

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

TUESDAY, 23RD JULY, 2024

Afternoon Sitting

Third County Assembly

Third Session

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COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

THE HANSARD- OFFICIAL REPORT

TUESDAY, 23RD JULY, 2024

The House met at the County Assembly Chamber at 2:30 p.m.

(Mr. Speaker [Hon. Emmanuel Situma] in the Chair)

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

1. VISITING PUPILS FROM ICFEM GREENLAND EDUCATION CENTRE

Members, in our public gallery we do have pupils and teachers; 80 in total from ICFeM Greenland Education Centre who have come to learn about the working of the County Assembly in comparison to the National Assembly. The students and the pupils are in Grade four, Grade five and Grade six. Let the pupils be upstanding.

(Pupils rise)

Kindly be seated.

For the teachers, once I call out your name you will be required to stand up.

Mr. Dan Barasa,

Ms. Esther Khaemba,

Mr. Brian Wekesa,

Mr. Patrick Mabele; and

Pansi Makokha.

Kindly be seated.

(The teachers resume their seats)

Honourable Members, at the appropriate time on our Order Paper, I will spare some time so that you make some brief remarks before we proceed.

PAPERS

1. REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE ON LABOUR RELATIONS, MEMBERS' SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Anthony Lusenaka for the Committee; proceed.

(Paper Laid by Hon. Anthony Lusenaka)

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, the report by the Sector Committee on Labour Relations, Members' Services and Facilities on the half-year financial statements for financial year 2023/2024; for period ending 31st December is hereby tabled and it becomes the property of the House.

2. REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON HEALTH SERVICES

Mr. Speaker: Hon. George Makari; Chair, Health Committee. Proceed.

(Paper laid by Hon. George Makari)

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members the report by the Sector Committee on Health Services on the half-year financial statements for the period ending 31st December, 2023 in respect to the Department of Health and Sanitation is hereby tabled by the Committee. The same becomes the property of the House.

NOTICES OF MOTION

1. REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON LABOUR RELATIONS, MEMBERS' SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Lusenaka you can proceed and issue notice accordingly.

Hon. Anthony Lusenaka: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I rise to issue a Notice of Motion that this House adopts the report by the Sectoral Committee on Labour Relations, Members' Services and Facilities on the half-year financial statements for financial year 2023/2024 for the period ended 31st December, 2023.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, a Notice of Motion has been duly issued by the Sector Committee on Labour Relations and Members' Services and Facilities on its report of the half-year financial statements for the year 2023/24 period ending 31st December, 2023. I urge the Clerks- at- the- Table to share this report with the MCAs. The same will come up as a motion on our Order Paper in the course of the week or once scheduled by the HBC.

2. REPORT BY THE SECTORIAL COMMITTEE ON HEALTH SERVICES

Mr. Speaker: Proceed, Hon. Makari.

Hon. George Makari: Thank you Hon. Speaker. Once again I rise to give a Notice of Motion that this House adopts the report by the Sectoral Committee on Health Services on the half-year financial statements for the period ended 1st December, 2023 in respect to the Department of Health and Sanitation.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, the Committee on Health Services has duly issued a notice on its report of the half-year financial statement for the period ending 31st December, 2023. I urge the Clerks- at- the- Table to share this report with the MCAs on their gadgets. The same will come up as a motion on our Order Paper in the course of the week or once scheduled by the HBC.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

1. STATEMENT PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO. 47 (2) (a)

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, our Deputy Speaker will share the tentative weekly programme. Honourable Stephen Wamalwa you may proceed.

Hon. Stephen Wamalwa: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I present the House tentative weekly programme of the Business of the County Assembly for the week commencing Tuesday, 23rd to Thursday, 25th July, 2024.

On Tuesday 23rd July, 2024 at 2:30 p.m

Papers

- i. Report by the Sector Committee on Labour Relations, Members' Services and Facilities on the half-year financial statements financial year 2023/2024 for the period ended 31st December, 2023.
- ii. Report by the Sector Committee on Health Services on half-year financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2023; in respect to the Department of Health and Sanitation.

Notices of Motion

- i. That this House adopts the report by the Sector Committee on Labour Relations, Members' Services and Facilities on half-year financial statements financial year 2023/2024 for the period ended 31st December, 2023.
- ii. That this House adopts the report by the Sector Committee on Health Services on the half-year financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2023 in respect in the Department of Health and Sanitation.

Questions and Statements

1. That this House is notified under Standing Order No. 47 (2) (a) of the tentative weekly programme

Motion

1. Report by the Public Investment and Accounts Committee on the report of the Auditor-General on Bungoma County Assembly Honourable Members' Car and Mortgage Scheme Fund for the year ended 30th June, 2021, Bungoma County Assembly Staff Car Loan and Mortgage Scheme Fund for the year ended 30th June, 2022, and the financial statement on Bungoma County Assembly for the year ended 30th June, 2022.

On Wednesday 24th July, 2024 at 9:30 a.m

Papers

- i. Report by Sector Committee on Tourism, Environment, Water and Natural Resources on the operation of the County rig
- ii. Report by the Sector Committee on Labour Relations, Member Services' and Facilities on County Assembly Service Board for the period January to December, 2023

Notices of motion

- i. That this House adopts the report by the Sector Committee on Tourism, Environment, Water and Natural Resources on the operation of the County rig
- ii. That this House adopts the report by the Sector Committee on Labour Relations, Member Services and Facilities on County Assembly Service Board for the period January to December, 2023

Motions

Report by the Sector Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on Receiver of Revenue, quarter report and financial statements for the period ended December 31st, 2023.

On Wednesday 24th July, 2024, 2:30 p.m

Papers

- i. Report by the Sector Committee, Education and Vocational Training on the need for establishment of Home craft Centres in Bungoma County
- ii. Report by Committee on Delegated Account Legislation on the status of four Acts passed by the County Assembly of Bungoma; that is, Bungoma County Flag, Emblem and Names Protection Act, 2015, Property Hire and Leasing Act, 2017, Agriculture Produces Act, 2017 and Transport Act, 2015.

Notices of motion

- i. That this House adopts the report by the Sector Committee on Education and Vocational Training on the need for establishment of Home craft Centres in Bungoma County.
- ii. That this House adopts the report by Committee on Delegated Account Legislation on the status of the four Acts passed by the County Assembly of Bungoma; that is, the Bungoma County Flag, Emblem and Names Protection Act, 2015, Property Hire and Leasing Act, 2017, Agriculture Produces Act, 2017 and Transport Act, 2015.

Statement and Questions

The House shall be notified pursuant to Standing Order No. 55 that the following County Executive Committee Members will respond on statements on Wednesday 24th July, 2024;

- i. The County Executive Committee member for Tourism, Water, Environment and Natural Resources to a statement sought by the Honourable Member for Tongaren Ward, Hon. Johnston Ipara.

The questions are eight questions and I can read them. The CECM to respond to the following questions; I don't know if I should go through them...

Mr. Speaker: Leave them out because you will be the one moving them on the appropriate day.

Hon. Stephen Wamalwa: Very well and a question to the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning by the Member for Tongaren Ward the Hon. Johnston Ipara in relation to low revenue collection in the County. The CECM to respond to the nine questions as listed.

Motion

1. Report by the Committee on Powers and Privileges on the 2023 Bi- annual Declaration of Wealth by the Honourable Members

On Thursday, 25th July, 2024 at 2:30 P.M

Questions and Statements

We have a statement and questions notifying the House that pursuant to Standing Order No. 55, the County Executive Committee Member for Education and Vocational Training will respond to the question by Member of County Assembly representing Tongaren, Hon. Johnston Ipara in relation to the lack of financial support for the Vocational Training Centres. The CECM to respond to the three questions as listed.

Motion

Report by the Sector Committee on Tourism, Environment, Water and Natural Resources on the Bungoma County Annual Performance Assessment Report for the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action Program. I present.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members that is our tentative Order Paper from today to the end of the week's sitting on Thursday 2:30 p.m. as programmed by the HBC. Before we proceed, let me a few Honourable Members to make some brief remarks about our visitors; pupils from ICFeM Mission School and the teachers in our Speaker's gallery.

Hon. Christine; I am told you are holding brief for the MCA for Kibingei Ward. You may proceed.

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Thank you Hon. Speaker. This afternoon, I am happy to have ICFeM Dreamland School with us here in the Assembly. They are here to learn, to see how we run their County Assembly. This is a school in Kibingei Ward in Kimilili Sub-county with the motto "**holy living and hard work.**" So there always is a school where children are brought up spiritually, mentally and physically. I wish to say that this is one of the best performing schools in Kimilili Sub-county, coming after Phim School, Shekaina School, then Dreamland and others follow. *Kwa hivyo* (therefore), it is a school that...

Mr. Speaker: Honourable... Proceed.

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Therefore, Hon. Speaker, I wish to say that we are always proud of this school being one of our best schools in Kimilili Sub-county. I wish to say that I was a parent there some time back. I had two sons learning there, Austin and Brian Okwara. In 2016, Brian

emerged as one of the best students in ICFeM Dreamland and joined a national school; and that has made me to love what teachers and pupils at ICFeM Dreamland do.

I also wish to mention that I am talking on behalf of MCA *Mheshimiwa* Mulongo who is not with us today. From yesterday, he has not been feeling well and so I have just communicated to him that ICFeM are here and he has sent his greetings. I know he will be coming around to be with you there.

We also appreciate teachers in ICFeM Dreamland for their good work that they are doing to these pupils being led by Mr. and Mrs. Ruth Nabiye; the founders of this school. We want to encourage you as your school motto goes; “holy living and hard work.” That you keep working smart and it is a school where pupils are disciplined. If you look at them the way they are dressed, that is how they always are. Thank you so much.

Before I wind up; our students are here to also see. I know they have been taken around and told how the sessions take place in this County Assembly. We know that as you are here, we have the majority side and then we have the minority side. We have the leadership of minority and we have the leadership of majority. I know we have been taken through this and we are here as a team to discuss and to ensure that we run our county to make sure that each department attains its mandate; and to ensure that all people of Bungoma County benefit from devolution. To ensure that resources reach people in *Mashinani* (grassroots).

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Christine. Hon. Stephen Wamalwa, the Deputy Speaker?

Hon. Stephen Wamalwa: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I feel that I should make a remark. First of all I extend my congratulations to the ICFeM teachers and pupils; a school which has laid its foundation on Christian values and for choosing to come to Bungoma County Assembly. I know that this is civics. When we were in school, the government, and it is important that they came so that they understand that the County Government actually has two arms; that is the executive led by the County Governor and then the Legislature which is led by the Speaker who is seated before you here.

Therefore, we have to know that so that we differentiate the same at the national level which has got three arms. As well put by the Speaker who has been on the floor, we have the minority and majority side... we don't have the opposition. So I wish to congratulate you for coming and urge you to work hard.

I am a product of Ruth Nabiye myself. She taught me chemistry. When you go back, I can assure you that she is a hands-on lady and I know together with her husband Mr. Nabiye, they have a vision and you are lucky that you are in their arms. I wish to urge the teachers, all the workers

and the entire school; the pupils that have a purpose while at that school because that day will come when you leave alone; and when you leave, what will you be? What reference will be made about you? So I wish to encourage you. I know most of you here may be in grade seven or six or eight or nine maybe.

So I wish to urge you that as you go back, encourage others... what you have learnt here, grade eight...

Mr. Speaker: I was specific; grade number four, five and six. So proceed.

Hon. Stephen Wamalwa: I am sorry about that. I wish to urge them that as you go back, what you learnt here, try to share with others in the same way of learning. When you share, you make yourself acquainted with what you learnt here. I wish to encourage you and may God bless you as you go back. Pass our regards to the directors, Madam Ruth Nabiye and the husband.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Chikati, you are in line; ahead of Hon. CPA so you may proceed. Hon. Nganga will be closing that session and I think we can proceed from there.

Hon. Timothy Chikati: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I just wanted to welcome the students from ICFeM Dreamland School and to be a little bit different with what my colleagues have said. Yes, indeed, we know that education is the equalizer but I just want to encourage them that since they are very young; that this is the time they have to realize and nurture their talents.

We have seen so many people that have identified their talents at a young age and right now they are earning a living out of it. I wish to encourage our teachers that if you see students at this young age; if they are good for example in volleyball, soccer, netball, marathon, hockey or even music, kindly don't push them down. We need to encourage them because at the end of the day, we don't know where they will end.

We can't all be politicians, we can't all be accountants, we can't all be teachers, but if you identify your talent at this young age and nurture it, I am 100 per cent sure that at the end of the day you will live a very good life.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Chikati. Hon. CPA Nganga, you may proceed.

Hon. Everton Nganga: Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me a chance. First, I would like to welcome the visitors from the school in Kibinge Ward; that is ICFeM. I would like to begin by congratulating teachers or those who have made efforts to make sure that they come with the students in this County Assembly. Actually, devolution is doing a lot. In fact, what normally happens in the National Assembly or in the Senate is actually replicated here.

I would like to thank the parents and teachers who voted for Hon. Mulongo as the Member of the County Assembly representing Kibinge Ward. When you go back teachers and students; inform parents that Hon. Mulongo is a Chair of the Committee of Implementation in the County Assembly and is actually an Honourable Member who is committed to make sure that all the Business in the House, all the resolutions passed in this House are implemented.

You know as a teacher, I remember I was taught a number of teaching methods. One of them being the school trip like the way the teachers and parents of this school have done. Actually they have done a very good job to come with students here. When students actually see what they have been learning; like for example, this instrument is a mace; it is a sign of power in the House. Without this, actually, there is nothing we can transact and actually be confirmed.

I think they have been here and they saw a month or a few weeks back where somebody ran away with the one in the National Assembly when those Gen Zs raided. Actually, this is one of the instruments that were taken away. Let not the students and teachers fear anything.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Member you are on HANSARD and I think you are issuing misleading information. That was a dummy mess of the National Assembly, not the real one. You remember last time when you were passing the budget at night; you had a dummy.

(Laughter)

So this is the real one! He is on HANSARD and the one which was taken by those young men was a dummy... a wooden one. This is golden... proceed.

Hon. Everton Nganga: Thank you for correction. I don't know how they managed to take that dummy when the original one was somewhere hidden. So this one is a precious instrument of power and actually it has to be kept well. Hon. Speaker, I wish to inform students and teachers that here in this County Assembly, we normally use two languages. Let them not fear that Kiswahili is not allowed. Kiswahili is also allowed.

Mr. Speaker: We use three but none of us is able to do the third one; sign language is allowed as per Standing Orders.

Hon. Everton Nganga: Correct. So we use English and Swahili; but we don't have the sign language...we don't use that one here. Again, these are our leaders, tomorrow's leaders. Education is the key to life. I know from the time I came to this House, I have never seen a school from my ward, but I am going to encourage them.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Members. Allow me on behalf of other speakers who won't have a chance to contribute to wish the Grade four, five, and six pupils the best of luck in their studies as they go back to school.

We go to the next item. Before that, I record a note from Hon. Lusenaka.

MOTION

1. MOTION OF COUNTY IMPORTANCE PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO. 36

Hon. Anthony Lusenaka: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I thought we had forgotten about my motion. It is a motion...

Mr. Speaker: It is not on the Order Paper; so you can only come after the Order Paper is filled properly. You may proceed.

Hon. Anthony Lusenaka: Hon. Speaker, it is a motion on County importance pursuant to Standing Order No. 36 of our County Assembly Standing Orders. This is a motion that requires adjournment on a definite matter of urgent county importance.

Pursuant to Order No. 36 (3), I move that this House do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent county importance on the scholarship program, bursary, and grant for VTCs. Before I proceed; with your guidance, I wish to ask Honourable...

Mr. Speaker: He can't second what is unknown. You must first move.

Hon. Anthony Lusenaka: Thank you Hon. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Move your motion, call your seconder, then we see the support... you want him to second before you move the motion... Proceed

Hon. Athony Lusenaka: I am well guided Hon. Speaker. This motion is in three parts. Part one is on scholarships. Our question is how many students are on scholarship program this year, 2024; starting from form one to form four and is the department supposed to set how many are in each class? That is from Form one; how many students all the way to Form four.

The second question; how much has been allocated and paid for each class? That is from Form one to Form four and how many students and how much in total?

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members whoever is watching a video in the House! Kindly, you are disturbing others.

Hon. Anthony Lusenaka: How many students and how much in total all the way to Form four? That is from Form one to Form four.

Question number three, how much has been paid as of 30th June, 2024? We provided a budget for the purpose of scholarships and bursaries for financial year 2023/2024; we allocated Kshs4 million per award.

What is the status of the remaining Kshs1 million since only Kshs3 million has been released to the wards. There is a total of Kshs45 million yet to be released. Where is the Kshs45 million? Number two, three per cent of county bursary kitty is deducted as administrative fees; how much are you planning to pay to pay each member of the Ward Bursary Committee and when?

On Vocational Training Centres, the first concern is that the county received Kshs19 million as grant for VTCs. There has been a disbursement of Kshs13, 410,000 to some VTCs in the County. We want a breakdown of beneficiaries of the Kshs13, 410,000 and the criteria used.

The second issue is what criteria was used to allocate Kshs1,175,000 for special activities in other selected Vocational Training Centres and we also want a list of those VTCs and the nature of the special activities that this money was allocated to.

Number three, administrative fees for grants has always been calculated at three per cent of the total amount. What percentage did the Department use to arrive at Kshs3, 875,000 instead of Kshs570, 000 as administrative fees? We are supposed to provide a list of the beneficiaries of the Kshs3, 875,000 that was used as facilitation.

From the above calculations of 1, 2, 3 under VTCs there is a deficiency of Kshs540, 000. We wish to know how the Department is planning to account for the deficit of Kshs540, 000. Our demand to the Executive Departments of Education and Finance is one, we want the immediate release of the scholarship balance of Kshs80 million because only Kshs60 million has been released from a budget of Kshs140 million.

Two, we want the immediate release of bursary balance of Kshs45, 000,000 to the Ward Bursary Kitty. Out of the Kshs180, 000,000, Kshs45, 000,000 is remaining.

Three, the County Executive Committee Members for Education and Vocational Training and Finance and Economic Planning with their respective Chief Officers are supposed to appear before this house in person on 25th July, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. to respond to the issues as captured in the motion.

Four, before they appear, we are supposed to have a written response filed in the office of the Clerk by close of business Wednesday, 24th July, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.; that is tomorrow... for circulation to Honourable Members so that when they appear on Thursday, we are all on the same page. Arising from that, I wish to ask the Honourable Leader of Majority, Hon. Nyongesa, to second the motion.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Joseph Nyongesa, you have been called upon to second this motion accordingly.

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to appreciate my colleague, Hon. Lusenaka, who is the Leader of Minority for those great concerns of our people. Actually, it is a form of a statement, but members, let us just see it as a motion so that at least we seek clarity and immediate information from the Executive. What is being raised is what was budgeted for. We had a budget on the issue of scholarship; the only release was Kshs60 million which up to now, some students are yet to benefit from.

On the issue of bursaries as we speak, most of the secondary schools students are sitting for exams and most of our children are at home. They are at home based on the issue that we were always encouraging them; that actually bursaries are on the way. As we speak, we closed the Financial Year 2023/2024.

Another valid concern that I have seen is the issue of the grant that was given to our county totalling to Kshs19 million. As per the statement raised, you see that it is only Kshs13 million that was released to our institutions. So, we do not know how the remaining balance was used and as we are also doing oversight, the public is now ahead of us. We should also be smart. We require immediate answers from the Executive. I see what the end result may be and I wish to request this Honourable House that now these key concerns are touching our people and are valid. As we start the journey of enquiring, there is an indication of misuse; kindly, let us finish in a right way... whichever way it may be.

(Applause)

Let us also avoid the issue of saying, you know, it is from my region, my ward, my clan, so that we can do things right. I second knowing that we shall move as a House. I am not seconding for the purpose of seconding, but I am seconding seeing the end result. Members, let us also be prepared and avoid the issue of self-interest in this, so that we get what is right. I second.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Honourable Members. Before ... Hon. Milliah Masungo our Minority whip, what is the issue?

Hon. Milliah Masungo: Hon. Speaker, just the same way the Chair, Education has put his mic on, I equally did so...

Mr. Speaker: The thing here is, when you put yours on, what was your intention?

(Laughter)

Because what happens here you know. I have the gadget here in the order of speaking; you are the first one to speak... so you pressed ahead of him. What is the issue?

Hon. Milliah Masungo: We were almost at the same level.

Mr. Speaker: No, what was your issue specifically?

Hon. Milliah Masungo: How weighty the matter on the Floor is...I was just preparing myself awaiting your permission to speak.

Mr. Speaker: It is okay.

The rest I won't be asking... that may be your answer to the same question. Members, just to confirm, Standing Order No. 36 (1) (2) and (3) have been complied with; No. 5, I have to confirm that there are 20 members in support of this motion so I can have the membership standing up in support of the same!

(Honourable Members rise in support of the motion)

Honourable Members, having confirmed that the motion has a support of 20 plus, I do appoint that after this confirmation, we will proceed and have this motion discussed first before we go to the motion on our Order Paper accordingly.

(Applause)

Resume your seats!

(Upstanding Honourable Members resume their seats)

Having heard Hon. Lusenaka move and have a seconder over the same, I will now allow the contributors. It does not require a question because the support confirms it. Now, allow members to give contributions then Hon. Lusenaka on the timeframe of response is where I may have a problem.

(Loud consultations)

Honourable Members order! Mine is on the response; paper work being brought back. You want children on bursaries and scholarship and you are saying tomorrow at 5:00 p.m. You will agree on the way forward even if you can say the following day at 10:00 a.m.

Hon. George, you go. Hon. Milliah, I will come back to you because he said that she was looking at you, so, proceed!

Hon. George Makari: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I thought you said Hon. Milliah was taking precedence over.

Mr. Speaker: No, what happened is, she said she was preparing herself. So, she is still preparing herself. Don't worry, proceed! I have given you permission.

Hon. George Makari: Hon. Speaker, I wish to support this motion first of all as moved by the Minority Leader and seconded by the Leader of Majority.

We are in a mess. I don't know whom we can blame for this mess. Do we blame the County boss, CECM Finance, the Department of Education or whom do we blame? I support this because, one, we passed the budget in June last year. That is the 2023/2024 budget. We have gone full circle. We have passed another budget, 2024/2025. The amounts for bursary and scholarship and the situation is so dire. Like, in my Ward, students that were on scholarship in very prestigious schools, I can tell you they are walking on foot going to day schools while some people down here in the Executive are just sitting; requesting for funds and squandering on other activities without taking care of the issues of scholarship for the children of poor people.

So, we must support this motion because these guys, the Executive, the CECM Finance, as requested by the mover of the motion, and the CECM Education must be here to tell us where is the Kshs80 million that was appropriated in the budget? Where is Kshs45 million that was appropriated in the budget? A total of around Kshs115 million and yet as we speak we have closed the Financial Year.

I wish to support this with a very heavy heart and I am privileged to share with you some social media accounts in this town. If you were very keen yesterday; you read from morning to evening, they were talking about the County Assembly of Bungoma. Some members like Hon. Job Mukoyandali who comes from the village down there...

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, the Assembly of Bungoma has wards which are basically from Bungoma County. I don't see anybody from the village. Proceed, Hon. Makari!

Hon. George Makari: He might not be sharing this social.

Mr. Speaker: No, he is fully informed.

Hon. George Makari: I remember he is a Member, Hon. Speaker...

(Laughter)

...And I do not want to board the very person who promotes him because he knows himself but he is a member I know on that forum and many other forums here in town.

It is a mess and total disaster and what they are questioning is true. There are things the public is questioning and they are totally true. So we must be able to reflect and come back. We have to come to our reset mode and begin moving from there going forward.

I want to support this as I move. Hon. Speaker, it is now your prerogative through your office. We beg that you allow this Executive to appear here to shed light on the matters as raised in this motion.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Millia Masungo; before I go to the Chair, Budget. Proceed!

Hon. Milliah Masungo: Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me this chance to also speak on this weighty matter on the Floor of the House this afternoon.

I rise here a disappointed leader because of what is happening in our county. We have had so many people complaining, and from the former speakers, *mwananchi* right now are doing the oversight role and we cannot allow some of us to be taken home out of the careless things happening in our county. We gave out enough money for the innocent children of Bungoma County. Right now, those children are suffering at home because of just the making of members who have just come here, appointed by the Executive, the Hon. Governor, and they are just sited in their offices.

I wish to laud our leadership. Today, I am so excited to see all our leaders speak and walk the same talk. We want to move like that Honourable Members, as legislators, to protect and save our county. It should not be business as usual. People are appointed, given heavy salaries and allowances, and we are allocating budgets; we have given them budgets and enough money to give our children. The future leaders of this county are suffering, they are seated at home, and they are just comfortably rotating on their comfortable chairs in the offices.

We can't allow it. To our leaders, congratulations and thank you very much. Thank you very much to have seen that we are representatives of the people, and we have to mean and give back to the community the way we promised them when we are looking for these votes. We cannot wait at the tail end of the financial year, when we are given partial bursary for the children who have sat home the whole year. We can't allow it! We equally want the bank slips that they banked the money with specifically for every ward... the 45 wards when they come.

We want to see and members, those who ripped where they didn't sow; they should face the law. Yes, even the three per cent. The committees who did the preparation of these documents for the bursaries and all that... it cannot be traced anywhere. Already it has been used, and the users are different from the actual users. It is so disappointing that we want those members to come here and tell us exactly what happened. What we want is the bursary allocation and the scholarship we allocated for the children of Bungoma.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Milliah, Hon. Jack Wambulwa?

Members, once you have pressed, I have seen. When you press again, you move down. Yes, when you keep on pressing, you will be at number 10 from number three. So, Hon. Wambulwa proceed! I will have Hon. Everlyne after.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Thank you Hon. Speaker. First of all, I wish to take this opportunity to thank the leadership for having come up with this important motion. For the first time as a House, we are seeing sense and this is the way to go irrespective of our party affiliations.

It is about the interests of the Bungoma child. One thing I want to remind members as the Chair, Budget; as you remember previously, and even in the last financial year, whenever they prepare their budget towards bursaries and scholarship, the Executive propose, we do sourcing because we care for the child of Bungoma. We know what it means by helping these parents so that they can educate their children. Now, after sourcing for these funds and allocating them in the budget that is passed here, we take it back to them to implement. As we talk, we are in the next financial year. The Kshs80 million scholarships is nowhere. The Kshs45 million bursaries is nowhere.

The three per cent administration cost to the Ward Committees that went round, worked day and night, trying to identify the needy children have not been paid; but what shocks me is that some of these Executive members have already paid themselves. They eat as they spit on their shoes.

Another shocking revelation is the grant that came in for VTCs to assist our core mandate in the villages has been swindled. Let us not beat around the bush. It is time people have to carry their cross and I want to support what the Leader has said. When that time reaches, we want to see a full House. We want to see everybody standing with the poor child at home.

I am willing and I repeat, to even remain solo, but let people carry their cross. If you ever touched on the poor child's money that was to take them to school, we want to see all departments that are concerned appear before this House. You can't tell me Kshs8 million is little money and even as we talk, let the CEO be reminded that his dogs are biting every human being that is passing on the road. We cannot allow this. Why are they taking advantage? Is it because we are divided? Now we are united.

(Applause)

Let me tell you ladies and gentlemen, this is how things change and from your own experience with assemblies, first year, it is normal. Second year, it is somehow normal; it is in the third year when things change. It has always happened across. You can see at the national level and County Assembly; the language has changed. I want to say it here. Not more than three people should be impeached to go home so that Bungoma can be sanitized.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Anyango, Stephen, Chair, Education then I come to this side; in that order please

Hon. Everlyne Anyango: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am on my feet just to...

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Those consulting, please consult in low tones. Proceed!

Hon. Everlyne Anyango: This afternoon, I wish to applaud my two leaders. They have shown us the way and this is what we have been waiting for. As a specially elected member of this House, I wish to say that things are not good outside there. I also wish to say this, that it is not only on the elected leaders, even us the specially elected leaders; you even wonder when it comes to evenings, where you are going to because whether in the village or back at the wards, our community does not know how to differentiate between a specially elected member's role or an elected one. This afternoon, I want to tell you that I have been singing, Honourable Members, specially elected to serve the youths and the women of Bungoma County.

As I stand on my feet, I am short of words because you cannot say that you are here to support the needs of the women and the youths of this county. The youths who cannot access education, who cannot sit in class, do the exams; the mothers who cannot sleep nor even eat in this county! Why? because her son or daughter who was once in a big school or a good school, that she knew that the daughter will one day be a doctor, today is trekking to a day school nearby without even

taking tea. It was I that big school that this girl or boy was used to eating well and getting education on time as required by the Constitution of this country.

It is my humble request that as a House, let us unite, let us come together and see to it that the Executive, the people that were put in office through our approval in this Honourable House, do what is required as per the mandate of the offices that we put them in. It is quite shameful that in all the media, social media platforms in this county and even in the country; and to the extent that it has even gone to the media, the national TVs, that this House has now been surpassed by the community outside when it comes to oversight.

As I sit down, from the words that I heard come from the Leader of Minority, let that be the direction and I want to thank the Leader of Majority that you have now affirmed and stamped the role of this House.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Deputy Speaker, then Chair, Education be prepared.

Hon. Stephen Wamalwa: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I wish to also rise in support the motion of county importance as well moved by the Leader of Minority and ably seconded by the Leader of Majority. This is a defining moment for this county. This is a weighty matter that no one should take for granted or wish away. Unfortunately, because wherever our Executive members are, they may be taking this issue very lightly. Why lightly, because we appropriated funds the other year in June; and by June this year, the same funds meant for supporting the poor child of this county was still in the bank. The argument or information has always been that the Department of Education was not doing things right.

Where I sit as Stephen Wafula Wamalwa, when I have my colleague in this Assembly and we are doing a common thing for a common purpose because we have a collective responsibility, when my colleague comes to me with an issue which he or she has done in a wrong manner; it is my duty to correct this person and inform this person that go and correct here and there so that we can move with speed and achieve the common meaning. So, where I stand, the person who is constantly making mistakes is not supposed to be in that office because it means you are incompetent; and number two, even the person who was seeing those mistakes and was not supporting or correcting so that we can move as a team.

This county is not about the Executive or Assembly. This government is both County Assembly and the Executive. We are conjoined at the hip and when one arm makes a mistake, it is all of us. That is why members today you are not seeing anybody say that the Executive CECM has made this mistake or that mistake. They are saying the County Government of Bungoma. No one is exempted; even if you are blue, DAP like Hon. Nganga himself, you are not exempted, you are a Member of the County Government of Bungoma.

Another mistake is within us members. This issue of three per cent meant for the people who work for the people and children of Bungoma at the ward. If all of us agreed and supported what Leader of Majority had come up with the other year to correct that mess, the three per cent issue will not be a discussion today; but you remember the Honourable Member came up with that issue of three per cent members and the CECM was brought here. Some of us were defending and saying that this is witch hunt; there is vendetta, there is this or that. I think my memory is clear. I am afraid even today; some of our members here are going to change tact.

Immediately after this discourse and this time round, we want to call out those who will do that. If you do that, we will call you out; you will be a traitor of the people of Bungoma and a traitor of this House. We must stand together. I wish to actually propose as I support the motion brought by the Leader of Minority that the three per cent is not meant for any person who is working in the office and is being paid salary and allowances by the County Government of Bungoma.

(Applause)

The Chair, Education and Vocational Training is here; Hon. Jeremiah Benjamin Otsiula. We wish to say this; the administrative cost and percentage should all go to the wards. Those people who don't have employment, they toil, move from one point, one village to another, trying to vet, find out on foot, without breakfast, without lunch, without water and then a bulk of it is taken to the officers remaining here; that they are sharing in this percentage... which percentage? The percentage is meant for those people. Members, I want to propose that as we talk about this issue, let the three per cent... the whole of it, even if it is Kshs90, 000 go to the wards.

If it is Kshs60, 000, it goes to the wards; to that committee which vetted and did that donkey work and not to someone who is in office. Remember members, these officers are being paid salary. That committee at home in the ward, which salary are they receiving and then even that little amount, someone wants to share with those people who are suffering! Surely, if there is heaven, they say heaven is up there. Unfortunately, when you go up there, looking down is almost like heaven again. So, I don't know where heaven is; but if there is heaven, some people will never see it.

I support this motion. I wish to thank our leaders; the two, for this, and I want to urge the House that let us stand together in this. Let us speak a common language. We are not going to be the tower of babel. We must speak in one voice and in unison. Members, it is a divine moment and if we are not careful, let me tell you. This is a revolution happening, revolutions come in this world. We have been hearing and I am a student of history, revolutions come and they are wished away and they sweep away those people who thought they are not part of those who will be swept away.

Members, we can be swept away and I am telling you if a CECM is trying to bring us down, let us send this CEC member away before we go down.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Otsiula! Members, in the order of your pressing, I will just follow the order here. Hon. Otsiula then I will have... If you do not have a card, that is your problem today. People with cards are online. Proceed!

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I also wish to...

Mr. Speaker: For the first time I see sign language in this House. Let us proceed!

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula: Hon. Speaker, I also wish to support the motion moved by the Leader of Minority and seconded by the Leader of Majority. As we discuss this very pertinent issue in the County of Bungoma, I must remind Honourable Members in this House that when we were doing the Fiscal Strategy Paper, I said here that this House risks being rendered a laughing stock in this County. That is where we were headed to and if you live in Bungoma County today, the truth of the matter is that we have nowhere to hide as a County Assembly of Bungoma.

For a long period of time, we have appropriated money and made recommendations here. None of those recommendations have ever come to fruition; the reason being, we have been a much divided House when it comes to matters which are affecting all of us. From this moment, speaking on behalf of the Committee and members of Education Committee, we have had very difficult time for the last two financial years as far as implementation of issues and matters passed through this Floor is concerned.

I want to be very honest and very open to these Honourable Members; a quarter of the problem bedevilling matters education in this County does not rest with the Department of Education.

(Applause)

I wish to go on record and be very specific. The problem lies with the office of the CECM, Finance. Let us speak the truth. We are not going to suffer and bear consequences for somebody who thinks that he is the most learned fellow in this County.

What is it that the Department has with the release of Kshs80, 000,000 meant for the scholarship for FY 2023/2024? Who is holding the money? Is it the Department of Education and Vocational Training? Let us not suffer and today I have requested my senior the Hon. Leader of Majority not

to suffer so much. Let them not place a lot of load on him, let him allow us to speak. If this thing is not going to happen, I am ready and you know me. I was a very good student of yours when you were debating in court. I will move the first motion of censure against that member...

(Applause)

...Who people really fear in this County. Let us call a spade a spade. If we can come here; this is almost the end of July and we are talking about bursary money; money which was appropriated in June last year. The way they are giving us money, you can easily be mistaken to think that is medicine. You are given Kshs970,000, people down there are quarrelling, why have you given this school money and refused to give the other because of a single individual!

We want to understand. Before I sum up... if we did the second Supplementary Budget in this House, we secured Kshs148, 000,000 for the purposes of Madaraka Day. Why was it so difficult for this respective Department to surrender Kshs45, 000,000 meant for education?

(Applause)

Where we are heading to? I know they don't know me. You are the only person who understands me very well. Let us move with speed to save our face Honourable Members and as far as the leadership of this House is concerned; don't fear, because I am behind you. I will be your supporter number one in this particular game.

Before the Speaker in this House, I wish to tell you the Speaker sited here led demonstrations in this town and he was dressed like a Speaker. He was an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya and I was his Secretary General commanding the gang. At this time we are together in this, don't chicken out, don't fear, let us save the face of this County of Bungoma.

(Applause)

As I sum up, I wish to assure members that as we start this journey, there will be victimization. Some of us will be called names as put by the Leader of Majority; but we are ready. I am told the three per cent administration fee is already there. What the Leader of Minority is requesting is there and ready to be shared. Let the entire sum of money as proposed by the Deputy Speaker of this Honourable House go to those fellows suffering in the Wards.

(Applause)

We are not going to continue begging, we are not going to make recommendations. You have been here Honourable Speaker and on most occasions, we debate motions here, we make recommendations, but now everybody in this County believes we are doing nothing as an Assembly. We cannot go that route.

Finally, the people of Bungoma County are judging us harshly. As a member sitting on your panel, I wish to implore upon you that going forward, let us have these proceedings aired live so

that these people can know what this Assembly does and what the Executive of Bungoma County is doing.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Job you proceed... members, you will all speak, this is your motion. After Hon. Job, I will have Hon. Meshack then Hon. Christine. You will all speak.

Hon. Job. Mukoyandali: Thank you Hono. Speaker for giving me this chance...

Mr. Speaker: The last one will be Hon. Cornelius, so don't worry.

Hon. Job. Mukoyandali: First of all, let me laud the Leader of Minority Hon. Lusenaka for actually moving this Motion. I also want to say that when the Leader of Majority came up to second this Motion, I was very keen on his body language and I want to say that for the first time, I am 100 percent on this one with the Leader of Majority who is also my mentor. This is a House of rules and procedure; each one of us in this House is here because of the principle of oversight. For a long time, it is now about two years since I was elected the MCA for West Bukusu. At some moment, I would judge this House and see it as a House which is here to betray the principle of constitutionalism.

Our main work here is oversight but at some point, I want to say that I was a little bit disappointed when we began going to bed with the Executive; such that the powerful House which is supposed to protect the people of Bungoma began passing the budgets here, and especially the Supplementary budgets which seemed to be against the common *mwananchi* who is seated at home waiting for us to put a cake on the table.

Some of us have been here going on record; being against what we appropriate here but it is good that this Motion has brought us together and for the first time, we are moving together as Bungoma County MCAs; not as the Minority and the Majority. That is why I wish to laud the Leader Majority, who seconded this Motion by saying what he said. With that, the County of Bungoma will now take shape. We are now going to move this County to a place where these Gen Zs have always wanted us to be. We have been hiding in our parties and our coalitions and end up doing things that harm a common person of this County. A hyena is an animal which is so greedy such that it can even eat its own children. It will go to fetch food from somewhere else.

We had reached a point where we were passing a supplementary budget and it is implemented within the shortest time possible while our children are at home. As a House, we had begun eating our own children. Thanks to the Gen Zs; that they have made us open our eyes, thanks to what is happening right now, that some of us have been in this House, we have talked about, and I was on record when we were passing the second Supplementary. I said, "You see, children are at home, Kshs70, 000,000 is missing for scholarship, Kshs.45, 000,000 is missing for bursary and we are here pretending to be doing so well."

Appropriating Kshs25, 000,000 for beautification of the County as a County Assembly... we had begun receiving orders from somewhere and we had lost meaning as the County Assembly of Bungoma; but for the first time, we are now on the same page and how I wish that our leadership

sticks together from now onwards so that we set the right precedence for the people of Bungoma County so that we give the people of Bungoma County what they deserve. We pass here legislations that are going to help the people of Bungoma County rather than passing here things that somebody who is not in this House will sit somewhere and assume that we have been pocketed by somebody who gives us instructions on what to do. Today, I listened to our Honourable Governor addressing the media and he said' it is the House that passed the appropriation of the Kshs.148, 000,000 for Madaraka Day. At the end of the day, the ball stops at this House. We are a shameful House; we can't even stand before the people right now and address them.

(Applause)

We have been smeared with mud and therefore it is high time for this House that we don't just pass the Budgets, let us go down and follow up on the Budgets that we do pass in this House.

I sit in the Implementation Committee. The other day, we had the CECM Finance appearing before that Committee, we are questioning about the Kshs110, 000,000 that this House gave to the dual carriage way...

You see, this money has not been paid. This county is losing money in terms of paying the penalties; the money could be put even on scholarships and bursary to help a child of this county! Today, we are busy paying the penalties on that particular road. The House had appropriated money and the money has not been used in the rightful way; the money which we appropriated; we come here and we are busy talking about the PFM Act. Who the hell brought the PFM Act in Kenya? It is only Bungoma County that follows this PFM Act to 130 per cent and not any other county! Is this what happens in other counties?

As a House, let us wake up and protect this County. Otherwise, today you are happy that you sit in that position; that you are the Vice Chair, Implementation and you are so happy that majority of Honourable Members allowed you to be the Vice Chair of the Committee. Tomorrow, the people of West Bukusu will ask me that you were given an opportunity to be the Vice Chair of Implementation Committee, what are you bringing in West Bukusu Ward? They will ask those questions. What answers will I give them?

Let us protect this county for the sake of our children who we are siring, for the sake of the children we have, your time is almost up, you will go. You are leaving your children on this earth, they will remain a laughing stock, and they will remind your children that it is your father who messed up this county at a particular moment. I wish to request this House; I beseech this House that onwards... now that it is the first time the minority side and majority side are holding hands to protect this county, let it not just be on this matter alone! Let us extend it everywhere so that people of Bungoma can see us as serious people.

I want when you stand anywhere; in any funeral, any function or whatsoever; or a wedding and you say that am the Hon. Speaker of Bungoma County, you will receive an applause. Otherwise, today it is me, tomorrow it will be another person. You will stand in a funeral somewhere or a

wedding and say you are an MCA of Bungoma County and people will chase you away! You will not even speak in that function. Let us rise up and protect our people.

As I wind up, you were here when this issue begun; we begun discussions whether it was about the cheques or IFMIS. I stood here and said I may be a small person but I represent the people of West Bukusu. I told this House that IFMIS is not possible because we had already tested it. The Kshs60Million which had been appropriated for the scholarship was not wired to respective accounts by the Finance Department. We said no to IFMIS, they went ahead you know... and some of the Honourable Members are here. They stood by what the CECM, Finance had told them that it must be IFMIS and we said that whatever the Senate had said was only an advisory. When you give me an advisory, it is up to me to accept the advisory or not; and they said some of us do not understand these things. That guy that understands everything; look at where he has got us right now. We have become a laughing stock in the whole county. I am even ashamed to stand before my people in West Bukusu and tell them that you know you really gave me a chance to go and represent you.

I ask this House that we team up and correct the mess in this county. My last question is who is powerful in this county? Is it the County Assembly or just an individual sited in an office somewhere? I submit.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Meshack then Hon. Christine...

Hon. Meshack Wekesa: Asante mheshimiwa Spika...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Jeremiah!

Hon. Meshack Wekesa: Asante mheshimiwa Spika kwa kunipa nafasi. Kwanza ningependa kushukuru *the leader of minority and leader of majority* (Kiongozi wa walio wengi na kiongozi wa walio wachache). Kwa sasa tunapoketi nyumbani, ama wakati umetupa *recess* (likizo) ya kuketi nyumbani kidogo kwa juma moja ama majuma mawili, tumepitia shida kubwa sana kwa sababu ya mambo ya watoto wetu. Tunavyoona, wanatembea Kenya mzima, wanatuuliza maswali na mengine tunaweza shindwa kuyajibu. Leo nimekuwa na vijana kutoka wadi yangu, mheshimiwa *leader of majority* (Kiongozi wa walio wengi) na mwenyekiti wa Elimu ameniona nimeketi na watoto wa Wadi ya Mukuyuni; karibu watoto ishirini. Walitaka niwaeleze mambo ya Mukuyuni lakini mheshimiwa Spika ukiwaeleza, wamejua kabla wewe...

(Laughter)

...kabla wewe hujaongea, ukitaka kuwachezea wanakwambia hapo hapana, kuja hivi. Nimeketi nao mheshimiwa Spika tangu saa tatu hadia sasa hivi. Nimerejea na kuingia katika *section* (kikao hiki). Nimekuwa na watoto wawili katika shule ya upili ya wavulana ya Kamusinga Boys. Leo hii wamewatoa na walikuwa kwa *scholarship* (mpangilio wa ufadhili). Mmoja ameenda kwa shule ya upili ya Mirembe Secondary. Leo hii hata vile tunasema waheshimiwa wenzangu, mkisema waende walipe pesa hizo, lazima warudi kwetu kwanza tuwaeleze msipeleke *cheque* (hundi) Kamusinga kwa sababu mtoto alitoka Kamusinga ako Mirembe Secondary School.

Kwa hivyo kama ni sisi tunaongea waheshimiwa ni vyema sote tuangalie watoto wetu wametoka kwa shule za kifahari na wamerudi nyumbani; wasichukue hizo pesa tena wapeleke kwenye shule hizo ambapo walikuwa na deni kubwa na hawatamrudishia. Wamefanya kazi vizuri kutupa hundi kama za Wadi ya Mukuyuni. Saa hii, *cheque* (hundi) yangu ya bursary na ninajua pesa ya Mukuyuni ni millioni nne. Walete hizo hundi kwa Wadi yangu, waandike kila kitu, wamalize sababu tukona *Ward Administrators* (watawala wa wadi) waliosoma, wakimaliza wapeleke kwa waziri na *chief officer* (afisa mkuu wa kaunti) wakitia sahihi, warudishe hizo *cheques* (hundi) ili sisi tuzipeane kwa watu wetu.

(Applause)

Mheshimiwa Spika, isiwe tu mambo ya shule pekee...ukiangalia nimeulizwa maswali mengi sana. Wakaniambia mimi huwa napewa pesa ya michezo ya watoto na vijana shilingi 1,000,000 ilihali mimi sijapewa shillingi 1,000,000 ili nipeleleke kwa kata yangu. Lakini hawa vijana wamejua huko mbele ya kwamba huwa tunapewa hela. Ninawaomba waheshimiwa wenzangu hata hii bajeti ambayo tunaenda kufanya ya *First supplementary budget* (bajeti ya kwanza ya ziada). Ninaomba kwa heshima ili mwezi wa kumi na mbili tuwe na pesa kama milioni moja kwa kila wadi na wakati huo ukifika, wakitupa hizo hela hata kama tutatoa kwa CEF, tutakuwa na njia ya hao watoto; ikifika mwezi wa kumi na mbili, watoto wakifanya michezo, wajue hizo pesa zimetoka kwa Kaunti na kila wadi iko na hizo. Nikimalizia, tumeanza safiri kama vile mwenzangu amesema lakini mimi sina mtu kama vile waziri anaitwa *chief officer* (afisa mkuu wa kaunti) katika wadi yangu. Sijui kama mimi nitasema kwa sababu huyo amemuonea nini.

Wacha kila mtu abebe msalaba wake... Na mheshimiwa spika ninajua vile tumeanza; kesho simu zitakazotembea ya kwamba kuja mpewe hizi pesa. Hizi vitu wacha tutatengeneza sisi wenyewe. Wacha tuseme tuko na wadi 45, tuangalie mtu ambaye atasimama hapa aseme yeye ameunga *Executive* mkono na kama unajua uko na wadi yako na unaumia. Mimi nitakua wa kwanza kuwa mbele kwa sababu ninaumia. Leo hii nimeumia na vijana 20 kwa kichwa moja na je wangkuwa vijana mia moja? Singeweza! Ishirini pekee yao na waliniambia nisije na mtu mwengine, nije pekee na wakaniuliza kuwa kuanzia 2017, ni kazi gani nimefanya? Nichague barabara ambazo nimelima, maji yenye nimefanya, *E.C.D.E* (shule za chekechea) yote wameandika chini... kuangalia ndio turudi na hatujamalizana.

Sasa nimepitia taabu. Kumbuka wakati mmoja hapa hapa katika hili Bunge mwaka wa 2017-2022 unajua walinileta *petition*. Kama singekuwa mwerevu, singerudi. Lakini yale ambayo nilikua nimefanyiwa na vile nilieleza kwa sababu uliku umeketi pahali ulipo. Hiyo ilifanya nikarudi na ninaomba wenzangu tushikane mkono na tukue pamoja na hii ni lazima tushinde. Yule mtu unajua saa hii ukiambia mtu alete sahihi tunataka kumpa mtu mashtaka aende kotini. Tutaambia vijana ameenda kotini, mfuate huko na mwambie gavana arudi ili tumalizie hayo mambo ya koti; kwa sababu eti koti imemwambia arudi kwa ofisi ili aendelee kunyanyasa. Saa hii tukona mtetezi wa vijana wa kuenda huko na kumwambia aende huko. Kwa hayo machache nimeunga mkono.

Mr. Speaker: Hon Christine you may proceed. Why are you worried; you are very young.

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Thank you Hon Speaker for giving me this chance to also contribute about the motion ahead of us. I wish to applaud our leaders for coming together and bringing up this motion so that we can save our people... the students in this county. We want to thank each member who has contributed. We hope what we have put together they are going to give us a solution and if we keep holding hands as the leaders that the people have given the mandate to represent them in this Honourable House, we know we are going to make a change.

The Executive have proved that they are trying to fail the County Assembly. They are trying to hit us on the head and you know when you rattle a snake it will bite you. They have rattled a snake, let us not look back! Let us go ahead and even if we have what we call a logger head; then let it be. But let us fight for our people. I cannot even explain the embarrassment I got last weekend and it was on social media at a funeral. That I give bursary to other schools and yet other schools have not received the bursary, meaning that *mheshimiwa* has 'eaten' the money and now scholarship students are at home.

They started chanting... three men stood up and started chanting and if I may quote` *siyeywe tawe*' (we reject the broom). It was very embarrassing! By the grace of Lord, they have seen the much I have seen and with the other leaders things were cooled down. So Honourable Members, once again, I say we are the people with the knife to slaughter this cow and we have the mandate and powers to say that the liver is mine and not somebody else's. So this is ours. Let us use this power to make sure we get what we want. If we could just get two or three days to pass or approve; mark these words... "The Assembly approved the millions of shillings to do the Madaraka Day things with." But then, we should also take the opportunity that next time before we think of approving funds to do other things, let us approve money for our students to make sure we have the scholarship funds and bursary funds before we can approve anything else.

Let us unite and make sure that we are going to keep it together. The remarks that the Assembly approved has triggered our brains, it has triggered our thinking capacity and it has triggered our decision making .What are going to decide after this so that we save our county, we save the name of our people and the children to be in school...

As I am talking, yesterday, there was a blind parent from Khamulati; the student is at Kimilili Boys High School and in Form Two. The boy was sent home and yesterday the father took the boy back to school where again he was chased away.

Fortunately, I was at home and they came. I wrote a letter and gave the parent to go back to Kimilili Boys and I requested the Principal to allow the boy to pick his items so that I could admit him to Matili Secondary School. When the principal saw that, he called me and gave an extension of up to end of this term; so that as they open schools, he wants the school fees balance to be cleared. I don't know how I am going to do it with what is happening, but because we have a supplementary budget around November, Honourable Members, let us ensure that before anything else we have the money for first term; scholarship and bursary before we can talk about anything else.

For others like people who are in the municipality of Kimilili; that is Kibingei, Kimilili and Maeni, we are suffering! No project is ongoing... all projects are stalled because no payment was made plus now the scholarship. You can imagine what we are going through.

I stand here as a disappointed member representing the people of Kimilili Ward.

Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba: Asante Bwana Spika kwa kunipa nafasi hii. Kwanza, hili swala la malipo ya *bursary* na malipo ya *scholarship* kutumia mfumo wa IFMIS yamefanya pesa nyingi sana zimebakia kwenye idara kule na tukizungumza juu ya hili jambo wanakuwa na vigezo vidogo vidogo vyta kusema kuwa ni ule mfumo ambao umetumiwa ndio umefanya pesa hazijaenda shulen. *Cheque* (hundi) haziruhusiwi, ukijaribu kupeleka wanakueleza kuwa *Cheque* (hundi) za Bungoma huwa ni za uongo. Ni idara gani itaaminika? Kama tuna maendeleo ambayo tunataka kufanya watu wetu na siku zijazo ioneckane kwamba tulifanya maendeleo ni maendeleo ya kuweka ama kuegeza katika usomi wa watoto wetu. Inakuwa ni kama tumekuwa na mchezo wa paka na panya; tukisema hili waziri huyu anasema ni yule wa fedha ndiye anayehusika, wa fedha naye ametuchukua sisi kama watoto, kama vinyangarika, kama watu tusio na heshima! Anakuja hapa anatudanganya. Je, tutadanganya hadi lini?

Shida hii inakuja kwa sababu yetu sisi viongozi ambao tumechaguliwa hatujawa na umoja hata siku moja. Tumekuwa tunagawanyika; jambo linalohusu watoto wetu, watu ambao tunakaa nao hasa kuhusu karo utaona vikundi vinaitwa kando kando, Bw. Spika siogopi kusema hilo, wale viongozi wanawaita wengine kando kuwaambia nendeni mpitishe hili jambo vile lilivyo bila kujua athari zake na sasa athari zake ndizo hizi tunapitia. Asilimia tatu ya pesa zile wanazozungumzia kutokana na kizungu kingi kilicho katika hesabu, nikaja nikapata kuwa hii kamati ambayo tulitengeneza katika Wadi zetu ilipata shilingi elfu tisa, walikuwa wanalipa kila mmoja shilingi elfu moja mia tano. Nikapiga hesabu nikaona kamati hii ina watu kama sita ama saba. Zaidi ya elfu ishirini zinachukuliwa na hii afisi ambayo watu tumewalipa mshahara kufanya kazi. Katika bajeti tunayoifanya katika hili jumba letu huwa tunaweka gharama ya afisi ya makaratasi. Leo watatuambiaje kuhusu hizi pesa wamekataa kulipa hawa watu ambao wamefanya kazi; hizo pesa tena zikatwe zingine zibakie katika afisi.

Nakumbuka kiongozi wa wengi alituambia hapa kuwa hakuna hata shilingi moja itakatwa; zile kamati zipewe hizo fedha. Sikuona hadi sahizi yale malipo ya kwanza ya elfu thelathini yakienda na unajua hata kiongozi wa wengi na wa wachache walijua kuwa hizo pesa zimekatwa. Mbona hamjakuja katika hili jumba mtuambie kuwa hizo fedha zilikatwa? Benki kama ya Equity, ABSA, Family hazikubali kitu chochote kinachohusika na hi Kaunti! Hawataki kusikia na hata ukipeleka cheque hivi wanakuambia nenda nayo.

Tulikuwa na mfumo ule tulitumia mwaka jana wa kupewa cheque tukapeleka shulen tukapewa karatasi kuwa wamekubali pesa ziko. Lakini kwa sababu huo mfumo waliona kuwa hawawezi wakaiba fadha hizo wakaleta wakasema wanataka mfumo mwingine wa kidijitali, mfumo ambao unatuchukua sisi kama *zombies* (punguani) ambao hatuelewi kinanchoendelea. Wakasema kuanzia sasa tunalipa pesa tukitumia mfumo wa kidijitali. Nawauliza mfumo huu ninyi mnaujua na mnauamini? Mimi siuamini kwa sababu vile mwanzoni nilisema milioi zaidi ya tatu ziko katika idara ya elimu zimekaa huko kwa sababu huo mfumo umekataa, sisi tutaendelea tena

kukubali tufanyiwe hivyo? Langu ni kusema hivi, viongozi waheshmiwa, mimi ninaishi *town* (mjini) na kabla haya mambo ya *bursary* na *scholarship* yaingie, nilikuwa mimi najitembelea tu barabarani bila shida. Sahizi imekuwa ni shida. Ninazungukwa na wanafunzi ambao nikiamka asubuhi barabarani kuna foleni ya wanafunzi wanakuja kwangu kuwa wanataka pesa za *bursary* ni kama hizo pesa waliweka kwangu! Mnaturusuru kwa namna gani? Sitembe, inanibidi hata Bw. Spika unaponiona hapa nakuja katika afisi ya hapa, siendi afisi yangu ya huko, ninakuja hapa saa moja asubuhi tena nitatafuta mwenye pikpiki aliye na kofia nijifunike kwa kichwa ndipo wazazi wasinisimamishe ati *bursary*. Nyinyi hamna macho ya huruma? Tusipojisaidia hakuna mtu huko nche atatusaidia. Vijana wako kule nje, wamekuwa wakali! Wanatoka katika familia zinazojua kuwa pesa za *bursary* (ufadhili wa masomo) zimetoka ilhali hizo pesa hazijafika shulenii.

La mwisho, mimi sitakubali niende nyumbani pekee yangu; vijana wamekuwa na msemo wa ‘anguka nayo’ sasa tutaanguka naye Bw. Spika.

Hon. Ali Machani: Thank you Hon. Speaker for allowing me give my input over the same and more so to thank the Leader of Minority and Leader of Majority for the position they have taken to show us direction.

I was keenly observing from the time you introduced the pupils who were in the public gallery and teachers and it is only that we had two individuals whom I don’t know but they did not stand up; I don’t know if they were teachers or what, but it is you to tell me. If they are individuals brought here also to serve some interests; they might be taking some notes and how I wish the sender could listen to the report.

I was also very keen when the Leader of Majority was giving his observation over this issue we are discussing that is touching on our Standing Orders No. 36(1) - (3) and I was very keen looking at his body language and more so the suit he is putting on today. I saw some serious indicators that the direction he has taken may save this county. Sometimes I always admire him and wish he was in the opposition and not in government.

Where did the rain start beating us? It is at the time we isolated ourselves to say that I belong to the government and you belong to the minority or the opposition. The sense of opposition is not to oppose everything but is to exercise positive criticism; equally the sense in government is to oversee the government doing and implementing projects positively to attract the minds of people to join the government. Sadly, in Bungoma County from the onset, from the first Assembly; sometimes we pretend to be with the Executive than the side of oversight and if we can avoid that like today; if my leader Raila Odinga calls me to give me direction, I can avoid because of the interests of the public and if we do that we can serve the purpose. The other side also if we can avoid our two leaders the president and National Speaker calling us and I think they have never called us; it is only that the CEO of the County is the one who has interfered much and that is why I have said that the two individuals seen in this House as strangers should take notes and report that it is Balala saying that.

We may blame the CECMs but in that cabinet where the CEO is the Chair, we have the County Secretary and the CECMs sited; that is where the mess starts and if there is any change on

budgets, on how vote heads must be done, it will be formalized there. That is where the confusion starts and that one, if we talk about the CECMs, we should not run away from talking about His Excellency the Governor Hon. Kenneth Makelo Lusaka. When he came in, he had the numbers and he enjoyed the numbers and confused the House not to take the direction of oversight. Even in terms of vetting our CECMs and approval, the influence was too much, not you Hon. Speaker, it is us, you are just a moderator. What I am saying is, can we stamp our authority and do our oversight because today we have elected and nominated Honourable Members...members who are nominated today tomorrow you can be elected, let no one rubbish you.

I have seen so many councilors who are nominated being elected; I have seen nominated MCAs being elected. Whatever we do in this House is something that people will remember us for. The party or any coalition will look for you if you have the numbers and I thank God I have never been elected through party influence. I have survived on ODM all through not because ODM is popular in my area but because I always call a spade a spade. I want to thank you because you are serving your second term and God willing you will serve your third term; but if you have serious elected and nominated leaders demonstrating democracy in a positive way, they can make people see sense in your leadership. But if you have Honourable Members whom when things are seriously being discussed or debated they are outside making calls to the CECMs; then we are in the same basket.

I want to follow the idea of our Leader of Majority, we have come up with serious discussions in this House, even sometimes we start signing lists to impeach people who are incompetent but within no time the same leaders will rush outside and engage themselves in discussions of getting something so that the list does not serve its purpose. My worry is and I want to join the Leader of Majority not that I am joining him in Kenya Kwanza, but I am joining him on the idea he gave us. That these CECMs are enjoying because they are under the shelter of the Governor. Away from that, they understand that if you call, you will again give your demands that now that you want to talk to Honourable Members, can you do the necessary. That is where the rains started beating us.

It is only in the County Assembly of Bungoma that if today you call the CECM before a committee, the Honourable Members will run to the CECM trying to sweet talk him and telling him how he is performing. I have seen that so our Leader of Majority you are right. Whatever you have said is true, let us walk the talk, let us say that we are ready to deal with whomever that is messing with the education sector.

There are so many things the leaders have said and I agree with them; but if we can put our parties aside, positions aside and get the understanding that the voter is your boss because the time this Assembly will be dissolved, even the members of staff whom we work with will pretend as if they don't know you. I have seen this in the local authorities; even our own sons and daughters whom we employed! You will find them being agents of your opponent, what am I saying? If you are here, enjoy that privilege of being here and do it right, if you do it right even if you go outside the gate you remain a leader.

You have moderated this House and nobody will say that he or she has never raised his hand for you to give them time to debate and you denied them. You have been fair to us. The only problem is what we say here is not what we do and what we do is not what we mean.

Hon. Everton Nganga: Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me a chance to contribute towards this motion that was ably moved by Hon. Lusenaka our Leader of Minority and eloquently seconded by Hon. Joseph Nyongesa the Leader of Majority. I would like to begin with officers seated in the gallery. They were given a chance as liaison officers to pass messages from this House to the Executive and I would like to urge them to pass the correct message and not deviate from the truth that is being said by Honourable Members.

One time, His Excellence Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of Uganda said that in a debate of dwarfs, what is the value of a dwarf telling the other dwarf that I am taller than the other? We are all dwarfs regardless of the parties that we were elected on; we are all in problems. You know our Deputy Speaker who is my age mate and my friend mentioned my name and said that even if you are blue like Nganga...I am just emphasizing on that and on the statement that he said that we are all in problems. We are all dwarfs from what His Excellence the president of Uganda said.

Mwalimu Nyerere also said that if Americans are going to the moon, we Africans cannot go to the moon. Let us provide water to our people, let us provide bursaries to our people, and let us provide money for scholarship to our people in Bungoma County. Let us set aside enough money to buy drugs in our hospitals so that we can treat our people. The reverse that is being done in Bungoma County is that the Executive are allocating money to multiyear projects and coming up with variances; allocating money to projects which the national government has said that it will take up...what are our priorities then? We are missing on our priorities in this County.

I was elected by people from East Sang'alo and I am very much worried, I am now 46 years and my first born is in Form Two. I am worried if I will not be reelected in 2027, what will I do? It is just because of the mess which is being done by the Executive of Bungoma County. From today, let them know that we the dwarfs that they have been thinking we shall never be united are united and we are going to face them.

You know when our Leader of Majority was seconding, he said that he knows very well that a mess has been done and we are discussing here; now, what is the essence of inviting these people when we know that a mess has been done? I have been in this House since 2017 and I know what we have been doing; the Leader of Minority and Leader of Majority, please, we don't want Honourable Members to deviate. Remember any organized coup should not last for more than 24 Hours. Can you initiate a process; can you come up with a team of advisors and initiate a process? Hon. Speaker let nobody find me on the streets and tell me sign here. These are some of the people who will go to the Executive and say that signatures are here now give me money. Let nobody use my name to get money, let us do these things diligently and in a proper manner. We do it then keep those signatures then we move, we need to begin well. Let us all be keen, some people are going to use this situation to harness some money and we don't want this. Let us move very first. This is a very good motion and this is the time we have been yearning for. The way Hon. Wambulwa said, we have been gaging ourselves, we as the minority are weak and now

that we are going to work together, we shall be strong. We accept you are superior, it is true; but please...Hon. Speaker, don't allow anybody to interrupt me.

I remember one time somebody told me 'you are in the opposition please suffer', No! Our people are suffering, let us assist them. I have finished and that is my submission I support the motion.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Leader of Majority, you are not late kindly inform us

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa: (*On a Point of Information*) Thank you Speaker. I just wish to inform this House that what we are saying could be right but you know one thing could be that as a House and as leaders, what is important for us is to walk the talk, whichever time however long it will take and as long as we are strong we will achieve. I wish to inform this House because I did a test here when I was inquiring on the issue of three per cent and the sympathizers for the CECM were people from opposition. They were requesting me all the time to relieve him. Those from the side of majority were firm but people from minority side were calling me, requesting me. In fact, I wanted Hon. Jeremiah to be here because when the CECM, Education was in this House, he openly said that it is your people sacrificing you. That we shall stand with you firmly, these people are haters of performance. That is why I said if we can put our interests aside and pursue what we are after, we shall achieve; but the way I am seeing, even my cousin Hon. Nganga was saying leave him, now, he is saying let us move with speed. So, why are we hurrying when we have some facts? Let us be serious and ensure that what we say we stand with it.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Nangulu, Hon. Ipara then Hon. Vitalis

Hon. Charles Nangulu: Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me this chance. First, I take this chance to applaud the leadership of this House for coming together; and one moving a motion and our Leader of Majority seconding. Since we joined this regime, we have done two main budgets and two supplementary budgets and it happens that it is me who has been moving those motions. It is not right for you to stand here to read a motion for eight hours and the implementers run it down. As I stand here to support the motion, I am just wondering; scholarship and bursary happen to be recurrent and not development items and we have had cases where we have projects on development and they are not able to roll over because we are told there is no money. I wonder whether it is possible to have a recurrent project rolled over to another year. In my feeling, this money has already been taken to a pillow somewhere and as we make noise, they will just pick the money and bring to you. I don't see with these new budgets where we shall get the almost Kshs125Million which we allocated in our budget for scholarship in the previous year. Let not anybody come here as we invite them to tell us that there is money for bursaries, recurrent is never rolled over.

Two, I will not repeat what members have talked about. I will just mention that when this regime took over in 2022, I remember in my Ward I had 292 students on scholarship which as members of the County Assembly went back, we were told to reduce to 42. You can imagine reducing from 292 to 42! We went for the needy people who didn't have anything and those 42 are currently at home. These are people who have transferred from schools, in my Ward; Namwala Ward. We had all those students in National Schools and now they are in Day schools and we are

the ones even paying fees. Some, we put them on bursary and you can imagine from last year in June up to now, money has not been received.

When we did the vetting, we identified these students and also as you do the payment, you will realize that the Executive denied us from being given cheques to take them to schools. From my own experience; the few times we have taken cheques to schools, you take a cheque of maybe Kshs200, 000 with a list of students. I have them paraded and there is no single school I went to and found students in that school, most of them have transferred, some have gotten married while some have died. This idea of having our cheques being done by the Executive... I suspect there could be something; I don't know and I have heard rumors that even the current one, I don't see why cheques are written by Ward administrators and bursary team and then taken back to the Executive for banking. What are they hiding? I am told from a very reliable source that when they were banking, they were banking more cheques, more money was being given to the schools so that it can be given back to them. Otherwise, why were we giving them cheques to bank for us and the schools can bank on their own accounts? This idea of having our cheques being banked by the Executive is a thing that should stop. Let us stop it in the coming year, let us have all our cheques banked by schools or even ourselves as Honourable Members of that Ward to take the cheques to the schools and know who the beneficiaries are.

Hon. Speaker I support the motion and I submit

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Ipara, then Hon. Vitalis and then I will have Hon. Cornelius. Proceed, Hon. Ipara...

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Thank you Hon. Speaker for allowing me also to lay my hands and my legs on this important motion. Hon. Speaker for the first time...

Mr. Speaker: Laying your hands is okay, but the legs part is the one which scares us. How do you lay your legs on this motion?

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Because actually they are firm on the ground and the hands are holding the trees around so that I don't fall. Hon. Speaker, allow me to begin from here. Today the leadership both from the minority and the majority have been included in the class of leaders who are religious and the Bible says when you belong to that class, the people rejoice.

I wish to laud you for running away from those leaders who are wicked and our people are groaning. The cry is all over there Hon. Speaker. The reason they are saying is that we the elected representatives of the people who have gone in bed with the Executive. That is why they are doing all these dangerous practices.

Hon. Speaker, where I come from and Hon. Milliah knows because they normally talk with my close friend; is when you find something that has been classified as dangerous, it must be stopped on the spot and action taken. The Leader of Majority has convinced me that actually it is

not a walk in the park and that heads have to roll. An entire department is unable to provide a list of students whom it has placed under the scholarships category. I have been there for six months now. I sympathize with the chairperson of the Committee on Education.

He has demanded for a reconciled list which can guide, but up to this moment nothing has been availed. I wish to conclude by saying that in that Department we have fraudsters and whose intention is to defraud the innocent people of Bungoma County through the innocent hands of the Honourable Members of this Assembly; which we should not accept. I wish to urge the leadership that you must become like Nehemiah who stood with his people and rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem. Don't accept to be used, we have been used for a long time. Today the donkey is tired.

Who is fooling who Hon. Speaker? In this particular scheme, we have the Fund Administrator and when I was perusing some regulations, I realized that the Chief Officer Education is part of the Committee. Why have these people chosen to play with us? Or is it because they have now concluded that they can now take Ipara to this corner, then take the Hon. Milliah to that corner and they have their way? Hon. Speaker, this is the time we should say enough is enough.

Let me remind you one thing; you always call me at odd hours when you read what is happening. The most active and aggressive people come in the world from Tongaren community. If anything is said, it must have been said by a person from Tongaren. The reason is that they look for that information from all over; across, and within. We have been saying this Department of Education is rotten. We have always been talking about the CECMs and the others. But we have also technocrats in these departments; these are Finance Officers and Accountants. When they approve a payment, they approve that payment on which basis? If there is any department that we must have a total overhaul, we must begin from the Department of Education. Let us move away these people. There are those kitchen names in that department. Without them, the CECM cannot say anything. Without them the Chief Officer cannot survive. Where on earth can you find someone who says they have no record of what they are doing or even of what they have paid? The first time when I was moved to the Department of Education, I told them that I was going to a department that has learned people, a department that I will enjoy that I will not be questioned. But I got the opposite.

Hon. Speaker we were cheated; we were misinformed that we raise cheques for about Kshs4 million. Surprisingly what was released shocked all of us. Our electorates are calling us all sorts of names and there is nowhere to run to. If we continue to tolerate these people, we will be eaten by the hyena which we should not accept.

A proverb says; fools find no pleasure in understanding but delight in airing their own opinions. Hon. Speaker we have been cheated and told that there is a person who is more informed on the

Public Finance Management Act. When we call him into this House, we have been cheated that the Public Finance Act says this and that. Where did we go wrong? We don't get our priorities right. You get reimbursement or an exchequer of Kshs200 million but you allocate 150 on recurrent and development with only Kshs50 million. Are we serious as a county? Will we ever realize any development for this county? I am happy because today I have been given some hope. The Leader of Majority and the Leader of Minority have seen the light and they have accepted to work together to save the people of Bugoma County. As you join hands, it does not mean that you have compromised the tenets of political parties. You are elected to represent the people of your ward and when you don't deliver, what will you tell them? When our money is taken by one person for his own personal interest, what do you want me to tell the people of Tongaren ward? We have not paid Kshs1 million for students and they are crying at home since exam period has started. When will they cope up with the rest? I wish to say that this motion has come at the appropriate time, and we support it.

Maybe for all of us who do not know the scheme and the strategy these people have. Hon. Speaker; when the supplementary budget was brought in the House, the target was Community Empowerment Fund (CEF). They said let us reduce it to Kshs22 million. Under his own wisdom, the Leader of Majority said no; instead, he said we increase it to where it is supposed to be yet during the public participation stages, members of the public approved that it must not be less than Kshs100 million.

Why should we persuade these people? Why should we allow these people to destroy all the bridges that we are supposed to use when we go to ask for reelection? The next target is the bursary and the scholarship because they know the most affected people are the people who elected us to be in this House. I am saying this because I want the Honourable Members to understand the scheme that these people have and soon they will tell us to reduce it to Kshs10 million. Will you really deliver? Time has come if there is a department that has messed with the rest of the departments, without fear of any contradiction or anybody calling and saying that it is Honourable so and so who said this, it is the Department of Finance. He has messed all the things that we see and we have done. When I was looking at the reshuffle that was carried out by our good friend His Excellency the Governor, I told him that the first target will be the man from finance. But he was the one who was celebrated as an angel who has just come. It is a shame, disgusting and makes us have no words to say.

We are on a journey, let us stop and have a serious discussion so that we can deal once and for all with these people whose intention is to destroy the kingdom of the members of the County Assembly. I support.

Hon. Vitalis Wangila: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Let me also air my voice on this particular motion on the floor. First of all, I wish to appreciate my two leaders; the mover of the motion

and the seconder. Mr. Speaker I am a Catholic, I am a Christian and I have been on my knees praying that one time this House, the leadership Bungoma County Assembly will unite and speak with one voice for the interest of the residents of this county. This particular afternoon I want to appreciate my God that he has really answered my prayers.

I wish to agree with my good leader when he said that he is seconding this motion not for the sake of seconding the motion. That he is seconding to make sure that we go to the last ladder and its conclusion. As we are talking, there are some Honorable Members who are now targeting to go to the Executive and solicit for money on what we are discussing in this House. We know them and some of them might not speak on this platform. I am serving my second term in this House; they should not imagine that we don't know them. They should be warned that this time round we will not allow them to do that for their own selfish interests because we were elected to serve the people of this county. That what they are doing will haunt them at one time; that your children may not have peace in this county. Let us change and speak with one language to change this county.

As the Leader of Majority indicated, it is true that some of us sympathized with the CECM for Education because he showed the willingness to write the cheques but there were no funds as the CECM Finance never released funds to this Department. I have come to learn that the CECM Finance is always reluctant to process exchequer for bursary and scholarships because there is no avenue for kickbacks. That is why funds for Madaraka Day celebrations came within within two days because maybe there was something to be pocketed.

How come that after passing the budget in June last year and it is now June 2024; a whole year and we are yet to receive funds for bursary? Today I will sleep a happy person because both sides of the House have made a decision to walk together to serve the people. Hon. Nganga alluded that as a minority side we are weak and I dare say we are not weak. We are strong in argument but only weak in terms of our numbers. Now, it is even better because we are now going together for our people. I support the Motion.

Hon. Cornelius Wamalwa: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I know I am the last one. Many have spoken what I wished to speak on, but I have what I want to speak on.

First of all, I would like to thank the mover of this motion of County importance Hon. Lusenaka and even the leadership of this House. As a House, we have appeared like we are toothless. We have appeared as if we are helpless. This is the House that appropriates the money but the implementers do not commit to what we have appropriated. Now we appear like we are begging the Executive. I urge this House that let us make sure that these bursaries are dispatched during first term of the year. Last year, it was the same case; we disbursed the funds during second term.

This year, again, we are disbursing these bursaries in the second term. The year has already lapsed and the students have been at home and not attended school.

Even if we now pay these bursaries; already these students have lost. The needy students from the poor families have lost. Who is going to compensate these students? Let us make sure as a House that bursaries should become a first charge in first term before even anything else.

On the scholarship issue, we were given allocations of the number of beneficiaries. I have discovered like in my ward I was given 12 slots. Surprising enough when I went there to check, I got the number had been increased by two to 14. I wish to tell members here, you have also to check on scholarships. I was asking about the two beneficiaries who were added to my list of 12; where does that money come from? Whose interest is that? When I was asking, nobody could give me a genuine or a satisfactory answer.

The Department of Education as Hon. Ipara says has people in form of officers who are determined to make sure that it fails. Even if another CECM is brought on board, he might not establish what is going on. Because how can you allocate me a certain number of beneficiaries? Then you add on. Still on scholarship, I established that for a student in my ward, they paid Kshs75, 000 at Pangani High School while for others they only paid Kshs10, 000. We need to know as a House how much is allocated to each beneficiary because there is no clarity. Others are given Kshs30, 000, others Kshs10, 000. That is why these students have been brought back to day schools and they are demoralized. We don't know if we have destroyed their life of these students or not.

On VTCs in Bungoma County; they are giving an example of the only VTC in my ward. I went there and if it is true we got a grant of Kshs19 million and Kshs13 million disbursed. There are disparities. I don't know what they were basing on. In my VTC, the trainers or teachers are paid Kshs5, 000 a month. Can you imagine Kshs5, 000? Yet for the last 26 months, they have not been paid. Sure, is that normal? Then you come to an accounts clerk of that VTC, he is paid Kshs4, 000. For 26 months, he has never been paid. Then we get a grant and some people are playing around with this money. Where did Kshs6 million go from the Kshs19 million? Mr. Speaker, we have a serious issue here and if we are not careful, VTCs in our county will be in a total mess.

I have not even spoken about those trainers who are on Board of Management; they have never been paid. So there is a lot of disparities and demoralization hence our students are not getting value for money.

My VTC has about 233 students yet the trainers are only about eight and they have not been paid. Are we really moving forward or going backwards? Mr. Speaker, I support this motion

wholeheartedly. Going forward as a House, let us not appear to be like backing the Executive. Let us put down our foot and make sure that the Executive does what the House passes.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, just to prepare you in advance; all the 45 elected MCAs I have heard from Hon. Meshack Museveni that some children have changed their schools from National School to local schools. Go and get the exact number of the children and their names because what is going to happen, they will bring you a list of the children who are no longer in National Schools. Equally, Museveni was asking a very simple question. Why do you pay school fees in Kamusinga when the child is in Milele Secondary School? As you do so, get the data from your side as the elected MCA in your ward so that as they bring it, I will immediately share the same with you in a soft copy so that you prepare for the session. It is not even logical to pay school fees to National School when the child is no longer in that school and you know your data through your officers. We have to get the exact information.

The second issue Hon. Meshack Museveni I was asking was that we have spoken of tomorrow at 5:00 p.m. In my wisdom, I will ask you to adjust the time to the following day at 10:00 a.m. You are leaving the office now and you want the response by tomorrow evening!

So can you have it on Thursday morning by 10:00 a.m.? Or how do you want us to do it? That is why I am consulting you to agree. You know Oscar is here. So let us give it up to Thursday at 10:00 a.m. for your feedback so that you prepare. When you say tomorrow in the evening hours, they will say time was too short for them to respond.

Hon. Meshack Museveni: Mheshimiwa Spika nafikiri hii kaunti yetu ya Bungoma inafanya shughuli zake kwa mfuno wa kisasa na iwapo wanataka maelezo yoyote kuhusu yale yaliyofanyika mwaka uliopita; hata ukiwauliza hawa Karani wa Bunge mbele yako watakueleza kwamba kutoa hiyo ripoti haiwezi chukua muda mrefu. Tukiwapea wakati mwangi huenda tukatoa fursa kwa mambo mengine kufanyika. Natumai wako na wafanyikazi waliohitimu na wako na uwezo wa kutoa ripoti hii kwa wakati mwafaka. Leo hii tumeacha yale ambayo tulifaa kujadiliana na ukaturuhusu kuzungumzia swala ibuka linalohusu kaunti yetu.

Mr. Speaker: Members, I appreciate the submission by Hon. Museveni. We should be aware that this communication is supposed to be done by the Clerk, it is already 5:10 p.m. and therefore this communication will be done tomorrow morning.

Secondly, you are aware that the Department is in transition; we have a new CECM and Chief Officer. We would rather have response rather than being told that we give them more time because of the short notice. I ask that we give them up to 10:00 a.m. on Thursday so that the Clerk can make this communication tomorrow and the feedback is given by Thursday morning before they appear in the afternoon on the same day to deal with issues as raised.

Hon. Milliah Masungo: Mr. Speaker, we have lost this journey somewhere because of this transition which took place two weeks ago which might not make any differences in the office. If possible we can also get the former team to join the rest...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Milliah, the moment you take over, you take over the liability and assets...

Hon. Milliah Masungo: The originators of these problems are comfortable in other offices celebrating.

Mr. Speaker: If need be, we will call them here. Honourable Members, we need to conclude on this issue. What is pressing you Hon. Jeremiah?

Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba: Thank you Mr. Speaker, the issue is not the CECM or the Chief Officer; we have people that have been managing those bursaries, who need to provide the information to them. The major issue is about the finance team that we need to ask them for funds on the Floor of this House.

Question on prayer 3 and 4 on the said motion of county importance was put and carried.

The ayes have it.

(Applause)

I will ask the Clerks- at- the- Table to ensure that this is processed right away to the Executive. Next item?

MOTION

1. REPORT BY PUBLIC INVESTMENTS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE ON THE:

REPORT OF AUDITOR GENERAL ON BUNGOMA COUNTY ASSEMBLY HONOURABLE MEMBERS CAR AND MORTGAGE SCHEME FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2021

BUNGOMA COUNTY STAFF CAR LOAN AND MORTGAGE SCHEME FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDER 30TH JUNE, 2022 AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF BUNGOMA COUNTY ASSEMBLY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2022

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you Hon. Speaker for what is coming up on the Order Paper. The Members of the County Assembly today they have spoken and utilized their energies in discussing the motion that has just ended and we would want to allow them to rest so that when the response comes, they will be fresh to handle the said response in preparation for gruesome grilling on Thursday Afternoon. Hon. Speaker, I move that we shelve that Business...

Mr. Speaker: Under which Standing Order?

Hon. Francis Chemion: Mr. Speaker under Standing Order No. 62 and I wish to ask Hon...

Mr. Speaker: You are out of order. A motion that you can move without notice cannot be under Standing Order No. 62!

Hon. Francis Chemion: Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order No. 64, I move that we adjourn and move this motion to the next day based on what I have submitted. I now call upon Hon. Chikati to second this motion.

Hon. Timothy Chikati: Thank you Hon. Speaker. Truly looking at the mood of the House...

Mr. Speaker: What is the colour of the mood of the House?

Hon. Timothy Chikati: It is colorless.

(Laughter)

Hon. Speaker, Members are tired and we request that we re-schedule the motion that was supposed to be moved today. I second.

Question on the motion of adjournment proposed;

Question on the said adjournment of motion put and agreed to

The ayes have it

(*Motion deferred*)

ADJOURNMENT

Honourable Members, the House will adjourn its sitting and the motion by PAIC will be moved tomorrow at 9:30 a.m. as the first motion on the Order Paper.

The House rose at