

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY**  
**THE HANSARD**

Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

The House met at 2:35 p.m.

*[Temporary Speaker (Hon. Lucy Ngugi) in the Chair]*

PRAYERS

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR**

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Lucy Ngugi):** I wish to recognize the presence of students from Michuki institute and their lectures who have visited the Assembly this afternoon, you are most welcome

**STATEMENT**

TENTATIVE BUSINESS THAT WILL COME BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY FROM  
 THE WEEK COMMENCING TUESDAY MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup> TO THURSDAY MARCH 30,  
 2018

**Hon. Elizabeth Mwangi:** Madam Speaker, I beg to issue the following statement on tentative business that will come before the Assembly, pursuant to Standing Order 46 (2) (a), it is notified that the House Business committee at their last meeting approved the following tentative business that will come before the Assembly from the week commencing Tuesday March 28, to Thursday, March 30, 2018

Tuesday, March 27, 2018, morning sitting: notice of motion, enhancement of parking in major towns. I may not go through the content but allow me to read the notice.

Notice number two, feeding programme in ECDE centres. Three: notice of motion; rehabilitation of roads in quarries.

Tuesday March 27, 2018, afternoon sitting: statements, schedule for request of statements; statement number one schedule for installation of cabro in Kiria-ini market. Two, motions on enhancement of parking fees in major towns.

On Wednesday March 28, 2018, morning sitting: we will have motion on feeding programme in ECDE centres.

Thursday, March 29, morning sitting, we will have statement on tentative business of the Assembly from the week commencing Tuesday, April 3 to Thursday April 5, 2018. Motion on rehabilitation of roads in quarries. I think that is what we will have for that March 27 to March 29. I wish to thank you Madam Speaker for allowing me to table that.

**MOTION**

DEBATE ON GOVERNOR'S SPEECH, RESUMPTION OF DEBATE INTERRUPTED  
 ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 21, 2018, AFTERNOON SITTING.

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Lucy Ngugi):** Hon. Members, I wish to notify you that this afternoon, as per the Order Paper, we will resume debate on the Governor's address delivered on Tuesday September 21, 2017.

The motion had been moved by the Leader of Majority on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 and question proposed that the thanks of the House be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in the address of the Governor delivered on Thursday, September 21, 2017, the Floor is open to the members' contributions.

**Hon. Ruth Wambui:** I wish to react on the address of the Governor.

First is to appreciate in how he is recognizing the youth, especially when it comes to the issue about rehabilitation centres. This is an issue that has been on the ground and our youth are really getting the wrong way, I wish this thing can be done hastily so that by the end of the day our youth will come to the right way.

About the polytechnics, it is another issue that he has really emphasized on. It is my wish if these polytechnics can be totally facilitated so that at the end of the day when our youth go to these colleges, by the end of the day they will get the skills and when they come out, it will be of benefit to them.

Madam Speaker, the other issue on polytechnics, our Governor has done a very commendable thing. I wish this can get implemented and felt on the ground, whereby when our youth go to the polytechnics, they mostly end up being the same people who get involved in alcohol and other drugs because of lack of capital to start businesses, I wish this is something that will be actualized so that by the end of the day, our youth will be able to start their own businesses.

On the issues about licenses, I wish it will be done so that by the end of the day when they start businesses, it will not be that the money they are getting is the same money that they will use to do their licenses; I feel there are issues that will be of help to our farmers.

I have seen a lot on agriculture and there is a point where our Governor has stated that tea is a major crop that has given a lot of revenue to our County, but I found that the farmers also need to be empowered just like our coffee farmers, whereby we are finding our coffee farmers are given manure and coffee. It is my request to our Governor that at least he can also subsidize the fertilizer for farmers. It is one of the challenges affecting the tea farmers. You see by the end of the day the deductions for the fertilizer is high, so we need to do something about them, the other issue is about manure, these farmers also need to be given manure, for the agriculture committee will bear with me, tea is one of the crops that needs a lot of manure but due to the small land sizes we have, our farmers cannot be able to keep cattle where they will be keeping this manure, it is a request to the governor to on whether he can do that.

Our Governor has addressed on Kakuzi land and it seems like he will do some industrial park and I would request from here, we can establish a cottage where we will have a special tea and value addition for farmers because we have heard, most of the factories where they are located, they cannot be able to expand their factories and if a piece of land can be set aside for these factories, one we will be able to handle manufacturing and through manufacturing we will give opportunities to our youth who are not employed. They will have space whereby they will be able to work, the same youth who are going through these polytechnics will be there when constructions are being done and we will have carpenters from there and masons who are able to build the houses and by the end of the day we will be empowering our people, thank you madam speaker.

**Hon. Alex Ndunda:** Let me first appreciate what the Governor has for this County, I must say it is a basketful of goodies. I would like to talk on two issues: one agriculture, there are these parts of lower Murang'a where there are no cash crops and there is a proposal by the Governor that they can partner with East African Breweries to introduce white sorghum.

I think it will be good for these people because there is no cash crop at all. Sometimes back these people used to do tobacco farming but after farming for about two to three years, the company which was doing this farming relocated to Uganda and those farmers were left without any activity to give them cash. It is therefore a good idea to introduce this sorghum.

Madam Speaker, let me also talk about this macadamia, I understand that this company by the name Kakuzi has partnered with our farmers in the upper part of Murang'a to grow avocados. It will good for those in the lower side to have their own cash crop like

macadamia whereby we can also partner with Kakuzi who are doing it near our farms. I also applaud the Governor because he is coming up with programs and visions to enable our farmers get some cash.

Madam Speaker, I must also appreciate that the Governor is doing something on the Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE). However, there is a problem because the number of kids is increasing because of the free lunch. You will find a class of 100 with one teacher. Therefore, there is need for extra teachers in these ECDEs to enable them run efficiently. The other thing about these ECDE centres is that there are some in the lower side of Murang'a which are not functional. The facility is there but not functioning. It is also good that these facilities start being utilized because they were constructed with tax payers' money.

Madam Speaker, the last issue is about trade and I must appreciate that our Governor is concerned about our traders and it is by this that he has decided to lower the licence fee by 50%. This is a good idea to our people because we are going to net many traders. There are those traders who have not been paying these licences because they are on the higher side. Although by reducing this by 50% might affect our revenue collection, I think that we are going to net many at the end of day and we are going to have adequate or sufficient revenue. It is therefore a good idea by our Governor.

Madam Speaker, let me talk about this issue of squatters as the last thing. There are people who are squatters in this County and they need to be assisted to get their title deeds. These people are Kenyans and they deserve to have title deeds because by having the title deeds, they can also use them to get some money from the bank. It will therefore be important for our Governor to understand that these people need to be assisted to get title deeds as soon as possible. Thank you Madam Speaker.

**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Lucy Nguni):** Hon. Waweru.

**Hon. Waweru Mwangi:** Madam Speaker, I am the Member of County Assembly (MCA) for Ithanga Ward. I have gone through the Governor's speech and I have made observations which I want to bring to the attention of this House. I do not want to repeat myself because the Member who was here comes from my Ward but I must emphasise that the Governor's speech captured the issue of white sorghum and sunflower. Since some of the Hon. Members might not have travelled downwards, I want to bring to your attention that this is an area where there is no cash crop. The only cash crops in that area are only mangoes and oranges.

Unfortunately, one time we were promised that the government will do a factory for the mangoes and oranges but it was not captured in this speech. I hope that what the Governor captured on the part of agriculture about the white sorghum and sunflower will be done. The other issue I would want to congratulate the Governor on is the construction of Level Four Hospital. The distance from where I stand now to Ithanga Ward is close to 90 kilometres and the nearest hospital is Maragua and Thika Hospital. You all know that Thika is in Kiambu and therefore, our nearest hospital is Maragua.

Madam Speaker, the roads down there are so bad. We have casualties when we are moving our patients from Ithanga Health centre and Ngiria Health Centre to Maragua Level Four Hospital. I therefore congratulate the Governor his notion of constructing a Level Four Hospital in Ithanga Ward. That will save our people very much. If it is not in the budget and I did not see it in the budget, I request the Minister in charge of that docket and who also comes from that place to bring a Supplementary Budget to this House when the time comes so that the construction of that hospital can take off and the people of Ithanga enjoy the fruits of being in Murang'a and being tax payers.

On the issue of polytechnics, we only have two polytechnics in the whole Ward and the stretch between is about 16 kilometres. At the furthest point of Ithanga, we border

Machakos and Yatta *pande ya chini* (lower side) and we also border Makuyu here. You can imagine that those two polytechnics already there cannot be able to serve the youth of that area. Remember, were it not for the President who brought the free education, most of those children were not going to school because of lack of school fees. When you have no cash crops, it means that most of them will not go to school.

Madam Speaker, the Governor has assured us that, where there are no polytechnics, we only need to pop up his office and he will hire premises so that we can start those polytechnics. I am expecting to pop up the Governor's office next week so that he can hire three or four premises so that my people can also benefit from this noble idea of his.

Madam Speaker, the Governor's speech also covered the issue of formation of a co-operative society. I am actually told that the name is registered by the name Dry Land Sacco. I would wish and request the Minister in charge to do a vigorous recruitment to ensure that Members from that Dry Land are able to join this Sacco and benefit from it. I have personally worked for Saccos for quite a long time and I know that you cannot achieve much development without borrowing and repaying wisely because the borrowing from commercial banks is on the higher side compared to savings and credits co-operative societies.

I also noted that the Governor would want to do one irrigation project in every Ward. In Ithanga where I come from, there are no rivers and those which are there are seasonal. They have all dried up because of the destruction done to the environment. This afternoon, I had a meeting with the Minister in charge of Environment and he has assured us that he is going to do everything possible to restore the forest cover in all those areas. I really appreciate because if this irrigation scheme is going to be done, Ithanga is going to be one of the beneficiaries of that scheme. This will improve the economic wellbeing of my people in Ithanga.

The issue of squatters in Ithanga is a very serious problem. There are those Hon. Members who have been to Ithanga such as Hon. Nyoko who I once found trading down those sides. We have two villages, one called Kasarani and the other one Kiseekitu, and those people there have no titles. They are living there by the mercy of God. They cannot borrow using those lands where they are living because they have no titles. I hope that the speech of the Governor is going to cater for this and I am sure that my people will feel comfortable and they will feel catered for like anybody else who comes from the other side.

The Governor also mentioned about taking care of the old people and those who have permanent diseases call them blood pressure, diabetes and so many others. He directed and I heard him say that the minister in charge of Health will cater for those people who have those permanent diseases, we give them free drugs and pay for their National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF). Again if this is done my people will stand to be helped because as I said, the income or per capital in that area it is 0.0019. That is because of the problem that exists in terms of income.

On the issue of ECDE, I do not think whether there is another ward in Murang'a where a teacher is handling 150 children. If you want to see it practically just drive all the way to Ithanga, a school called Ruthiru, a school Kiseekitu, Kasarani have that kind of population. I am requesting the office of the Governor to do everything possible to equip these schools so that our children are taken care of and also expend the facility so that these schools can be split into two or three so that these pupils can get quality education.

In the whole of Murang'a County, remember when we were at Makuyu during the Education day celebrations, there were so many gifts, none of them, they were all given, I saw them, they came in a lorry, none of them went to Ithanga. They never went to Ithanga because my schools do the poorest in the whole County, why? They are doing poorly

because, how do you expect *mwalimu* (teacher) to handle 120 children and expect you those children to perform? The teacher cannot really concentrate on a child. Such that, by the time that child is leaving nursery school or is in standard two and three he does not even know how to write ABCD. And that's why they are doing poorly; remember a bad start a bad end. So I would request that this matter that the Governor has come up with be given a priority so that the people of my ward can benefit. They are crying for help, I hope the Office the Governor will do or the Minister in charge of all those areas I have mentioned can be able to assist those people. And when it happens the heavenly father will bless the Governor of Murang'a and the Assembly of Murang'a and the Honourable members.

**Temporary Speaker( Hon. Lucy Ngugi):** A point that you need to note, Honourable members, , this debate continues from the last session and we had a few people that contributed, you may wish to give other Honourable members time to also contribute as clarified in Standing Order 92. Honourable member for Mbiri.

**Hon. Duncan Muturi:** First and foremost I want congratulate the Governor for his long speech. Touching on agriculture and he has touched on milk processing plant which was supposed to have started within two months from the date of the speech and up to now the processing plant has not kicked off. May be we have or the County Government is having challenges financially but it is for the better of the Murangá County people to benefit from that milk processing plant.

About the polytechnics, the Governor has very good ideas about the polytechnics but there are very many problems with the polytechnics and the system, I do not know why. We have one Kambirwa Youth Polytechnic, those people they do not even have a toilet, the students and the lecturers are sharing the same facility. We still wait and see and we hope for the best. We have another one at Maragi, it has not started. The Governor is telling us about renting houses or buildings. That one is an existing building and yet it has not started. We are hoping these things are going to be implemented.

Then we have another issue about the rehabilitation, it is good, the rehabilitation from Ihura Stadium was transferred to Kambirwa and the land which accommodates the rehabilitation was supposed to be an agricultural land or it was supposed to be used for agricultural purposes and myself I do not find it fit. Because I do not know how it is going, the rehabilitation, I do know how it is going to benefit the Mbiri ward people comparing it with the agricultural institution. And it is very good if we were able to control the alcohol consumption in our County.

We might even go the Kiambu way. We have seen how the Governor of Kiambu is working and I believe it is the good will of our Governor, we have heard that he has recalled or revoked all the licenses but still to my surprise, I do not know whether it is still the same case with other Honourable members, the bars are still running. We are still finding people drunk as early as 9 in the morning. Some of them are still removing the 'doors 'or the 'locks'. I don't know how these things are operating.

The other issue is about the, that issue of licensing, I think it is good for us now to do the walking and we drop the talking because a lot of lives have been spoilt for our young people.

Then in the address of the Governor he has not emphasized so much on the roads which I think that is a very big problem for every Member of this County Assembly. The 'Wanjikus' outside there they think that, we have been receiving very many calls. Some of us are even avoiding going some parts of *mashinani* (village) because if you go there, you are going to call people to push your vehicle and it is very humiliating because you are the Member of that County Assembly (MCA), you are the MCA.

These people are coming to you and telling you about the roads and here you are who do you go to? And you are the Member of that County Assembly. You are supposed to be representing those people.

Madam Speaker, it is in order if we still or we take serious concern about the roads in our County. I think this one is not necessarily in Mbiri ward but in Mbiri ward, I do not think there is any ward that has a lot of quarries than Mbiri ward. I think it is good or it is in order if the areas where this quarries are found, we are given a priority because we are generating a very big income revenue from Mbiri ward and it is good if the 'Wanjikus' there they will get a share of it. Thank you madam Speaker

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Lucy Ngugi):** Honourable Stephen Chege

**Hon. Stephen Chege:** Thank you madam Speaker. First is to congratulate the Governor's speech and I want to go straight to the points which are relevant to the young people whom I represent.

Number one is 'Ufundi kwa Vijana' I am of this, Madam Speaker you are aware of this program. So far more than 10000 youth have benefited from this program and the Governor is intending in three months they will be training more than 30000 youth. That is a very noble idea to our County.

Number two, on the rehabilitation of our youths who were affected by the alcohol, the alcoholics and I am aware, I am one of those brainchild who worked at the Ihura rehabilitation camp. I volunteered there like two years ago. We managed to save lives of more than a 1000 youth in this County. The Governor is intending to extend this to Mbiri ward as my colleague has said.

Initially the facility that is being used to rehabilitate our youth, it is true it belong to the agricultural sector but it is good we give priority to the lives of our young people who are going to be rehabilitated there because we must agree that our youth have been affected by alcohol and we need to address that issue and to address it, as a young person I support that we need that facility.

We need to rehabilitate our young people at Kambirwa so *mheshimiwa* (honourable) Kambirwa, Mbiri ward bear with us. When we are done, the facility will go back to agriculture but for the sake of saving the lives our young people it is good we go the Governor's way. Thank you madam Speaker.

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Lucy Ngugi):** Honourable for Ichagaki ward.

**Hon. Charles Mwangi:** I thank you Madam Speaker, first I want to put straight to my Hon. Member for Mbiri who said about the creameries which is supposed to be at Maragua. I would like the Hon. Member to understand that this is a process and process takes many days does not take a day. I want to also tell him what is causing all these delay is political instability then there was also another natural calamity that is drought that has make the creameries not to be in operation.

Madam Speaker, I can see good approaches towards agriculture, following the intervention by our Cabinet Secretary (CS) Hon. Balala when he visited yesterday in fact he himself said that we will be having an office to deal with monkeys which is bringing a lot of problems to the farmers and I am hoping that within the establishment of the office the agriculture will be boosted very highly by the way the government has said about it.

I am also talking about the roads; the blessings come with merits and demerits. Right at the moment we have very heavy rains it is the one which is causing the problems on the roads. Not only in our own County but even along the Narok road there is such a thing that is happening. So I would like the members to bear with the situation because this is a blessing which comes with merit and demerits.

On the issue of water, the Governor's wish, my wish and wish of the national government is for each and every person to have clean drinking water. Right at the moment the County itself, since the water has already been devolved, the Governor is trying to ensure that each and every ward will be having water to each and every homestead.

Madam Speaker, I believe that whatever the Governor has said in his address if we approach it in the right manner I can see all the MCA's coming back in 2022. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Lucy Ngugi):** Thank you honourable member. Honourable Jane and before we go to Jane, we may not want to really repeat ourselves so that we save time for the next Motion. Thank you.

**Hon. Jane Wanjiru:** Thank you Madam Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Governor for his address on many issues that he has touched. To avoid repeating what my colleagues have said, my contribution is based on the big four agendas on national government specifically health.

In Governor's address, he touched on Murang'a and Maragua being level four hospitals which he stated that he will continue funding them. I wish to bring to the attention of this honourable House that Murang'a is already a level five hospital and in its place so as to have many level four hospitals, I wish that the same can be done in other sub-counties which do not have a level four hospital to cater for health issues.

And I was of a proposal that in Kigumo sub-county where I come from, being nominated you represent interests from every region in this County, but I am very conversant with Kigumo issues. In Kigumo we have a hospital which is a level three hospital which can be upgraded to level four hospital now that we have Murang'a which has become a referral hospital. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Charles Kahoro:** I thank you Madam Speaker, I appreciate the speech from Hon. Governor especially the big four but I would like also to highlight on the issues of agriculture where I stand as the committee chairman.

Madam Speaker you find that the Governor has emphasized on agriculture and as you can see from his speech you will find that his focus is on earnings from the farmers and also to upgrade those farmers who has been drawing back especially coffee farmers whom you can tell from 1970 what they were earning and their earnings at this time. The program called Kahawa Bora. The Governor is emphasizing on I find it taking our household level of income a bit high and I believe that we will be solving a lot in the poverty index.

Madam Speaker there is also the issue of water, the Governor talked of clean water for Murang'a people. But also when the Governor is talking about clean water for residents of Murang'a, I stand here as an MCA from the water source and from the companies which are running management of water in this County, my people are crying that there is no water despite water being harvested from our area.

Madam Speaker, I was proposing that the many companies managing the water in Murang'a should be looked at whether they have positive impact to the people they are serving that means if they are profitable or they are not profitable. It is good to disband them and may be remain with one or two so they become profitable and be able to serve Murang'a people diligently.

So Madam Speaker, I am supporting the Governor's Speech and I hope that the much he has given to the County will be achieved if people and more so the Assembly join hands with the Governor. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Dinah Muthoni:** I thank you Madam Speaker, my concern is about health and I want to appreciate the Governor's speech. One, we would like all the health centres to be fully equipped. Madam Speaker it was my concern, although we are talking about health, I

am also concerned about terminal illness ... (*inaudible*)... .... we as women if we are detected with cancer at first or second stage it will be manageable.

If you want to be healthy we need to have mobile clinics because the only clinics we know is called Tunza clinic where few people get screened because they charge. But if we introduce mobile clinics I would propose that we have it for free.

I would like to urge all Hon. Members that we take an initiative of educating our youth who are in their reproductive age at 14 to 16 years who is still a child and you can imagine a child getting a child. So I think we can take initiative to train them either to abstain or to protect themselves.

NHIF cards were also my concern. It could be wise not to register the elderly because each and every above 18 years need to have an NHIF card. I thought it was wise, we Hon. Members, we identify places, markets either shops, so that we can have a mobile to register our people with NHIF cards. For doing that we will be happy and we will reduce these pending bills to pay for our people. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Lucy Ngugi):** Thank you honourable members we may repeat ourselves as we are going over and over almost the same messages. I would wish to thank everyone for your contribution on Governor's address so that we can move on to the next order on business of the day.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business the House stands adjourned until Tuesday March 27, 2018 at 9:30 in the morning.

*The House rose at 3:32p.m.*