs.59 million when there is no allocation for ECDE.

As the chairman and the seconder of this motion have said, the county government will not be assessed by the national government functions but by our own roles. When you think of our nursery school going children and the conditions they are in you can only sympathise with our county. We are not even thinking about the ECDE and you allocate Kshs.59 million to education intervention this one can only be called a facade.

When you allocate Kshs.60 million for cash crop development maybe to dish out the Batian coffee, sweet potatoes vines, those kinds of things need to be tamed because the direction our county is taking is wrong. And it requires someone who is bold, someone who is sincere and is looking out for the future generation to say the resources that we have been given are few and they require to be managed well. Otherwise if we do not take care of that we are only ruining a foundation which is important for the county government to build on when the future governments will build on what was done by the first government.

It requires someone who is very sincere because some of these things we say and we told that we are talking politics whereas we do not have interest. I do not have an acre of a land for me to have problems with the cash crops development; I do not have interests with education as I have already finished mine and the one that I am pursuing I can afford to pay for myself, but I am interested for the people of Ithanga, for the people of Gatura, with nursery going children of Ruchu and elsewhere who cannot be able to sit in a nice place, who cannot be able to access learning materials so that we can be able to shape up the A material right from the beginning, that is what I am interested in.

When I go to the docket that I stand for and look at the money allocated to the youth you can only realize we are joking because the population that forms the largest block of our population we appear we have no idea completely of how to support them.

We get wrong priorities and we miss the point as to why there is the county government in place. We are still operating with the mentality of a national government that had all the money and doing it when they feel like doing it. Ours is limited resources and we must check where the resources are going. I want to support this document for those reasons.

However, I would wish the committee to check on point number 23 and some of the issues raised here are very important. We are not just fighting for the sake of fighting, we fight when it is important and we have a reason and when we are supposed to support we support.

There is issue of water which have been allocated Kshs.600 million, I will be the first person to support such a project if it is undertaken by the county government and I would urge the budget committee to include it in the revised budget and to add more money.

My language has been only one, one billion for water, one billion for roads and infrastructure and one billion for health. If we are able to take that kind of formula I am sure we will be making progress.

The other area I will request the committee to check on is the Kshs.20 million allocated for rehabilitation. I would like to support because alcohol is a menace in this county and we have been having a problem of where to take our young people and men who we want to rehabilitate so that they can be productive in the society.

I would kindly ask, because we only have two private rehabilitation centres in our county, if they can kindly support that because we are not fighting for the sake of fighting but we are fighting what is wrong and supporting what is right. I would also kindly ask if they can support that coffee roasting machine.

As a way of sensitizing our people on what they are supposed to do, those three areas water, coffee and rehabilitation I will urge them to consider when revising the budget and if anything they allocate more as it is a step in the right direction.

But the other one on funeral support should not appear and it should not see the light of day as we are messing. If someone was to look at the budget that was brought here at night by the CEC the person would really laugh at us wondering what kind of budget this is and we could not afford that kind of budget. I hereby support this kind of memorandum.

Hon. James Kariuki: I rise to support this memorandum. As a member of the budget and appropriation committee, I am happy that the committee has come of age as it has put its foot down for the first time. We have been passing the budget without thorough scrutiny by the committee but the committee has teeth for the first time.

We are a House of rules and procedures and the budget we got in this House did not follow the law and as a law making body we should not be the first to break the law that we make or the laws made by the National Assembly.

Mr. Speaker the reason why members of the budget committee did not like the budget is because it did not comply with the Constitution which is supreme law of the land; we cannot go against the Constitution. It did not comply with the PFM Act 2012, the County Integrated Development Plan, the County Fiscal Strategy Paper, or from the circular from Controller of Budget on the issue of Ward Development Fund. Those are some of the reasons why the budget committee felt that this kind of budget that was presented to us fell short of what was required of it.

It is necessary when the sectoral committees reorganise their budget once they sit down accordingly so that they conform to the percentages in the county Fiscal Strategy Paper, the wishes of Wanjiku on the ground and of course our Constitution. Our functions are clearly known and are well enumerated in the Constitution; we are not supposed to allocate money to national government functions.

However, there is something I like about this budget when it comes to empowerment especially empowerment of farmers. I support all the programs that are empowering farmers, but Mr. Speaker, when it comes to issues to do with education this is one area that Murang'a County has a very big problem in. For example ECDE and polytechnics were only given Kshs.40 million when education interventions have been given Kshs.59 million. These are some of the areas that we need to correct because without ECDE's we cannot have a good foundation for our children at the primary school level.

We have a problem with the youth and if we cannot uplift the youth polytechnics wherever they are then we have no business being leaders. As one of the previous speakers has said over 60% of the population in this country and county is youth, and we need to think of programs that are supportive of young people that mean education, like village polytechnics, sports development and talents development etcetera. It is necessary that when the sectoral committees sit down in respective committees they come up with a realistic budget. We have the law to follow and we must not break it.

When I look at number 23 of areas that need money like Kshs.600 million for water and irrigation that is quite in order, but I am not happy with Kshs.357 million for grading and gravelling of roads. I think that figure should be increased by 100 %.

The area of energy which has been given Kshs.500 million, construction of mini-hydro power I think is also supposed to be a revenue generating project and I do not think this one is going to work in the first year, Kshs.59 million for education interventions. While I do support education interventions and as a member of that committee I think that figure is too high and should be brought down.

On issue of boarding schools, they are completely unnecessary as far as I am concerned. I can give you an example of a school called Gatura primary which has a very small population and it is in tea growing area where people have more money than the coffee growing areas. I think this is a program that should come much later.

Kshs.40 million for model schools for vulnerable people that one we should also be more careful and also funeral support. The issue of the elderly, the vulnerable, we need to come up with exactly what we mean because there are four items. Kshs.10 million, Kshs.20

million, Kshs.40 million and Kshs.10 million amounting to about Kshs.80 million not that I do not support but we need to come up with exactly what we mean by that.

Our pet project is the ward development fund, when I look at that particular budget which was presented to us by the executive, it did not have the Ward Development Fund. Ward development fund is an Act as we are talking of it is therefore a law, we are not supposed to go against the law because we as the people in this Assembly are the ones who passed that law. There was a reason why we went for Ward Development Fund; because we wanted equitable distribution of the resources in the county we do not want skewed distribution of resources.

I have always said that the Governor and his people should concentrate on the cross cutting projects like processing factories and veterinary services etcetera, that cuts across all the wards but when it comes to specific projects at ward level, I think that should be the work of Ward Development Committees at that particular ward. I think it is already given in this paper that is water and irrigation, gravelling of roads, market development, urban development, infrastructural development for health, alcohol rehabilitation centres and milk coolants.

Ward Development Fund is very important because it is going to touch on the very person who made this Constitution be made the way it is and that is Wanjiku on the ground, because we are going to build bridges, lay pipes and gravel roads, these are the issues that are very pertinent and Wanjiku is very concerned. So it is good that we put the Ward Development Fund in the budget that we are going to make and I will urge the budget committee not to go below 17.5 % that is the only recommendation.

Even if it comes to Kshs.30 million per ward I think we will be happy because we do not want to commit political suicide and we want our people on the ground to be happy. Mr. Speaker I rest my case.

The Speaker: Muhoro.

Hon. David Muhoro: Thank you very much Mr. Speaker sir, I represent the people of Kariara. I rise to support the motion and also thank the committee of Budget and Appropriations.

We are now entering the third financial year and if you go on the ground, there is nothing that can be felt by our people because all the budgets we have passed in this House have been targeted to address the interests of an individual. I am grateful that, this time round, the committee of Budget and Appropriations has taken time to scrutinise what is in this budget.

If you go through the budget which was submitted by the County Executive Committee Member (CEC), you will wonder whether we are assuming all the responsibilities in this world to be mandates of the County Government.

Mr. Speaker sir, Kshs.100 million has been allocated to a school milk program yet you cannot even access that school because there are no roads. That milk will go to waste since it will not get to the school. Kshs 35 million has been allocated to funerals, which is a social responsibility, it should never appear in a government budget, a social responsibility should be left to the society. This is the right time to ensure that the budget focuses to benefit the people of Murang'a. The budget should not focus to a few people.

Mr. Speaker sir, if we go back to the past budgets, we will realise that we have not been having equity. Some wards are benefiting more than others. Some wards have been

given more than Kshs. 100 million whereas others have not even spent Kshs.10 million , that is why we are insisting that we support the committee of Budget and Appropriations that if there is 17.5% for the Ward Development Fund, this County will never be the same again.

We are also politicians and we had given our people some promises which must be included in this budget. That is the reason why we have the CIDP, it was however ignored in totality. I therefore thank the committee. We shall give them our support and should it reach to the worst, we can even call for the dissolution of this County

(Applause)

So that we start afresh and begin to follow the law. Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Wandia

Hon. Samuel Wandia: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I represent Muthithi ward. Somebody somewhere is failing to know that this Assembly is coming of age. We passed the last two budgets without considering the wards as we are doing today. It is quite saddening to note that the government that we have is now headed to the third year; yet they are not following the law while preparing the budget. They should note that the Assembly has known that the law is not followed and we are going to hammer, we will restrain from passing the budget until the laws are followed.

Mr. Speaker sir, the report also notes that they failed to adhere to the Fiscal laws in the budget process, this House is aware that this was not done. They did not even follow the CIDP. I do not even know whether we as an Assembly are relevant in this County. We pass so many motions, including money motions, and other laws, yet if you look at this budget, it did not address any of the motions that we have passed in this Assembly.

(Applause)

We shall be seen to exist if at all such laws are followed. If only the budget was based on the motions and laws that we pass, we would be seen to exist. I am currently sorry that my colleagues and I do not exist anywhere.

Mr. Speaker sir, I also note that a lot of emphasis was not given to the polytechnics. What am I saying? In our development plan for the year 2030, we are talking of Kenya being very far. However, if Murang'a County is not giving any emphasis on the development of our labour force in our polytechnics, we will not get anywhere.

We should empower our polytechnics so that by the time we get to the year 2030, we shall have the right manpower to manage our intended factories and institutions. This House has also noted that the budget that was presented here was not program- based. We received such a budget last year. It is the high time that we emphasise that it should be program- based to see to it that what is expected in my ward is accomplished. Lastly, I urge that we transfer all those staff who worked on this memorandum to our Budget office so that they can assist this Assembly in coming up with such beautiful memorandums like the one we have before us.

(Applause)

Thank you very much Mr. Speaker sir.

The Speaker: Erick.

Hon. Erick Kimani: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I represent Kahumbu ward. If the Hansard can prove me right, I always say that it is always good to have the priorities right. I

recall that some months after I was elected to this Assembly, I presented very crucial project proposals for the CIDP program that was being conducted by a certain body from the Executive. I presented the crucial projects to help my people in Kahumbu ward to enable me seek for re-election in the year 2017, I cannot forget that. I therefore also support this report.

Mr. Speaker sir, some of the proposals which have been put in this budget like milk program and others mentioned by the members, all those figures should be consolidated and put on the side of development. For example, one of the members has said that some projects like water, roads and even health, need to be given a good amount of money so that they can be implemented to assist our people in Murang'a, some of the proposals will not help our people at all.

Some years back, Murang'a District used to be the richest in the whole country. We used even to lend others, including the government, some monies. However, if we continue with the trend as proposed by the Executive, we shall be far much behind after the five term evaluation and we shall never have time in future to catch up with the other counties. Therefore, we should have an itemized budget and also have priorities put right so that we may have our County developed. Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker: Thank you. Kago?

Hon. Kago Njoroge: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I represent Mugoiri ward. I hereby support the memorandum. I am personally not worried about how the money is being allocated for these projects; I am more worried that we do not have policies for all the money allocated to these projects/programs.

Maybe the Kshs.100 million allocated for the school milk program was meant for our students in nursery schools for them to grow well. However, we are fighting simply because we do not have a policy in place. When we are having Kshs.35 million for the burials, cemeteries and the rest, maybe we are meant to be helping the helpless people or those who have accidents and do not have relatives.

Mr. Speaker sir, I strongly believe that if they had prepared very good policies and brought them to this Assembly, we could be in a position to stand with them. The other concern I have is that of performing programs meant for the National Government. It is very painful that we are saying that nothing has been done in our wards. If for example I am being told that 17.0% out of the Kshs.600 million meant for irrigation and domestic water will come to Mugoiri ward, I will have no problem with that. I will have no problem if I am given my portion out of the Kshs. 357.5 million meant for gravelling. Unfortunately, they just have a block budget. That way, they will benefit somebody somewhere rather than helping my ward.

Therefore, as I support this, I will also call for them that, even when bringing a program based budget, to also formulate policies which will be guiding them on how to use this money so that the Implementation committee will be in a position to follow exactly what will be done from the budget which will pass very soon. I support the memorandum. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: I ask the mover to respond.

Hon. Peter Mweri: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. First and foremost, I would like to thank the Hon. members, and appreciate their contributions. This motion is very involving and it is good that I have noted that the members have a lot of concern on this

memorandum. I have also noted with a lot of concern that we need to concentrate more or almost 100% on devolved functions, they have cited things a sector such as education. We all must agree that education is very important. As the members have said, we should put a lot of emphasis on ECDE's and polytechnics so that we can also empower our youth.

Mr. Speaker sir, we have noted that we have had dialogue on the budget which did not bear fruit. It is very clear that we must not work on most of those programs that have been highlighted in the budget without policies. We must wait for the Executive to develop policies. Hon. Kago has said that he does not have a problem with some of these programs if they have policies. We must not go against the law. We had given the Executive a lot of time, we told them long time ago that this year will be different from the last two years and that we must follow the law to the end.

Mr. Speaker sir, as Hon. Kagoni said, it is very clear on the documents that must be followed in every budget making process. We must adhere to documents such as the CIDP, the PFM Act, the County Fiscal Strategy Paper and the rest. I have also noted with concern that the members are also impressed with some programs like those on water, rehabilitation and coffee. When this budget is being worked on by the relevant sectoral committees, they should consider those programs. It is also clear that the budget that was forwarded is not itemized, they have no choice and we have no choice on that one. When the budget goes to the committees, they must ensure that whatever programs the members recommended have supporting documents. The program should be itemised, we should not only blame the Executive, even at the sectoral level, we must ensure that the programs are itemised.

Mr. Speaker sir, we have also noticed that we must put our priorities right, this is the right time. We better be late but we make a budget that will be beneficial to our people. It is very sad to see that most of the programs that have been captured in the budget are interventions. You will see something called 'support', and something called 'intervention', such programs are usually not clear. It is very easy to misuse public money in such projects. Therefore, these supportive projects must have policies before we agree to put them in the budget.

It also very important for the Hon. members to note that when this budget will be under the sectoral committees, they must also remember that there was a time we had requested for a list of the stalled projects in our wards. It is also good to ensure that most of these projects are taken care of. Some of them were started through the Constituency Development Fund (CDF), others by the former County Municipal Council and so on. Those projects must therefore be considered.

Otherwise, I take this opportunity to, once again, thank the members and tell them that we must work very hard and we must work together as a team so that at the end of the day, we have a proper and reliable budget for Murang'a County.

It is also good to note that we do not have a lot of time, time is against us. As a committee, we have come up with timelines because we want to have passed our budget, at least, by the 23rd June 2015. Those timelines have been given to the sectoral committees and the chairpersons have already been given copies. We must work towards those timelines for us not to be caught off-guard. Thank you very much members for supporting this memorandum.

(Question put and agreed to)
(Applause)

Next Order

BILLS

MURANG'A COUNTY TRADE LICENSING BILL, 2015- FIRST READING

(The Bill was read for the First Time)
(Referred to the relevant sectoral committee)

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker: That being the case, the House is now adjourned until tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. Thank you.

The House rose at 3:50 p.m.