

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY, 2023

Afternoon Sitting

3rd County Assembly

2nd Session

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COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

HANSARD OFFICIAL REPORT

WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY, 2023

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

PAPERS

REPORT BY THE SECTORIAL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING ON THE BUNGOMA COUNTY ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (ADP) FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024

Hon. Barasa Mukhongo: I wish to lay on the table of this Honourable House the report by the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on the Bungoma County Annual Development Plan (ADP) for financial year 2023/2024.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, a report on the Sectorial Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on the Bungoma County annual Development Plan- ADP for the financial year 2023/2024 is now tabled by the Committee and it forms the record of the House.

NOTICE OF MOTION

REPORT BY THE SECTORIAL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING ON BUNGOMA COUNTY ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN- ADP FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024

Hon. Barasa Mukhongo: Mr. Speaker, I wish to give a notice of Motion that this House adopts the report by the sectorial Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on the Bungoma County Annual Development Plan- ADP for the financial year 2023/2024.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, a notice of Motion having been duly issued by the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning; that this House adopts the report on ADP for Financial year 2023/2024, I direct the Table Clerks to send out this report to Honourable Members, for it is going to form business on our Order Paper in the course of this week.

MOTION

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS BY THE GOVERNOR

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa: Thank you. First I want to appreciate my Deputy for in my absence she was able to table and give notice for the Governor's address. As you are aware, it was very encouraging, very productive, focused and as a House, ours is to follow and make sure that everything is done. The thanks of the County Assembly be recorded for the exposition of the Public Policy contained in the address of the Governor; delivered on Tuesday 21st February, 2023.

First, I want to appreciate His Excellency the Governor for his time and for being informed of the willingness of our people and the agenda he gave during the Campaigns.

As you are aware, it was so brief, focused and straight to the point. I also want to thank you because through your own initiative, this speech was sent to our WhatsApp group and I hope every Member is having it.

Again, as you are aware, it is a self-explanatory speech which I think every Member has gone through and is indeed very satisfied. As per our Standing Orders, we need to ensure that we deliberate on it for almost four days. I am aware that at least every Member shall have time to speak on this speech and if possible for the purpose of record keeping, it could be better for you through your own discretion to ensure that each Member has a word on it. That is why I am saying that there is no need for me to dig deeper into it but to give space to my colleagues to also have a say.

Looking at finance, in the last regime, our performance in terms of Bills was somehow low and this time round we can appreciate for as we speak, we have eight of them. Going by this, I know we shall reach somewhere and that when it comes to the rating of County Assemblies, Bungoma may be rated in the first position because of the activeness of the Executive in bringing the Bills and efforts by Members to also come up with some Bills; to ensure that as an oversight entity we are doing what is so possible to our people.

In the Agricultural Sector, it is on our WhatsApp Hon. Kawa. We can appreciate because we have come from 200 bags to 500 bags. I think we should appreciate. Concerning Members of this House, it could be better in future if we can agree so that we base on the subsidies instead of free issues. As much as we are launching next week, we should look into it as much as we appreciate, allow me use these words, we are making our people become so lazy and they are not working for it. So, if this Honourable House could agree with me that in future, starting from this coming financial year, let us have subsidies, for it will be better.

The critical department was Education, but I thank His Excellency, the Governor. He was very categorical and in fact he informed this House that we shall have the *Kamkunji* (informal meeting) and discuss over the same. The issue of scholarship is really eating into our people because everywhere you go, the only message we are getting is against the issue of scholarships. In the wisdom of this House, at least from Monday we should have a clear way

forward on this issue so that we not only base on the scholarship, but also be focused on the Vocational Training Centres and ECDE centres. As you know, in every primary School we have three stages and so as an Assembly, we should also push for our core mandate; especially by putting up like three classrooms in every Public Primary Schools to enable our young ones to have space.

I say so because of our Vocational Centres for we are aware that the only protective entity is the issue of the Vocational Centres. For scholarships, we can leave them to our MPs for we are aware that they are receiving around 50 Million shillings per Constituency and they can also take care of our scholarship.

As we move to our other departments, like Trade, we are aware that at least every market shall have light and that means that the issue of our economy shall be improved. I don't want to dwell so much on that but my critical issue is that of roads. This is a critical department but through his speech, we noticed that almost every Ward through the Community Empowerment Fund, most of the roads tenders are at award stage for which I know Members maybe very happy. Like in my Ward they have been well evaluated on the issue of roads and water.

Allow me give time to my colleagues to also say something on the remaining departments. In a nutshell, I should say that the speech almost comprised every department and if at all he can walk the talk, then we are sure that our County shall at least move to the next level. Allow me call upon Hon. Hentry Nyongesa to second the Governor's speech.

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Thank you. Let me first thank the Leader of Majority for according me this chance for it is rare to be recognized by the highest entity of the House. I also want to take this time to say that the Governor's speech was almost to the highest of this House. Before I mention that, I want to appreciate you for creating the conducive environment that is being enjoyed in this House by the executive.

In the years that I was here before my return, we could have been asked to go and call for the Governor to give a speech here but this one is self-driven, that the Governor himself made a request to come and address the House and more so, the House was in a very good mood to receive the speech; and as the leader has put it, most of the things were mentioned especially on infrastructure. You will realize that the Governor talked on major projects of the County.

Going down to the Wards where most of the roads will be done, he said that most of the feeder roads that connect the dual carriageway are going to be considered. So that communication in terms of transport will be put in a way that the citizens of this County will enjoy.

Looking at the County Health department, you may realize that one of the serious issues in this County...

Hon. Milliah Masungu (*On a point of order*): I have only stood to ask for your guidance on the seconding of this report currently on the floor of the House. It has been our tradition or if

I can be guided with our Standing Orders and by you on who should second the report tabled by the Majority Leader on the floor of the House. Because we have always seen the Minority Leader seconding any government business brought on the floor by the Majority leader.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Milliah there is nothing for me to guide. Governor's speech is just like anything a Member can second. Even your boyfriend Hon. Makari can second it. There is nothing special in it. There is no vote that will be asked to be taken after this one. Even they could have asked any Member of the House to second it. So there is nothing for us to guide. Every Member can have time to contribute. Today I am in a very good mood. Every one of you will have to contribute.

Hon. Milliah Masungo: Mr. Speaker I beg that you withdraw some statements and mentioning Hon. Makari as my boyfriend, I want to say no. Walls have ears!

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: He is your good friend and even to add on, there is nothing wrong if he is your boyfriend. You are all adults.

Hon. Milliah Masungo: Mr. Speaker you see Hon. Mulongo is now insisting that you only come out clear to say that he is my good friend not my boyfriend.

Mr. Speaker: Let me clarify, there is nothing wrong if I was to invite Hon. George Makari your good friend to second, or Hon. Lusenaka your leader. So there is nothing wrong Honourable Members. Just as I have also put it, there is nothing wrong with you being friends. None of you is a minor and I think more replies will be taken.

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Thank you. I was mentioning something on Health that emphasis is being put in the Health sector in terms of infrastructure and in terms of human resource. As I touch on Human resource, there has been an outcry in most of the facilities that there is lack of doctors, nurses and other health workers.

When the Governor mentioned that he is going to employ the Health workers in the near future, it really touched me because where I come from; you will find that the ratio of the patients to the nurses is 1:150; which is very dangerous to any human being. It is prudent that when nurses and doctors are going to be employed, then it means the issue of strain in handling the patients is going to be a gone case and there will be no outcry in terms of human resources.

Everyone is waiting for the opening of a 300 bed capacity labour ward at the County Referral Hospital and even it can be agreed by our female Honourable Members here that that could have even been done yesterday.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Hentry, for them to agree with you, then it means you must be very active first. Are we together? As they agree with you then you must be very active for them to go to those labour Wards.

(Applause)

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: I am sure our Honourable Ladies are also listening that when I look at the faces around here, they are very active and that is when I see Hon. Katila, you can just read from the mood. That is something that has been awaited for and you may realize that the Governor has tried almost everywhere. Sirisia has been mentioned in terms of infrastructure, Bumula has been mentioned and if we go that way, we will realize that every Sub County in this County will have serious Hospitals.

Because I was asked by the Leader of Majority to second the Motion, I don't want to belabour much, but something that is very serious and the mover of the Motion has also touched on it is the issue of Scholarship. It is being handled, but you may realize that there is an outcry, that even the Governor has also indicated that we need to have a *Kamkunji* on the same.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker: Order Members! Consult in low tones.

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: You will realize that this is one of the Counties that are offering scholarships and everybody has given a hand; and we want to support the County Government to implement the issue of scholarship fully.

The only thing that I wanted to emphasize on is that the issue of scholarship must be expedited such that the department should run an extra mile to make sure that all children that were slotted for scholarship are given what is expected; because as we are talking, some of them are at home. I think Communication should be made to schools, because as a Government, we know very well that the money must be in the treasury before it is paid.

Now that the money is not in the treasury, I think the CECM in charge should communicate to schools that the money is there for those students, so that they are allowed in class. I don't want to belabour much for this is something that was touching on every citizen of this County. I want to welcome Members because the Governor has put it very clear that the Sub County that is going to pilot the launching of the fertilizer to the vulnerable groups is going to be Bumula and the reasons are very clear.

One of the feeding Sub Counties is Bumula Sub County and the other reason is that Bumula Sub County has a very big area in the low land such, and that is the one that produces food in the months of Aprils and May. You will realize that even Hon. Biashara is looking...

Mr. Speaker: Who is Hon. Biashara?

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Sorry Mr. Speaker. I was mentioning Hon. Mukhongo who owns a bigger market like Chwele which depends on maize, especially the green maize and so on, that is really waiting to see the green Maize and it is coming soon. In the next three months you will realize that we have green maize on the market and that green maize comes from Bumula. So I really appreciate that and I welcome all the Honourable Members for the

fertilizer and maize launch in Bumula. Most likely, it will be done next week on 3rd March; if the date can be confirmed with the Honourable Members so that it is seen that the county is moving. Otherwise I second the motion and say that we applaud the Governor's speech as it is. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Honourable Members I will be proposing a motion for debate but as I said earlier on, this is the only motion I propose and I never put a question for the House to reject or approve.

The motion for the exposition of the public policy as contained in the address of the Governor delivered on Tuesday 21st of February 2023 was proposed for debate.

Hon. Vitalis Wangila: Thank you Mr. Speaker. A fellow Honourable Member pointed his hands on me as I stood up because of the size of my body; it is the only time I can be seen by the Honourable Speaker. I am on my feet to congratulate our Governor for his speech and I will go straight to the department which he mentioned that really touched my heart. When we go to Trade, our Governor came out very clearly and analysed how he was going to have streetlights and flood lights in different parts of the County; in fact he mentioned mostly Chwele -Kabuchai and this town, but I want to say that revenue collection can be enhanced if we have fully functional streetlights and floodlights so that our *mama mbogas* (groceries vendors) can do business until late. As you know, when we have more revenue; that is when our county can be stabilized. That is why I am saying that we should be also have more funds allocated for the purpose of lights installation in next financial year, so that we enhance revenue realization from our own markets.

Mr. Speaker, we also want to agree with you that Agriculture the backbone of this county and when we talk about the subsidized fertiliser and maize, it is a good idea, but I want to agree with the earlier speaker who said that we need sub... sub... Can you help me to pronounce?

(Loud consultations)

Yes. Subsidies for... Yes, that is what I am saying. Mr. Honourable Member you will have your time.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, you know many people actually need the price of fertiliser or maize or seeds to be lowered so that at least most communities can afford to buy. So it is better for us to have to put it in system so that the people can acquire fertiliser at a low price than giving it for free. You know when someone gets something for free, he cannot put effort or cannot be serious about it; but when somebody who is serious about farming can also try the and afford to buy at a low cost if at all we shall have such plants in the future.

Yesterday evening is one of the evenings where I never rested my eyes because of the speech of the Governor when he mentioned about how the roads are going to be maintained in our

county and that is one way of easing movement of the goods from for example, Mt. Elgon. You know, it is one of the richest areas where we get a lot of agricultural goods from. That is why I am saying that in future, we should have more money allocated to the agricultural sector, and so that in this particular department, we will have more fruits in our County. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I submit.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Vitalis, I will have Hon. Kennedy

Hon. John Kennedy Wanyama: Thank you, for the opportunity to contribute to the speech by His Excellency's state of the County address. Mine is on two areas; the first area is the issue of street lighting. I am quite encouraged that our Governor wants to turn Bungoma into a 24- hour economy which is quite encouraging and we need to support him. But I want to bring to our attention that lights alone cannot convert a place to a 24- hour economy. So I wish to encourage our Executive to ensure that as we do the lighting, we also ensure that we have clean toilets, we need to ensure that we have running water and we need to also ensure that we have security in these places. That way, even yourself can comfortably pass through the market and do your shopping.

Secondly, the Governor also talked about the Trade Loan Regulations. As we are all aware, these are actually very low interest loans which these traders cannot access in commercial banks and so it is quite encouraging; and I just want to take this opportunity to congratulate our members in the Committee of Trade for fast tracking this exercise. Mr. Speaker, the Governor did not comment on a very critical area which has been happening and this is demolition of structures for traders. Mr. Speaker, these are family members, they earn their living through these structures. So as much as we want an organised town with enough space and clean spaces, my only concern is that we need to ensure that these traders are given modern and alternative places for them to carry out their activities. And so I want to urge my Chairman, Mr. Okasida, that as we wait for the second supplementary budget, let us just ensure that some money is allocated to build stores for these traders.

Hon. Jack Kawa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, allow me congratulate His Excellency, the Governor. Yesterday's speech to me, our Governor was very happy and I was in his mood when he was addressing this House. Secondly, I am the MCA for Bokoli Ward. I represent my people for Bokoli Ward in Webuye West Sub County and sometimes when we say things here, it is not that we are saying it with malice, it is because we do represent our people and that does not mean that we are doing witch hunt.

The speech from the Governor was very impressive. As an MCA for Bokoli, I was eagerly waiting for something to do with Webuye West and Bokoli; something of the sort so that actually I would feel happy. When our Governor started with roads, I was very happy when he talked about the heavy trucks coming all the way from Lwakhakha to Chwele. When our Governor mentioned that and then stopped at Chwele, not knowing that the heavy trucks are passing through some Wards if I can just mention quickly. They pass from Lwakhakha that is

Lwandanyi Ward for Hon. Tony, they come to Namwela in Hon. Nangulu's area, then Hon. Barasa Mukhongo's ward, that is Chwele, then to Hon. Museveni's Ward, that is Mukuyuni then end in Bokoli and in Matisi where they join the Highway from Malaba to Eldoret.

The Governor stopped at Chwele and never mentioned about Teremi, Bokoli or Matisi. So I wondered, and this is the reality. You always use that road Hon. Speaker and when we say here, we represent our people and the wearer of the shoe knows best where it pinches. If I am not wrong Honourable Members, we have 45 Wards here. When for example Mr. Speaker in Bokoli Ward I have four (4) sub locations; when I stand at any place and start mentioning some projects, I must make sure every sub location is mentioned somewhere, but when you go through our Governor's speech, some of the Sub Counties, some of the Wards are left out and this is for record purposes; this is historical. Our Governor was on Hansard about our roads. I end there

On Health, I want to applaud my Chair who was also the former Chairperson in the last regime Hon. Makari. In every Sub County, we have big hospitals like now in Webuye West we have Webuye hospital, then the Bokoli Sub County Hospital where the previous government commissioned a theatre. I was expecting our Governor to mention something to do with with Bokoli Sub County Hospital theatre, I did not see that. So, in every Ward, I was expecting that our Governor would have mentioned one or two projects, so that the 45 Honourable Members can actually feel that they are part and parcel of this government

Concerning Agriculture, I want to applaud our Governor when he talked about the subsidized. He talked about milk coolers in some of the Sub Counties; in Bokoli Ward we have Webuye West TTI you know...Hon. Milliah has just walked out. In Webuye we have a TTI where there is a Milk Coolant there and nothing is being done on that thing. I a'm sorry to say this because he mentioned to me Bumula. I mean when we talk about Bumula , it is a section of Bumula when we talk about Mt. Elgon it was just a section of Mt.Elgon area and not the entire Mt. Elgon. So some of the...

Mr. Speaker: Yes Hon...

Hon. Henry Nyongesa (*On a point of information*); I just want to inform Hon. Kawa that some of the projects cannot be expedited in the Wards. For example, Hon. Jack Wambulwa is here, he knows very well that there is a cooler at Kimaeti. It was not mentioned in the Governor's speech. We are not saying that these things must be mentioned at Ward level and when we mentioned about what *Mheshimiwa* Kawa is mentioning about the hospital... when you refer to the Bumula Sub-county Hospital, it is one of the serious hospitals in this County and you may realise that Webuye...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Hentry, when you say it is one of the serious hospitals; you mean others are jokers or what?

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: I was just informing Hon. Kawa that some of the projects cannot be mentioned at the Ward level.

Mr. Speaker: When he is already informing you, you cannot inform him. Let him first finish and you will be allowed.

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Mr. Speaker I was just saying that I was just informing the Member that some of the projects cannot be mentioned at Ward level. Let us say, you see, we are talking about the subsidised fertiliser, but here we are saying fertiliser for vulnerable members of the society; those are some of the initiatives that are handled at the Ward level, but the hospital, factory and other things are things that can be mentioned at the County level where they benefits the entire population of the County. That is the information.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Jack what is your point of information?

Hon. Jack Wambulwa (*On a point of Information*): Hon. Speaker, First of all, I want to thank you for giving me this opportunity. I want to applaud Hon. Kawa and what Hon. Nyongesa is trying to say, he is actually trying to pull on his side. One, he should realise that Bumula is not Kimaeti and Kimaeti is not Bumula. Kimaeti is a Sub County which is independent from Bumula.

(Applause)

So when he benefits in Bumula, I cannot just be there to applaud that Bumula has benefited. Now, I will be there to say we have benefited as Bumula people and that will be wrong. Number two, on the issue of the cooler; there is no way you can mention a cooler which is not complete and existing. So it is wrong for him to misinform the House that we have a cooler in Kimaeti, when that project is incomplete. Thank you Hon. Speaker

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Let's go back to Hon. Kawa please.

Hon. Jack Kawa: Thank you Mr. Speaker. This is on a light note that let Honourable Members draw the line. We are here and we represent people down there who cannot to be here. So when I have been pointed to second the motion, then all of a sudden when a Member is contributing, then I come in, then we actually miss the point somewhere. I want to urge my friend Hon. Nyongesa that we are all leaders, we represent people and when I say this Hon. Speaker knows why I am saying so because he comes from my Ward. I said this Hon. Speaker, Hon. Nyongesa the wearer of the shoe, the person who knows Maeni Ward is none other than Hon. Iddi .Nobody else, not you nor me, it is him. Let us respect other people's views when we are here...

(Applause)

And I said it; the time keeper for 2027 is ...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Kawa, just stick to the motion at hand. Some of the Members who are making noise while others are contributing, you are one of them, so just stick to the motion and proceed.

Hon. Jack Kawa: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I was talking about the milk cooler in Webuye West TTI in Bokoli Ward. You also know about this elephant known as Siranda Coffee Factory; it was allocated funds on some two financial years in the last regime. To date, when we go to Misikhu, let me say this because I come from Webuye West; Kitunyi Coffee Factory and Misikhu Coffee Factory was allocated some funds, that is eight million and seven million shillings. It was not mentioned anywhere.

(Applause)

When I say these things, it is with no malice. Our Governor gave his speech and we are here now to say that we see what is happening in our Wards. Otherwise concerning the fertiliser, that is good, in the next regime we want to improve it. I want to laud our Governor when he talked about confirming the casuals in the health sector; that is a credit. They have advertised other vacancies and that is a plus to us Honourable Members. But let us make sure nine Sub Counties and 45 Wards are mentioned in his speech. I rest my case.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Kawa. I will have Hon. Chikati.

Hon. Timothy Chikati: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I think you have realised that our minority whip has crossed the floor to her boyfriend side on the other side; so give us direction.

(Applause)

Hon. George Makari: Hon. Milliah is just consulting me here. It is not that...

(Laughter)

Hon. George Makari: Not that she has crossed to the good friends' side, but she is just consulting. So Hon. Chikati should withdraw that statement.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Chikati what did you mean by...

Hon. Timothy Chikati: ...from this side not the other side. Anyway I withdraw the statement.

Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me an opportunity to also to congratulate His Excellency the Governor for the speech that he made yesterday; in my view, our Governor was trying to build on the speech that he made on 18th of October 2022.

The most important thing that you have to realise especially the elected MCAs in this House; we are on fire with our electorates. What was given during the 18th of October in the Governor's speech, what was given yesterday, people are tired of listening to the stories. Some of us are not staying in our homes because the moment you leave your home, the insults are upon you. The roads are not done, and the rain season is coming very fast. Fertilizer is not on the ground and yet we are ending the month of February, March is just around the corner, and people have to start cultivating.

So the speech was well done and I applaud it, but most importantly, we want to see hands on activities on the ground, especially for us elected MCAs. I also want to applaud our Governor, especially on the road project of Brigadier- Naitiri- Misikhu that the contractor who was there had his contract terminated and that we are getting a new contractor; since nothing was done on that road during the last regime, yet that road is connecting people from Kakamega and Trans Nzoia Counties to Bungoma County. So my appeal is that when that one is done, most of us will have access to it

Finally about the climate change; how I wish that this could be fast tracked so that the elected members are to know as to when this World Climate Change Committee is going to be formed and when these funds are coming. Right now, during this hot season, some of those funds could be helping us you know, to drill boreholes, to do what have you and irrigation so that we can mitigate the situation. With those few remarks, I laud His Excellency the Governor's speech and say that it is now time to work. In fact, we don't have time. We are only remaining with less than three and a half months for this financial year yet nothing has been done on the ground. Thank you Mr. Speaker

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, I will have Hon. Waiti

Hon. Waiti Wafula: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to applaud our Governor for his wonderful speech which he presented to this Honourable House yesterday. I am looking at this speech and as the Chairperson of the Agriculture Committee, I am wondering because Agriculture as a department has several departments ranging from Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation, Veterinary Services, and Cooperative Development.

Now if we dwell so much on Agriculture Farm Support Input Programmes and increasing the budget for the same programme year in and year out, the governor must come out very clearly and tell us how he is going to make sure that other departments in agriculture that I have mentioned, that is, Livestock, Cooperative Development, Fisheries and Irrigation are not paralyzed.

When you look at the last five years, and my senior colleagues who were here in the last regime can bear witness that Cooperatives as a department did not have any allocation. This means that the so called Chief Officers just sat in that office for five years; drew their salaries but nothing was done. As you are aware Members, cooperative movement can assist any entity to create employment. Our young ones after school travel a long way to other Counties

like Thika looking for employment in Cooperative Societies. The Executive should come out and tell us whether these other departments shall not be paralyzed.

When we look at education for example, this song that is sang everyday about scholarship and bursaries; remember it is not our core mandate. After devolution, the core mandate of the County Governments in education is ECD programmes and vocational training. However, we divert our money assisting other entities. Mr. Speaker when we move to our vocational training colleges, some instructors have worked for years and have not earned anything, but we divert this money to assist the national Member of Parliament in paying bursaries. We should come up with very good structures on how we are going to move going forward as an Honorable House; so that we leave behind a legacy when we leave these positions. I want to submit as I congratulate the Governor.

Hon. Allan Wanyama: Thank you Mr. Speaker for the chance to contribute on the speech of the Governor. As a teacher, my main interest is on education. I want to agree with the Governor on scholarships. Honourable Members, putting politics aside, we actually need to have manageable number of students on scholarship, but the only challenge that we are having as a County is a follow up programme for the students enrolled on the scholarship programme. We are investing County funds to these students but after form 4, we are not having a clear follow up programme on these students on where they are going to. We need to have a policy that will guide us on following up the students after form 4; just like the Equity Wings to Fly Programme, once the students clear their form 4, they follow up and in fact, some of them are taken to work in Equity Bank as they wait to join university. Once they join universities, they are sponsored and thereafter they help them look for employment.

I plead with this County that we should also have a follow up programme on the students enrolled on scholarship. We can have a manageable number like 50 students; not looking at where they come from, but just needy students from Bungoma County that are manageable. That way we can do a follow up for these students; and those who do well after form 4 the county can keep on sponsoring them and after that they give them internship in the County Government and eventually find employment opportunities for them.

Lastly, about Tongaren - Misikhu road which has been a song for long and the people of Tongaren are tired of the excuses that are being made by the governors that have been there from 2013 up to now. These excuses being given about contractors should come to an end Mr. Speaker. Let funds be allocated to that road, and let it be completed. I submit.

Hon. Edwin Opwora: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to laud the Governor's speech and also point a few issues that I believe as a House if we embrace and do our main role, we should realize that these activities are achieved.

First, I want to comment on health and laud the Governor for the thought of increasing the number of our health workers. However, it is my hope that these health workers will be decentralized quickly. I noted that in his speech he has alluded to the fact of improving the current Level I and II health centres. We also have dispensaries in our Wards and it is in my belief that some of the new health workers will be decentralized to these facilities; so that we

can reduce the distance of our people coming to the main general hospital or those larger health centres. We have noted recently in the media where some of the health workers are part of the scheme that steal the medicines and other medical facilities from these hospitals. I want to urge the County Government to have a keen eye on our health workers because we have some of them that engage in private practice like pharmacies; and it is my hope that medicine coming through the national government to our hospitals does not find its way to these private entities.

On the issue of climate change, I want to applaud the Governor. He mentioned about the issue of climate change, and the fact that this Honourable House passed that Bill in time to ensure that we get this fund. Currently in our Wards we have a team that is moving around trying to help constitute those committees. I urge these Honourable Members to be part of that team so that they ensure that we have good people who will represent the interest of our various Wards and ensure that the Climate Change Fund is properly utilized. Let us not look at climate change as just part of tree planting but also the other activities that will help our Wards improve.

As I finalize, the issue of Trade Loans; I believe this was the baby of our Governor and if training of our people both youths and women is not done properly on how they can fully use these loans, then we might find ourselves in situations where the loans are not paid, and we as Honourable Members will be subjected to paying for our Ward people. It is my hope that the team that will provide these Trade Loans will provide training to our people so that the money is used to bring profit.

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Thank you Mr. Speaker for catching my eye. I laud the Governor's speech with a very loud voice but it has now just become a song on the side of municipalities. I come from Kimilili Municipality and since last year October it was mentioned by the Governor that Kimilili will be independent; it will be given full mandate but to date it is just a song for Kimilili and Bungoma Municipalities. We want to create more municipalities, how sure are we that we are going to relinquish all the functions and the budget for those municipalities if these two have not been done? Today, I am sorry; it is not about the Governor's speech but I just heard from the Chair of Environment that people are moving in our Wards....

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Aggrey we are debating the Governor's speech, anything else is basically hearsay before this House. Stick to the motion beforehand please.

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Climate change was also mentioned by the Governor, and that is why I am also mentioning it here. That Climate Change Fund will be flooding in at 50 Million per Ward. The reason why I am coming in with that question is to ask the Chair of Environment that the 45 Members here assembled and that people are moving around constituting...

Mr. Speaker: Yes under which Standing Order, if you don't know then we go back to Hon. Aggrey,

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for protecting me. This thing of Brigadier road has now become a big thing, every time from the first Governor until now the third Governor we are still mentioning something to do with the road. Around two Billion or three Billion on that road and we always receive 12 Billion per year. Let him be very serious because that is a granary for Bungoma and Kenya at large. When this Brigadier road is through, everything will be possible.

On the part of coolers, I am in the Agriculture Committee and the only coolers that are working so well are in Mt. Elgon; and that is Kaptama. These other coolers as Chair of Agriculture since something was mentioned by the Governor about Agriculture, let us be alert when it comes to budgeting. I have a cooler in my Ward but it is just there, in Mihuu there is a cooler but nothing is going on, a cooler is in Maeni and nothing is going on. All these coolers that we are mentioning is a waste of national resources waste of the county resources, and if we are not keen, we might again waste a lot of money.

Hon. Caleb Wanjala: Thank you Mr. Speaker for also giving me an opportunity to contribute on the state of the County address from our Governor. I want to laud his speech especially when he touched on the issues concerning agriculture. You all know agriculture is the backbone of our country and a lot is expected. When he talked about the issue of subsidized fertilizer and seeds, I know this is coming at a time when our county has a deficit of food especially maize. I know when we equip our farmers on time; Bungoma County has the capability of producing more.

On the issue of urbanization, he talked of Chwele being lifted to a township status, Kamkuywa also being lifted to a township. I think this will help a lot when it comes to revenue collection in our county. Like one of my colleagues said, that when these things like the streetlights and good abolition blocks are put in those markets, a lot will happen.

I expected a lot from our Governor especially after we passed the supplementary budget. I expected to hear a lot of success from what we passed on the supplementary budget. However; nothing has happened; even those roads that were supposed to be done in that supplementary budget up to now nothing has happened. We are just wondering because the main budget is coming when even these other issues have not been cleared and this has led to a lot of pending bills to this County. Yesterday it was very shameful for those who watched the television that Bungoma County is among the 20 counties that have a lot of pending bills and even diversion of funds which are supposed to be put to other projects. I expected to hear a lot from what we passed in the supplementary budget.

However; my heart is full of joy because Bukembe East Ward was mentioned on the side of KELKOP project which has commenced. I know it is going to change the lives of so many people. Just like my colleague has said, we also have a cooler in Bukembe that has been there for the last close to 10 years and it is not working. Nothing is happening on it and the government spends a lot of money. How I wish that he could have also mentioned something on the stalled projects. With those few remarks I support the speech of our Governor.

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the good people of Kaptama, I want to make a comment on what the Governor presented before us yesterday. I kick my contribution from KOICA projects. In Bungoma we have a very big challenge as we speak now because of water shortage in most of our Wards. To be specific, in my Ward we have acute shortage of water. Mr. Speaker from the speech, I read a paragraph where the Governor has alluded that they are having preparations to have KOICA phase III; because we had the first two phases which is in Kubura coming to Kanduyi and is now negotiating for phase III; which is a project that is supposed to help avail water in Kaptama Ward, Elgon ward, Kamkuywa Ward and Tongaren Ward; it should be Tongaren Sub County because I happened to have looked at that document. If this water project will succeed, if the concept paper will go through and the Koreans fund that phase III of the project; we would have solved our crisis that we are having in our County and in some of our Wards.

In terms of health, the Governor talked of Mt. Elgon KMTC and we want to thank that we have that institution in Mt. Elgon. We now think that if it is possible, what has been constructed is majorly administration block and it was done by the County Government of Bungoma. We now request that maybe in future allocations, we put more money so that the KMTC; the only public institution that will help the people around there and the country at large should be completed and operationalized so that it helps even grow the economy of that region. We also have the 300 bed capacity which should also be completed because it will help most of our patients when they are referred to the referral hospital.

I still have issues on health and our able Chairperson is with us here. I have facilities in my Ward which were opened and drugs are inside them minus the people supposed to attend to patients. I have a dispensary that was launched in a place called Tobol in the reserve, drugs were taken there, beds were taken, everything else was taken but so far that facility is not functioning and I am happy that there is an advert already placed by the department. I now hope and believe that those practitioners that will be employed, part of them should be posted to such facilities. This is because people accessing medical facilities in that area are at a big risk. Traveling from Tobol to a facility that is near that place is around 40 kilometres; which is Kaboywa Health Centre. The roads are impassable, so most of the times when we have issues with the deliveries it is chaos.

We believe and trust that such facilities should have medical personnel. I have just given an example of Tobol; there may be others in other Wards. This may have informed the department to advertise for the 246 medical personnel. Maybe to add something on that, because of the nature of the terrain and the climatic condition of the place, we may request that those ones who are taken should be the indigenous people from that region so that they are able to help the indigenous communities that are in the forest.

I come to the special programmes where we have had issues with; I can see there is an attempt to streamline it. There is even something that has been added to that programme which has been taken from roads - the fire department. We have had issues with this programme which I may not go into deep details because of the time that is before us. I want

to believe what the Governor has said that this is a body that responds without any delays when we have hazards and risks that emerge in our Wards.

We have had this; schools roofs are blown off, bridges are damaged, farmers crops are damaged and all that can be mentioned but no one has been coming to the rescue of all these. Now we have a re-organized special programme which I want to believe will respond with the speed that is required to the plight of the people of Bungoma. I am sure the chairperson of Budget Committee is around; there was an allocation to that programme. I looked today at the supplementary budget, there is money allocated to the special program and I believe that in case of anything in our Ward, there will be quick response.

On agriculture there are these programmes that are running in our Wards; what we may be lacking is proper monitoring, evaluation and supervision. You may have a World Bank funded programme or any other programme but the M & E unit of our County Government should up their game. We need proper monitoring, evaluation and supervision of these programmes that are being funded in our Wards. I saw yesterday there was a mention of Kaptama, Kamukuywa, Tongaren and Musikoma that we mentioned to benefit. If these funds are availed to the people and there is no proper supervision and monitoring, sometimes it does not help our people. We need proper supervision so that our people benefit from such programmes. Otherwise, we may end up bringing the funds and that does not change the lives of our people.

On roads, I want to comment on two things; that tendering is a process but sometimes we have had issues where contractors are given work; they bid by putting good papers, they use all other means to ensure that they are given these tenders but when the project is handed over to them, they disappear. Honourable Members in all the 45 Wards have been complaining; even in my Ward I have three road projects that are not complete and the reason is that a contractor applied through good papers, won the tender and after taking over the project they disappear or they come and do some little work and then they disappear. We want to encourage that all the tenders that have been advertised in our Wards should be given to contractors who have the capacity to deliver quality work. The issue here is capacity.

(Applause)

Because it is meaningless for an Honourable Member to have allocated 10M or 15M to a project and then a contractor comes who has no capacity plays along and runs away citing that they are looking for money. When you apply for these tenders you should be ready to perform what you have applied for. This has caused a lot of pending bills because they complete their work. The Honourable Members are put on toes by *Wananchi* (Members of the public) because of these contractors. Even some of them even if they say that they have completed, the type of work that they would have done in our Wards is wanting. Therefore, we want quality work to be done in our Wards.

Hon. Speaker, on Trade Loans I have seen the 12M are now at an advanced stage. These loans will help our people; the small scale traders. How I wish that it is now fast tracked, let

the documents that are supposed to be brought before the House be brought fast, we go through them, make our input and allow the programme to run so that the small scale traders, the *mama mboga's*, (Groceries vendors) those that are our bosses at Ward level are assisted. That is a good programme, we wish that the programme succeeds and comes into fruition soon.

I want to finally say this; that we as the County Assembly and the Executive passed the first supplementary budget and I am sure now the processes of ensuring that what we passed is implemented. What we only want is that let it be fast tracked. For example we need the roads to be made before the rains; the long rains are here with us. Even other departments apart from roads, even water; pipes pass through peoples land sometimes. You find in some places after they have planted, they will not allow a contractor to do anything in their land. We need them to be done before people go to their farms to do whatever they wish to do. Otherwise, I thank the Governor for coming before us and talking to this House and the County of Bungoma.

On Municipalities, for the first time this House appropriated monies for Bungoma and Kimilili Municipalities. There used to be no funds for those municipalities. If you could check on your gadgets, look at the budget and see what has been allocated to municipalities and what has been allocated to Housing etc. We used to have interference in that department because the KUSP projects that were supposed to be undertaken by the department of Lands, Housing and Municipalities were being undertaken in a different department. It was the work of the CECM just to sign for payments. This time we want the Municipalities to be operational because we have good will from the Governor; reason we have less funds allocated to them for development.

We are also sure the development partners they are saying they would be coming back soon in a strong way. If they come back, our Municipalities will grow. The process of ensuring Webuye and Chwele get Municipality status is almost over. It is about something happening in Nairobi then we will have the two Municipalities. We want to ask the Governor as he mentioned; some few market centres will be made to be towns. We want more of our markets to be towns. We want physical planning of these centres so that they can advance to those that the Governor desires. Otherwise, I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to contribute His Excellence the Governor's speech.

Hon. George Makari: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I want to brief, I will not be as long as Hon. Chemion because most members have talked and the points I would wish to put across most of them have been articulated. Before I say anything, allow me report that Hon. Milliah has officially crossed the floor to this side.

(Applause)

Next I'm praying for his Worship the Mayor, Hon. Balala to also cross the floor to this side and serve the government of the day. I liked it when His Worship the Mayor was sitting there; I don't know why he changed this position. I would wish that he reverts to that position.

Hon. Speaker I wish to applaud the Governor for the speech that he gave yesterday even though I was not in the House. I have gone through the speech which is nice. If there is a man I have confidence in to deliver in this county, it is H.E. Governor Lusaka; I am confident that he is going to deliver.

We were with you in this House while we were vetting the CECMs; I think you can see the Liaison Officer in this House, let him inform him (Governor) to inform the CECMs to pick Honourable Members phone calls and even the Chief Officers.

(Applause)

When we were vetting them here, we told them that we are vetting you and after one week you are going into office and you will refuse to pick calls. That is exactly what some of them are doing. The Liaison Officer should report that those people are on contract and they should begin picking Honourable Members calls. There is only one or two whom you can call even at night and they will pick your calls, but the rest have grown horns; they are already bigger than their offices and they don't even bother about Honourable Members. Hon. Speaker allow me use Swahili; "*eti hurwo rumcas*" (those Members of County Assembly) which is demeaning to us.

I wanted to point out one thing; a person mentioned about scholarships and bursaries, we passed a supplementary budget sometimes back and I can report here that in our Wards there are some students that went with scholarship allocation letters and they were returned home because schools could not take promissory notes from the County Government of Bungoma since the previous regime actually cheated them. They gave the promissory notes but they never honoured the payments. Therefore, most of the students that were allocated scholarships some of them are at home and are camping at our doors as early as 6:00 a.m. This has made some of the Members' even escape home; they don't stay there because students are at the door almost 10 of them. You can't pay for everybody Hon. Speaker. It should be reported that this issue on scholarship and bursaries must be sorted once and for all.

Two, Hon. Speaker, this issue of Public Administration, there was a task force people referred to them as a 'sausage eating task force'. I don't know where they were eating sausages from. They were dealing with the issue of Village Administrators and other extraneous issues and we have never had that report up to date. There were Village Administrators who were employed over aged; some of them did not even apply. How can you employ someone who did not apply? We wanted this report so that we check, debate and see where the mistakes were. This is the same as the Education task force; there were some

glaring irregularities that were supposed to be brought to the attention of this House so that we sort this thing once and for all.

I also want to laud Hon. Chemion who has just talked about the issue to do with water. I wish the Governor could have said that the machines that were purchased for drilling water; actually there is a water crisis in the County. There is no water; people are camping like in my area in Siritanyi some place women go to look for water at 3:00 a.m. Even the birth rate if you check well that side, women are not delivering because they spend a lot of time waiting for water at night when the husbands sleep alone. Do you expect such people to give birth? Because the time they time they are supposed to procreate, they are looking for water.

Mr. Speaker: I thought the side effects should be felt in October!

Hon. George Makari: Thank you Mr. Speaker for your guidance. This issue of water is a crisis and must be addressed as urgently possible because it has become a cycle. You find that every year during the draught season, we don't have water yet we purchased machines that can assist people to drill boreholes.

Hon. Chemion also indicated that there is a health Centre in his Ward that has drugs without personnel. Why can't you distribute these drugs where we have personnel and there are no drugs? I even wonder how the drugs went to where there are no personnel. I wish those drugs could be taken to Hon. Opwora's Ward to treat people and then when you get personnel the Hon. Chemion, we can now provide the drugs.

I also expected something on the 32 acres of land in Musikoma Ward that was purchased by the County Government. In fact it was purchased when H.E Lusaka was in office in between 2013-2017. There is nothing that has been mentioned. I just hear around that it is going to house the affordable housing such like thing. So far for almost 15 years, that land is idle, people have encroached on it, there are those that are burning bricks, some are selling bhang from there and every other thing. I wish that the issue on the 32 acres must be addressed once and for all.

Finally, I expected something to do with dams. In my Ward there is a dam called Namasanda Dam and various other dams in the County. Why could there be a way of rehabilitating these dams so that they can also benefit the community as well as being income generating ventures in our various Wards? If whatever that I have pointed out is corrected, I think we will move well.

Hon. Ali Machani: Thank you Hon. Speaker for allowing me also to say something over the Governors speech. I want to thank H.E Governor for creating to come and address this Third Assembly. Being the Governor of this County, it is a serious assignment within his office to leave the work before him and come to address us which we don't take for granted. For him to come and address this House it is a serious indicator and it portrays that he is committed to

serve his people. Not him alone, as an Assembly we have a role also but for him to come and confirm that he is committed and he seeks the support of the House and Honourable Members.

Hon. Speaker, the County Government of Bungoma we are now in the third term; we had the first regime which he served and he has come back for his second term. Hon. Speaker, there are serious things that the Governor mentioned and as elected and nominated Members who have interests to serve in this House we are given time by law to analyse and point out areas that he did not remember; maybe because of time or he feels some of these projects may not be of value. From where I sit there is no vacuum in government; it is only the leadership that changes. Africans will always talk about whoever that left office and praise the one in office. All over certain we will always talk about the current situation in life and forget what happened. I want to thank him because he was our first Governor who begun this county and he has the interest of Bungoma County at heart. It is only that when he was still performing, the people of Bungoma made changes and those changes should not affect development.

He gave us a report on how the plans for these towns are going to be rolled out. He mentioned about the CIDP, ADP and even how the Bills he intends to bring to this House which he believes if fast tracked it will assist him do serious development. The bill that I was not keen on was the Lake Region Economic Block Bill; I remember there was a time the Lake Region Bill came to this House but the Honourable Members were not keen and they were not convinced how they will be part and parcel of it. Now, I don't know which parameters he has used to convince this Assembly and Honourable Members and how is it going to assist the County Government of Bungoma. Now that the economy is struggling and not within our control; if you check even worldwide the Kenyan shilling has gone down against the dollar which is about 140.

That aside the Governor mentioned about agriculture and pointed out about the supplementary budget. As much as we talk about agriculture, are we keen with other programmes that started? I keenly listened to what he mentioned about the Chwele slaughterhouse; it is him that started the slaughterhouse but in the second regime the slaughterhouse did not work at the speed that they wanted. You check about the High Altitude Centre in Mt. Elgon. It means that when our leaders are elected in office they will always overlook what was started by others. We forget that those projects are projects that were proposed by the community. In this case we have a project in Webuye and I am happy my colleagues have mentioned about the milk coolers. We have a milk processing plant that was started by the last regime under Wangamati the former Governor. This project was to enhance agriculture more so, those who will be producing milk. Hon. Speaker, the building we are all aware that it was completed, the contractor is not on site. The essence of starting this project was to equip it and operationalize it. I expected him to mention something in regard to this project; I don't know may be because the area MCA is not in the same party; but let me think he forgot.

He mentioned fertiliser which is okay because previously the fertiliser which was given is not what we have embraced this year; because this year's proposal is 500 so you compare with what was in the last regime. At least we have a serious difference but our people have been receiving fertilizer all through since the inception of devolution. How I wish he could give us an analysis that since this started, because it is him who started, we went up to 800 bags per Ward, what are the end results? Has it changed the food production in our areas? As a president of the County that is what I wanted to hear from him but he was only engaging us to tell us how he has increased and how he is expecting that people are going to receive and he will be starting from Bumula. There is no problem in starting from Bumula we know 2100 farmers are going to get but what will be the impact?

The first regime in five years, did we have any impact or it is a game in our Wards that some of our people have taken it for granted; that they can be given every year and if you deny them they refuse to support you.

We need to agitate through the department of Agriculture that we can have a policy framework. That because we have had this program for the past 15 or 14 years, it means that people have improved because if given one bag of 50 kilograms for planting and 50 for topdressing and the seeds and for 15 or 13 years you have been given and there is no improvement and you are still crying *enjala* (famine), we are not moving anywhere. I think we are only looking...

Mr. Speaker: What did you say once again?

Hon. Ali Machani: Hon. Speaker, this is a term that I cannot get in my dictionary but our people will always complain about being hungry, so being a Speaker you will advise. That how are we going to change this community? How are we going to increase our production? The plan of giving fertiliser was we give you this year but next year you should not be queuing to get; whether you are disabled or a peasant, but given that kind of office you are not paying even a single shilling. Yesterday I expected the Governor who is a more seasoned leader to say that we have instructed my CEC or those in offices to come up with a policy framework that even next year we are going to raise fertilizer that can be accessed affordably by the farmers on a low rate as a County Government to improve Agriculture.

These free things are also affecting us as elected leaders because if today you give someone he is your friend, tomorrow when you do not give him, he is your enemy. Even these scholarships we are struggling, people are now calling to tell us that I am one of the beneficiaries but when he got, he did not inform you on phone that he had benefitted and imagine someone is being paid for school fees from form one to form four. It is a nice program but are our people appreciative? How prepared are they that after five years we are able to have enough food for all of us.

I am aware that the Governor said they have an MOU between the Government of Bungoma and other players that is the department through the World Bank. It is also prudent for the Governor to know that we have the two arms of Government and the key arm of Government is where you sit. We should not be the approving authority. We should not only be planning

to give them money. How is he involving the Honourable Members? It has been a challenge; not only him but even in the previous regime. You know when he was standing here some of us like praising him, when he is there we do not blame whoever left and we will praise whoever left and we are not blaming the current one. So we need to balance as elected leaders because when you criticise, you must have an alternative. When we are criticising the programs we need to also look at how he is also involving elected leaders in his plans. We should not only be there on oversight after the programs have failed .We should also be involved from the initial stages of this program. He must be consulting you all the time Hon. Speaker. Even the President of this Country always consults the National Speaker and leaders when they sit together; things cannot go astray and even the Chairmen of different committees seated here.

You just wake up in the morning and see the CEC telling you that we have these arrangements and just be prepared we are bringing you the documents. We are there to rubberstamp for them so that those proposals can ignite funds for them to go and run around with the Government machines to show that they are ministers, Chief Officers and others. How I wish because he is someone who has served even in the Senate, he has known how the Senate has been operating; he needs to engage this House. We don't want to see the discourse that has been there that today the Governor wakes up in the morning he pronounces something in the funerals and weddings; that I have these and I have programmed so this will iron out the differences that has been there in between the Executive and Legislative arm.

That is why I am saying we should not be hearing here stories that the Governor prepared this and if I ask my Speaker who is the captain of this House, he is not aware. If I ask the leader of the Government side he is not aware. You ask even the Chairman of committees within the same department even the Chairmen are just green; so we must be engaging each other. Being on the Executive side does not mean that you are a boss and I want to thank my brother former commissioner the Chairman Health that some of these leaders we struggle vetting here will go round doing lobbying and I am happy I have not seen someone being picked in Maraka Ward.

I am praying someone to be picked so as to hold a senior position. When some of these leaders are given some offices, some of them will even de-campaign him. Some of them want to use resources to fight you seriously and even finance those who will be against you. So do not celebrate my brothers and sisters that they have picked someone from my place so I am so senior than Hon. Balala, no! You are just digging your grave, unless he is a Christian or a serious Muslim who will remember what you have done to him or her.

The thing I was happy with and I am happy the way you are moderating us, we are trying to air out what we feel inside and its right for the Executive to do.

He did not also come out very clearly on pending bills .You know we have pending bills from the first regime, second regime and now currently you see contractors around this County, some of them are unable to complete projects in our Wards and some of these contractors are attached and aligned to the Executive.

Some of them were either in the first regime aligned to ministers and Chief Officers, having companies, they were not paid. Currently others are camouflaging themselves to come up with new companies. These are the same people who are upsetting some development activities. You may blame or sweet talk the Governor who is there but these are the same people whom I knew and saw them in the other regime. Some of you are just entertaining them but some of them were in the first regime, some of them run contracts, they have funding in the companies but when they run such companies they would not want to involve the area MCA whether elected or nominated; to have information on how the projects are going to be implemented. They run up and down to be paid for you to come and realise that the project has been paid when time is gone. My appeal to Honourable Members is, let us not entertain the Executive whether it is your brother or sister. They are a thorn in your flesh.

I want us to be very keen and also understand what the Governor talked about; he talked about the avocado crop, food safety programmes and the technical programs in agriculture. Those are the things we need to have information prior to a pronouncement. It is unnecessary for you to go to a burial or in a function and the Governor who is the President of the County pronounces things recklessly minus you having the information; then people start asking you what you are going to do. For instance, they mentioned something about climate change.

I am happy the Speaker has been fast-tracking with our team here and the Chairman Opwora is here. They have tried to do their part which I am happy with but how prepared is the Executive to form those committees. They have done some communication but those communications you will just see them on the wall or your Ward Administrator telling you that you have been advised to pick people. It is like he is informing you and you are at the County level and sometimes you are a Member of the same committee which should be over sighting the executive; so there is a lapse, some of these people who are being recycled in the system still have the same character.

I want to mention something about Education; some of us went to school through serious problems. Our parents were not able to provide for us whether you could have a relative working somewhere, he could not even pay for your school fees and in those days for someone to be awarded a scholarship, they did not go deeper; whether your parent is working or not. I can mention seriously those I know in this country and others even internationally. Their parents or they managed to get scholarship through political influence and they went to school and now they are serious leaders.

People have mistaken Hon. Ali Machani on how we pronounce things on media. I have been in this political institution sometimes and I always tell people I have institutional memory. Sometimes we can raise our tempers and uproot something that is going to improve this County and I said this and I have shared with my Chair Hon. Otsiula a very educated Chair, I know even others are that way, but for him he is very conversant mostly when we are reasoning.

This issue of scholarship we need to advise the Executive. Any child that managed either through the parent or through a friend or relative who works in County Government and God

remembered him or her to be awarded an offer to go to Alliance boys, Man'gu, Starehe boys; let us advise the Governor to find ways now that supplementary is allowed by law and now that we are going to a new Financial Year to organise in April. Let us look for ways, now that the dual carriageway project, the 300 bed hospital and stadium are almost ending. The rapport that has been there when the Governor came to the office, he set a task force which went round and send some serious threats to the Principals. You know when a Principal can get some alert that you got money in a dubious way they will always feel they will be sacked; so when they see any letter from Bungoma County Government, they will not even honour it but if we they could start and build that good relation with the Principal, the Principals may not send home our children.

I remember after the elections in August and we were approaching the end year. My brother who has been a Principal and any Principal would always see a parent who always honours his commitment. The County Government of Bungoma wrote letters either through the former or the current Governor His Excellency Governor Kenneth Makelo Lusaka. They asked schools to allow the children to be in school, that they will pay the fees. The taskforce came in and what transpired it is God who knows. Even the Chairmen did not participate in knowing how the taskforce was to be formed. Now those people who are in the taskforce and I know the Liaison Officer is here, he should be given more equipment. Sometimes you record these proceedings and give the Governor to listen to because some of us want the Governor to hear and he should be facilitated.

When the Governor formed the taskforce after elections, when we were coming out of a fight, that is elections, you still have some tempers, you put people there, and they will feel they are going to revenge. How do you get this, who gave you this, when they do a small mistake they will always punish so many people. Even those children who got this scholarship in the right procedure, some of them are still at home and the elected Honourable Members can agree with me.

(Applause)

You are receiving calls, let us not hide under the table, these children come from our Wards, they are voters, whether someone is working in this County Assembly or not. Those people who have been denied those positions let me tell you, if they come from your Ward, they have the capacity to influence people for you to lose elections. How I wish we could allow them to get. I can remember even the first round, there are people whom I know who got; some of them are leaders in different capacities, but their children have already done form four exams. Let us advise the Governor because we want him to remain popular. We can advise something but at the end of the day it is going to harm him more, so we need to advise the Governor to find ways to look for coins even in our *Kamukunji* (informal gathering); we need to raise this so that the Governor can continue enjoying the popularity.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Ali Machani, don't anticipate debate or discussions in the *Kamukunji*.

Hon. Ali Machani: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I am always very close to you, sometimes do not blame me. You know this closeness is the sweetest thing that I am trying to share with my colleagues.

The Education system in Bungoma County is supposed to be allocated on Vocational Training Centres, ICT and other programs within our devolved functions. But if this was an encouragement to those students, that if you perform well, you will get an offer of scholarship. Most of our children performed well so we should not kill that program. Let us address it, let us look for ways of sustaining it. I do not see the problem with reducing the numbers because it is the right approach. Because when the numbers increases, we must look for a way to sustain it, but if the Governor has sensed that he will not sustain it, we should also allow him to reduce the number as he has done. I have no problem but those who have been at school we should not affect them regardless of where they come from and whether their parents supported us or not. Let us embrace them. Some of those children will come to improve this County.

On Roads, I want to thank the Governor, he was very clear; the only thing he forgot to mention is that this Brigadier road started minus proper procedures being followed. Let me be on record. The procedure that the dual took is not the procedure that the Brigadier road took and anybody can challenge me on this, but we saw sense in that road opening up our County. We were convinced by the former Governor, we saw sense in it, and we sat as leaders. By then I was the Leader of Minority and we had Hon. Nyongesa as the Leader of Majority and we had the former Speaker and we worked on it.

That road has taken long; we should not be talking about changing the contractors. They have changed contractors more than four times. What is the problem? Or is it that people want to be given some serious attention because what has happened to the contractor that even the then president and other leaders came to Tongaren and said a serious contractor is going to complete works on this road. I saw in the Budget Committee where they were saying we should give them some money so that we can finalise our part and we did it in the supplementary budget.

Even the Road from Brigadier going to the other end needs to be done. The Road from Makuselwa- Lukusi- Lugulu; I did not see the Governor mentioning it and it is just on the same line. These roads have even made our Honourable Members who come from Tongaren to have problems. You go there using your own car and you will take it to the garage after one week. This is something we should not be entertaining from the Governor and we want even the leaders from Tongaren to sit down and engage the Governor to give you a green light on how the future of these roads is going to be.

I am happy with the dual carriage, the business community have loved it, it is only that the Governor did it untimely when people were taking their children to school, *mama mboga* (Grocery vendors) will want to sell *mboga* (Vegetables). They saw the kiosks being removed which is okay, but in leadership, consultation... He would have had time with the elected leaders from Kanduyi, talked to them that as leaders we want to do this, kindly talk to your

people, for we are going to remove these kiosks. I think that they failed as an Executive and he did not mention. Outside there people are not talking good about the County Government of Bungoma when they talk about the Governor. With the County Government of Bungoma it is not only the Governor, it is the two arms of the Government because we are there.

On this level we have two levels of Government so we must appreciate when they are talking well about the Governor and if they are talking bad about the Governor, we need to advise him so that he can change to also assist us to have a smooth running. Today you pass in the corridors of Bungoma town as an MCA, people will not want to see you, they will talk about you in vernacular which I do not want to pronounce here, and the Hon. Speaker has cautioned me so I must be very keen.

We are aware those in Roads committee, they want when the County Government is through, they will also want to improve some areas; but now the issue on municipalities, the Lands Committee last time and through your able leadership had worked on the municipalities. What is remaining is the Governor and the Government's goodwill. He is not like me on the other side. You know, I was taken left and right but now the Government is on the side of the Governor. We want to increase the goodwill of him being closer to the President, of him having the goodwill of the senior most the son of the soil in Bungoma County, the National Speaker Hon. Moses Masika Wetangula; to sweet talk them and move closer to them and not going to Naivasha or Nakuru; tomorrow you will hear he was elsewhere.

Let him use time to engage these two leaders closely so that even the president can release some...you know when you are in leadership there are goodies that you are given because you are close. The goodwill he enjoys with the National Speaker Hon. Masika Wetangula, let him sweet talk him so that he can give him advise on how he can improve some of these things where we have a stalemate.

We know the County Government of Bungoma requires more resources, but minus the goodwill of those in offices, we can talk about the dual but go nowhere. So the issue on dual carriageway and municipalities lies between him and sweet talking the President to gazette these two towns; that is Webuye municipality and Chwele municipality and even a town like Cheptais in Mt. Elgon and other areas. He needs that good will. We can talk and make so many points but if you do not visit the offices, you will not see anything happen and minus even engaging you, so that even on Bills under House Business, you prioritise them. I think we will just be making stories on this floor.

Lastly, I want to thank you because you have moderated us well and we need to embrace whatever is happening. It is just the beginning. After two years Honourable Members, I want to tell you some of you will not be with the Government; you will be with us. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Honourable Members. Looking at Standing Order 26(4), this motion is to run for at most four sittings; meaning that you still have tomorrow. We will still have speakers over the same on the following Tuesday. Wednesday morning, I will grant your wish, but for today, I will just adjourn out of my own volition because there are no more Speakers.

We resume tomorrow 2:30 p.m. for further debate. We adjourn accordingly.

(House adjourns)