

**COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA**

**COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA**

**COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES**

**THE DAILY HANSARD**

**THURSDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2024**

**Afternoon Sitting**

# **COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA**

## **THE DAILY HANSARD**

**THURSDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 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**

##### **DRESS CODE**

Hon. Members I have the following communications to make; the first one concerns the dress code of the Honourable MCAs and the staff and our commissionaires that accommodate us in this chamber.

Dress code compliance as per Standing Order and the Speaker's Rules in accordance with the Speaker's Rules, I would like to remind all Members that expected dress code standards to be observed within the County Assembly Precincts and the chamber in particular. Adherence to these standards is essential for maintaining the decorum and the dignity of our Parliamentary proceedings.

Casual attire such as jeans, t-shirts and casual footwear is strictly prohibited during the County Assembly Sessions. These dress code requirements are established to reflect the respect and seriousness of our legislative duties. The formal attire symbolizes professionalism and the commitment expected of all members.

Members failing to comply with these standards will be requested to leave the chamber. Repeated non-compliance may result in disciplinary actions as per the rules. I appreciate your cooperation and continued commitment to upholding the traditions and respect of our institution.

##### **REVIEW OF THE STANDING ORDERS**

Hon. Members you have been able to interact with the Standing Orders and the Speaker's Rules. After that there comes a time where we now as a Committee of Rules and procedure plan to propose and make some changes. As part of the on-going review of the Standing Orders, the committee on Procedure and Rules is inviting all the members of the County Assembly including our staff to provide their valuable feedback and suggestions in the process of reviewing the Standing Orders, which will bring a comprehensive, efficient and reflective of our collective needs.

Please forward your comments and any specific areas you believe should be considered during this review process.

We are particularly interested in provisions that may need to be updated or clarified, any gaps or inconsistencies you may have encountered, suggestions for new procedures or improvement to existing ones. Kindly submit your comments and feedback through the Office of the Clerk to reach the committee within 14 days from this communication for the committee to consider them during their deliberations.

Hon. Members, kindly be able to take up your positions.

*(Hon. Members standing at the door take their seats)*

We now proceed as per our Order Paper.

## **QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS**

### **BUSINESS OF THE WEEK COMMENCING TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JUNE TO THURSDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2024**

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Ipara on behalf of the Committee of House Business Committee, you have the honour to share the tentative Order Paper of next week with the entire House please proceed.

**Hon. Johnston Ipara:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Let me have the honour to take you through the tentative weekly program of the business of the County Assembly for the week commencing Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June to Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

#### **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 2:30p.m**

##### **Bills**

1. The Bungoma County Government Annual Appropriation Bill 2024. Second Reading

Committee of the Whole House,

Committee on supply, the Bungoma County Government Annual Appropriation Bill 2024, attached is the list of the various committees and shares that they will supply from page 34 of this document, from page 3 to page 6 of this document.

#### **On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 9:30a.m**

##### **Papers**

1. Report by the Committee on Implementation on the Implementation Status of House Resolutions. Chairperson committee on Implementation.

##### **Notices of motion**

1. Report by the committee on Implementation on the implementation status of House resolutions, It will be done by the chair.

### **Motion**

Report by the Committee on Roads, Transport, Infrastructure and Public Works on the status of road projects; Box culverts implemented under Disaster Management Emergency Fund. Financial year 2020/2021 and 2021 /2022

### **Bills**

The Bungoma County Government Annual Appropriation Bill 2024.Third Reading

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 2:30p.m**

### **Papers**

1. Report by the sectoral Committee on Health Services on the management of own generated revenue in health facilities in the County in respect to the department of Health and Sanitation. It will be done by the chair, Sectoral Committee on Health Services.
2. Report from the office of the Auditor General on the Bungoma municipality for the year ended 30th June 2023.
3. NZOWASCO the clustering task force report. Leader of majority party will do it.

### **Notice of motion**

Report by the Sectoral Committee on Health Services on the management of own generated revenue in health facilities in the County in respect to the department of Health and Sanitation. It will be done by the Chairperson, Sectoral Committee on Health Services.

### **Motion**

Report by the Sectoral Committee on Trade, Energy, and Industrialization on the Fourth Quarter financial statement for the period ended 30th June 2023.

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 2:30p.m**

### **Papers**

1. Report by sectoral Committee on Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning, and Housing on ten local, physical, and land use development plans in the respect to the department of Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning, Housing, and Municipalities. This will be done by the chairperson, Sectoral Committee on Lands.

2. Report by the Bungoma Civil Society forum on the citizen-led survey on own source revenue in the Bungoma County 2024. Leader of majority party will do that.

### **Notices of motion**

1. Report by the Sectoral Committee on Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning, and Housing on ten local, physical, and land use development plans in respect to the Department of Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning, Housing, and Municipalities. It will be done by the Chairperson, Sectoral Committee on Lands.

### **Questions and Statements**

It is notified that Pursuant to Standing Orders No. 47 (2) , a member of the House Business Committee shall inform the House of the weekly business of the House. That is statement number 17 of 2024.

A member of the House Business Committee person to these Standing Orders will read the weekly program for that week, for the week ending Thursday 4th of July 2024.

### **Motion**

1. A report by the Sectoral Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on the county revenue fund quarterly report and financial statements for the period ending December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. It will be done by the Chairperson, Sectoral Committee on Finance and Economic Planning.

That is the details of the weekly program for that week I submit.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Ipara for the same work done for sharing the tentative weekly program of the House for next week.

Next item,

### **MOTION**

#### **RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON THE REPORT BY THE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE BUNGOMA COUNTY ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES FINANCIAL YEAR 2024-2025.**

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members, before we adjourned yesterday, the motion had been moved and seconded accordingly. So we will start by now allowing Members to ventilate or debate the motion as we go forward. Hon. Majority Leader,

**Hon. Joseph Nyongesa:** Thank you, Speaker for giving me this chance at least to say a word on this budget making process. Allow me to appreciate the members of the Budget committee for the work they have done. Nowadays we are having a document very early and that's why we have no hurry. Allow me again appreciate the Vice Chair of the Committee on Budget

who took almost seven hours taking us through the report, as you are aware that budget making is a process not an event whereby maybe we should be in a hurry and I want to urge and request this House that this time around we have enough and a lot of time to go through so that at least we can come up with a budget that suits the people of Bungoma.

Allow me also request the members of the Budget Committee to be free when members are making comments because now as it should be owned by the House and the members should also take time to see the value and time the members of the budget committee took to ensure that they come up with such a document. As you read, first they told us that actually we have some deviations from what we passed in the County Fiscal Strategy Paper and as you are aware we are always told that actually we should be within one per cent, but it wasn't our fault as a House but it started from the executive. But still because of the interest that maybe members could be having so that at least maybe such deviations could be there.

As much as I am appreciating the members of the Budget Committee, again allow me to say that because I have also gone through, I have seen it and I request that we pass it with some few amendments so that to suit the community of Bungoma. When we passed the fiscal strategy paper in this Assembly, our target for CEF was 25 million and we are hoping that because CERA was to add us some money, we were hoping maybe to work at least 25 to 30 but we appreciate the members of the Budget Committee because the executive had set a target of 22 million, they tried their level best now we are at 24 Million.

I request this Honourable House that you know our County Fiscal Strategy Paper is the guideline so we should not work below 25 Million so that at least when we make some amendments we ensure that CEF is the only equalizer in our Wards, because most Wards do not have the flagship projects, so the only issue for us to balance is maybe through the issue of CEF.

Again I appreciate the members of the Budget Committee this time around at least they have tried to separate the issue of bursaries and VTCs because most of the VTC within our county are collapsing. At least we have some amount that will enable the VTC to run.

I have also seen there is some amount that will take care of the issue of ECDE children and you know those are the core mandate for the County Government and I do hope if the executive could say it twice also we should reconsider the issue of VTC and ensure that we work within the core mandate of the County Government.

Let me also again appreciate the members of the Budget Committee because when we received the budget, bursary was at 2 million but through their own wisdom at least we are now working at 4 million per Ward. As we work at 4 million per ward, I know we shall now separate the issue of 30% for VTC because VTC has now got its own allocation.

Recently, we had Madaraka celebration in this county and actually work that was being done at the stadium was very promising but unfortunately in this budget, I have seen no allocation for that stadium. You know for us we have our own percentage. National Government is also taking its own portion, so we request this House at least we consider the issue of that stadium so that at least we finish our part as the National Government also does its part.

During Madaraka, we are also privileged to have a lot of lights in our town but through, I have not seen how we shall maintain these lights from Ndengelwa to Siritanyi and from Kanduyi to Musikoma. So it is better for this House to ensure that at least we have some allocation to ensure that the heartbeat of our town remains at least bright by allocating some amount to ensure that what was started is moving forward.

In the current budget we had allocation on the Dual Carriage Way but because of poor implementation the money was underutilized. So as we strain and struggle to pass this budget, we are also calling upon the executive to ensure that actually they do what is right within the stipulated time. Because as we speak now we are really struggling on how implementation of the bursaries is being done because of maybe some few interests that some members in the executive are having.

You know we have opened a lot of roads in our wards but we have not done it so much to ensure that at least we have allocation to maintain these roads, so that at least in the future we shall be reducing the cost of maybe opening and reopening again. If we have an aspect of maintaining then at least our county will be moving on the right trajectory.

I have gone through the Department of Gender and actually I have not seen the Chair of Gender but if there was a department that was really under budgeted was this department because first they deviated from the CSFP that was passed in this House with some percentages and then again because of some regulations the Budget Committee has again seen it wise to reduce because of some regulations. So we are also calling upon the executive to move with the spirit to ensure that we have regulations on how we shall be spending our money and ensure that what was budgeted for is being done in the right way.

Otherwise I do support but as I said that we shall have some amendments to ensure that at least we are balancing because we had some money that was budgeted for Tea Factory land in Mt. Elgon which was also not well considered but I think through this wise house we shall be balancing to ensure that at least Bungoma is balanced.

This issue of High Altitude; you know we have been seeing this issue for almost now 12 years, I think it could be more wise for this House to rethink and ensure that we do away with it and ensure that it's complete and working for the benefit of our people in Bungoma. In the last regime we had push and pull because we thought maybe the person who started this project wasn't in position. Now the Governor of this county is the person now who started it and we do wish that we do away with it. We budget for what was done for and ensure that we

complete it, so that it can be of great importance to our people. Otherwise, I support but with amendments.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Majority Leader. Hon. Chemion continue,

**Hon. Francis Chemion:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. First, the Rules and the Standing Orders of this Honourable House allows members to ventilate on any document that comes before them and yesterday I moved an adjournment motion and the main reason was to allow members to go through the document and I hope members had time. And from what has been read to us by Hon. Ipara, the Order Paper for next week shows that we still have another activity that deals with the budget in the course of next week but today we have enough time to interrogate the budget.

I want to thank the Vice Chair of the Committee who read the budget yesterday for that long and he did it extremely well and the seconder also and the Budget Committee in totality for the good work that they have done and as I said yesterday, it took them 10 days to come up with this document and for us we came across the document yesterday we have read and there are good areas that I want to commend before I come to maybe a few areas that we may want to look at.

The issue of drugs and non-pharmaceuticals, I saw the Budget Committee in their own wisdom there is an addition of 50 million to what had been budgeted. I looked at the proposed budget from the Executive it was a drop in the sea. In terms of provision of drugs to our people in terms of the non-pharms that are required in hospitals, the Budget Committee did us proud by adding on top of what had been provided around 50 million.

Looking at this budget, this is a different budget as compared to the rest that we have been having in this Honourable House because in this budget, some of the monies that will be expended in various sectors or departments, it is the departments themselves that will look for, they will look for the money, and they will collect the revenue. So departments have been given some work and if you look at the observation and the recommendation of this report, you will realize that they have recommended that the collectors of revenue must be trained. So that they are able to know what to do exactly because initially collection was being centralized at the finance department but here things have a little bit changed.

This is a budget that we have had the highest amount in terms of the total budget is around 15 point something billion and because of this increments, we do also expect that we will have more development in our various wards or in our county so that it matches with the amount that we will receive as exchequer and also as own source revenue.

It is imperative that all of us look at this budget with a tooth comb so that we are able to give a clear maybe understanding of it and also make a decision over this. There are various areas that I have mentioned that are critical to our people like the issue of CHVs. They have said



the County Government will co-fund by providing 107 million and this money is supposed to be got from AIE from the headquarters of a Health Department. So we are asking, we think the Department of Health must streamline its operations to an extent of ensuring that they will be able to collect this co-funding of 107,400,000 to cater for the community health promoters. This is not very little money, good programs or strategies should be put in place to ensure that the money is collected and it is expended as a planned by the budget.

On grants, I look at a major grant that is coming from South Korea. On page 25 of this document there is a grant of Kshs 500 million from the Korean Government. This is a very good gesture from that donor and the total amount that is entailed in the whole process of KOICA phase III is 1.95 billion and already in this financial year the Korean Government has provided 500 million. Meaning because construction they say will take five years, it means if they give next year again 500 million that will be 1 billion.

The third year if they give 500 million again it will be 1.5, and then may be the fourth year they give the balance. But as a County we are given also our contribution totals up to 150 million and I look at this budget, we have provided 20 million for our beginning. So maybe that is an area that we must see because this water KOICA phase III if it goes through, if that project goes through it will be able to supply water in more than seven wards in this County. More than seven wards and it is a major project that will help alleviate issues or difficulties that our mothers are going through and even men in fetching water in our area. So let's see whether we can see what to do in that KOICA Phase III.

I do not want to belabour what the Leader of Majority has said. The issue of High Altitude Training Center where it is domiciled in my ward and it is becoming something that we are almost now not mentioning it in various public functions. Because you mentioned it you are asked when you are completing this. In fact it is being termed as a white elephant. On the ground things are not very good. People wanted this facility to operate. Wherever you go, whenever a contractor comes there they say this is something that you are putting there you are not moving. And you remember I put a statement in this House and there was a response over it. You know from 2013 to date we are talking about one activity 2013. It becomes monotonous; in fact it even disturbs us when we are preparing budgets. We would have dispensed that one we could be doing another flagship project elsewhere. So this is something that was started by the His Excellency the Governor in 2013. And you know the Governor may not compete again for this position in 2027 because of the law. So it would have been very good for us to ensure that we complete this project and make it functional for the youth of Bungoma to utilize it and even other parts of this county. So the youth the sports men and women who are supposed to use that field for training for athletics we are giving them a disservice.

And I look at this document there is a reduction of 10 million from the proposed budget that came from the department. Why don't we even add money and we do away with this so that

next year we don't talk about High Altitude? We talk about another new project that can help us.

Secondly, I support the Leader of Majority on the Tea factory. The Party Leader of Ford Kenya our National Assembly Speaker who personally came to Kaberua in Mt. Elgon, accompanied with Linturi the CS Agricultural National Government. Our Governor was there and our Hon. Members from this House. They came there because of coming up with a tea factory in Mt. Elgon that will be able to process our tea. These are the things that as a county if we implement first we will create job opportunities for our people.

Secondly, it will be something that will make even farmers become very active. They will get something by the end of the day. So it is something that will grow the economy of this County. The budget committee in last year's budget provided 10 million for the purchase of land which is all at the tail end and I am very sure it will be bought.

There was another provision from the same Department of Agriculture they provided money for it from the department because they want what was proposed by the ordinary people, what was adopted by the Speaker of the National Assembly, and the Governor of this place they want to see it into fruition because if it doesn't take place the people that will be blamed first will be the Speaker, will be the Governor, will be the MCAs and others. So there is a co-funding component in this issue and the Chair of Agriculture may want to talk more because he's the expert in that area.

He is an expert. I don't want now to go very deeply now that we have the expert with us. Why don't we maintain or even add the money in that factory so that we are able to jump-start it. As a Lands Committee we gave our recommendation in terms of purchase of land you remember the issue of Matulo Airport. There was no provision by the executive by then. When the budget came to us there was no provision for it but from what we had from the National Government and even the commitment from our County Government the Sector Committee recommended to the budget committee that they provide money for the purchase of land so that we make Matulo to be an international airport and I look at this budget I want to say the budget committee thank you.

You did what we had requested. You have provided money for Matulo Airport. We want to do our part as County Government then the National Government also does what they promised because they promised of a terminal , the runway 1.4 kilometres runway. So that one was well captured and I want to echo the Budget committee for that. So as I sit down because we have other members who want to contribute.

This is a consultative document. It is just a document that we consult and by the end of it all we will be through with it. By Tuesday if everything goes very well we would have supplied. After doing thorough consultation where we need to add we can add, where we need to subtract we can subtract. We just consult because it is our document now. Those Budget

Committee Members did their part. We thank them but allow us also say something about it and where we are able to correct we will consult even with you because you are members of this House. So nobody has a bad intention about this document. We just want to consult and come up with a document that will run us for 12 months. Everybody to enjoy having it.

So I want to end there on the issue of CEF I support that we move to 25 so that we don't run away from the fiscal strategy paper. We can do something. There is something that I could have said but I know other members also may have captured. So I want to allow them also time to do so. Thank you.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Francis Chemion.. I will have Hon. Ipara,

**Hon. Johnston Ipara:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I see there was someone was before me but thank you for the privilege. I start by saying that I rise to support this particular budget estimates with very critical observations. And I was wondering as the Hon. Chemion was contributing he was contributing and stating as if he was an accused person. Hon. Chemion, let me assure you

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon Ipara, there is no accused here and there is no complainant here.

*(Laughter)*

**Hon. Johnston Ipara:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** What He was just trying to put across that once document is tabled here, it becomes the whole house document. Nobody owns it either my office or clerk's office. It becomes the document of the House. Proceed.

**Hon. Johnston Ipara:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker for that guidance. Actually when Hon, Chemion did that yesterday he did that within the Standing Orders of this House which gives a Member a privilege to request for adjournment of the motion. When he seizes that actually it will not assist to achieve what we want. And when I looked at the Public Finance Management Act of 2012 and I went straight to section 31(f), it says that the budget estimates shall take into account expenditure priorities which contribute to the realization of the required output.

And I buy from what the majority leader did say that actually there were a few omissions and actually does not comply with section 31(f) of Public Finance Management Act of 2012. So the Budget Committee, you should not feel as if you have been offended. You have not been offended. Actually you are only being assisted to come out with a comprehensive detailed and inclusive budget estimates that will meet the needs of the people of Bungoma County.

I also supported this particular by saying this when I looked into the budget estimates, I did not even see an animal that has disturbed this County for a very long time. Pending bills were

spread in every department and we did not have a summarized total amount of the total pending bills, even after we had to spend some money to verify the actual pending bills of Bungoma County. And that is why I also bought the idea of adjourning so that I have that opportunity to peruse the budget estimates report.

I agree with the mover of the budget estimates when he said some projects have become permanent items of the budget. Let this budget be the final for some of the projects that have become permanent. And one of them is the road from Misikhu to Brigadier. It has become a song since 2013 up to today. And I believe even in 2027 it will be a chorus for all of us. Our county is the seventh overall receiver of shareable revenue and we should not take this for granted. We should utilize every resource that is given to us to give to the people of Bungoma a reward of good service.

But this is not happening because we are not holding people accountable for what they do. When I was going through these particular budget estimates, I found that A in A for a county is 1.063 billion. And on the report that was presented to this House in April, we said that we are going to demand that our county A in A should be 1.1. The mover of this report when he comes to respond at the time of response, he should tell us what informed the division. Kindly do that.

Increased allocation on the wards I agree. Yeah, you did a good job by making sure that at least we are not given 20%, which I want to believe that 22 million. 22 million was a division of about degrees of around 30%.

You did it and made sure that at least you don't go and you stood with the section 37 of the Public Finance Management Act, which advises us that any decreases and increases, it must not exceed 1% and this informs me today the summary of the budget estimates. I want to ask the mover of the report, did we comply with the section 37 of the Public Finance Management Act, particularly where we have increases that exceed 1% and what informed you to consider more than 1%? Kindly inform us.

It will guide and it will give information. That information, it will be a weapon for us to defend this county. What shocked me are the receivers of less than 1% of the budget. And among those were the Trade, Tourism, Youth and Sports, among others. I want to say this. The future of this county and the future of our country is on the youth.

When we want to have more *Omanyalas* then we must be talking about the development of the rare talents that our youth have. When you allocate a major Department or Ministry of Youth and Sports, 41 million, and you give a small department, 70 million, are we really honest? Are we demeaning that Minister?

(Applause)

If you look into that summarized budget, you find that Gender and Culture is given very minimal. Actually, we need to support this department so that... I was even asking Hon. Tony of what happened about the Kabukara Cultural Center. Why is it not appearing among the list? And yet it brings through three tribes of Sabaot, Teso and Bukusu. And when you merge that three, you are enriching our County but actually is omitted.

As we prepare this estimate budget, let's not prepare this estimate budget on the face value of the person holding the office, because that person is bound to change. And recently, changes took place, and the person now who is going to suffer is another person who was on a bigger ministry, which received huge sums of money.

On Agriculture, we underestimated the money that they collect on animal movement permits. If there's any business that takes place within the county, it is animal business. We have over 20 markets within the county. And every time a person buys an animal, he is bound to pay not less than 100 shillings. Really we are not fair to say that we can only collect 1.75 million shillings per year? The Budget Committee, I could have invoked Public Finance Management Act Section 33, Subsection 2, which says a person who fails under Paragraph 1 to provide information or submits information that is not correct, that person should be punished.

Actually, for this information provided, I want to say it's not correct. I looked on the basic salary as provided before in the Budget Estimates on page 15, where we are saying that we are setting aside Ksh11, 341,000 for the salary of the new staff. What were conspicuously missing were the details. How many new staff are we going to employ? What is their basic salary? Where are they being deployed or where they are currently serving as casuals. That is not provided. And here we are setting money, and the Public Finance Act, it says it must be accurate, which I believe is not accurate.

On the budget of the Minister of Health, I was interested in maintenance of motor vehicles. And this is a department that is spread across the county, and it has all health facilities in every ward, and they have ambulances, and we are giving them Ksh2,580,000 for maintenance of those vehicles, if we talk about the Speaker's vehicle, is this enough to carry maybe five full services? I want to say no, we must be considerate every time that we prepare this budget. And when they fail, we are always the first people to say that they have failed because they have misappropriated, not knowing that you only gave them insufficient funds.

We have markets across, and in these markets, every time our people are complaining, lack of ablution blocks. And under the Department of Sanitation, in the Ministry of Health, we have not considered this. And it was my feeling, that maybe we say that every market, we must build a modern ablution block, so that at least it makes it habitable. But this is not happening.

The department that has wasted us is the Department of Water. And I was perusing their document. I saw it is not that they are the ones who are wasting us. We are also the people

assisting them to waste us, because we don't allocate resources, and we have never gotten our priorities right. We can't live without water and today, water is a scarcity product that every one of us is on search for. Let the committee and our opinion leaders look into this, see if we can add some money into this particular department. It's a worthy department, and it needs consideration.

In Education, The foundation of every one of us is in ECDE. I want to agree with the Leader of Majority, and by stating this, during this current financial year, I want to confirm without any fear of any contradiction, no single vocational training centres received any capitation from the county or from anywhere. And if there is any person who has any answers, he can respond to that, how do we expect those particular vocational centres to provide a quality education? We must invest so that to get good results.

I want to thank the committee for the good work to resist the urge and the desire of the people who don't wish well for the Wards and the CEF , for making sure that at least you may return the bursary to where it was. I stand here with my colleagues to applaud you. Four million is good, and let's retain that until when we finish it in the next three years.

I was shocked on the scholarship column, we set aside 45 million shillings, and I was reminded by my friend to do a simple calculation of Ksh45 million. I said, let's say a minimum secondary school charges Kshs 40,000 per year. And I found that the figure that we can only provide for is 1,125 students. And I said, in every ward what is being supported is 60 students. 60 students times 45, it gives us 2,700 students. 2,700 students times 40,000, it gives us what is required is 108 million. And if what is available is 45, the diversity that we shall start with as we open those books of accounts is 63 million. And that will bring a fight between the Members and the occupants of that particular office. This is an area that we need with an open mind to address it if we don't want problems.

On trade, last year, this particular House approved 45 million for us to partner with REREC. But as I stand here right now, I want to say this, nothing has happened. Do we still have any hope that anything will happen? No because we never facilitated the occupant of the Department of Trade what was required on time. And maybe we may end up losing this money or unless they have other measures to take care of. The second issue that I didn't see properly is where we always assume that 115 million under trade is available for provision as loan to the new traders and existing traders in the county.

I want to say, that is not available. And if you are fair to the people of Bungoma County and we want to develop the business community, the first thing that we can do is, under the guidance of our Leader of Majority and the Minority Leader, is to come up with ways on how we can write off, the 115 million, which I don't see any chances of recovering that money. I say this as a patriot and as an honest person who believes in Bungoma County.



What is set aside as trade loan is 30 million, which it will be available as from July, during this next financial year, when I did some calculation, what it means, every ward will get Kshs 666,666. 67 How many upcoming businesswomen and men will we be able to support with this money? This money is insufficient and if there's any way that we can jealously support is to support the upcoming traders, because actually our economy is built on agriculture.

And everything that our people sell from Lwakhakha to Tongaren and from Sangalo to the end in Mt Elgon is based on Agriculture. Kindly, I want to plead with the chair and the leadership, kindly let's consider increasing this amount, because when I look on the decreases and increases, there's a lot of money available which can be taken to Bursary, CEF and other critical areas..

If we can put a caveat, immediately a project is advertised, we must make money available. And the contractor must remain on site. And what is giving me worry is the Governor's residence that is being built in Mabanga. Immediately, that man raised some pillars, he disappeared. And today if you look to that site, grass is overgrown. And you wonder as whether people are taking seriously what we do in the county or they want us to take us for granted. I want to believe that maybe it is we, the Hon. Members, who are failing to do our work. And we need to make sure that at least we bite.

Let me finish up by talking about Youth and Sports. The 41 million that is available, if we took just 20 million for administration and other things, what is left is 21 million. And if we say that maybe the department wants to buy some football uniforms for every one club in the county, this money will not be enough. So consider developing the youth that we have. You can see the talent that we have, the Omanyala and Wanyonyi of this world and Ndasaba who retired in the volleyball. If we do a disservice to this, we are doing a disservice for our future. Then we are preparing to fail. Let us not accept it to fail. Let us go to the books of good history than going to the books of bad history.

Lastly, there are comparisons without a road in this County, we can't manage. I remember the last time the Chief Whip and the Leader of Majority when they came to Hon. Chikati's place, every one of them was complaining that they will never come back to Tongaren. The reason was because of poor road network. But when I looked on the roads, we have only allocated roads, 728 million, and we have tasked them to collect part of that money to support these programs. If I were the one who was asked, I could have changed the goalpost. The goalpost that I could have changed, the person who is tasked with the responsibility of collecting money in this county is the Department of Finance. And during the last submission, they submitted to this House, they said that they were able to collect 475 million as own revenue.

And if I were the one who was doing this budget, I could have started by allocating them 475 million and taken away 1.3 billion that we are allocating to this department. This is a policy department. This is a department that act as a conveyor belt, it brings and it takes. But why do we allocate huge sums of money to this department and leave away the departments that have

streams or sources of getting money to the county? When you look at the Trade, there's no money. When you look at Agriculture, there's no money. When you look at Tourism, there's no money. Where did we go wrong as a county? And who is this person who said that what they prayed for, that prayer should remain for every other period to come? Let me rest there, I support.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Tony..

**Hon. Tony Barasa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker, for having my eye and also to thank my senior Hon. Deputy Speaker. Allow me to start by thanking the Budget Committee. What they have done is a tremendous job. They have tabled a report to us. And as I speak, we don't have the Gen Z activists outside there because they believe in us and they know we are going to do the right thing in prosperity.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members that is not the part of our discussion here. Proceed Hon. Tony,

**Hon. Tony Barasa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. It is in the public domain, that they have trust in us and that because the budget is here with us, they believe that our inputs in this budget is going to be something that they will smile upon or they will live to cry. As I congratulated the Budget Committee, they are human beings and have limited resources. They have gone all the way getting the views of the Department and getting the views of the Executive but I want first to congratulate them because one, in page 15 of the report on agriculture, they did well as recommended by this House that we move away from the free fertilizer to subsidy fertilizer, which is a good gesture to this County.

I also want to thank them that because our Wards are very key, they protected the 24 million, where I agree with the Leader of Majority that CFSP put the CEF money to 25 Million. We need to increase from 24, but we want to applaud you because it was reduced to 22, now it's 24. But we need to go further to better the CEF because we are aware CARA has given something to Bungoma County.

I also want to thank them on page 29 that after the visit of His Excellency the President in Bungoma County, there are some of the goodies where in partnership with the National Government, as a county we were to do something. And on page 29, the Budget Committee went on their way and allocated 80 million for expansion of Matulo Airport. We want to say thank you and two, with the request that the dumpsite in South Bukusu, we need also to expand on the dumpsite. They allocated almost 20 million for expansion of the dump site within Bungoma County. Also want to say thank you.

I want to agree this budget be moved or adopted with some amendments. I am concerned on page 34, on Youths and Sports, that we are having a stadium that as a county we are supposed to complete the phase one. The phase two has been done and is being constructed by the National Government. But looking at the allocation, and aware that during the supplementary, we had allocated almost 60 million, if I am not wrong, with a balance of 128,



we need to get almost 68 million. For us to avoid the issues of interest from the contractor, , as a House we need to do something to allocate the completion of phase one of Masinde Muliro Stadium and that is why I am saying it would be prudent for us to pass this budget with some amendments.

My attention also took me to page 31, that is under Bungoma Municipality. We are aware that we have been talking about revenue enhancement in this Bungoma County. And I am particularly on point number three, acquisition of four acres land for trailers parking. We are aware that Kanduyi, all the way to Webuye to Kimaeti, it is not gazetted as a parking zone. And for us to get something from these trailers that are parking and roaming around our markets, the proposal that they had allocated 16 and 38 million, whereby the Budget Committee dropped. To me, we need to have this parking of trailers; so that we can get our revenue from this parking lorries or trailers.

I want to agree strongly that the budget making is a process, and our input should be considered with amendments. I want to take another issue on page 15, whereby, as alluded by *Mheshimiwa* Chemion, and *Mheshimiwa*, Majority Leader, that we want to create jobs. We want to be an industrious county. And we are in partnership with National Government. The tea factory in Mt. Elgon that was proposed to be 15 million and at the budget level was declined,

*(Applause)*

We need to do something, so that we cannot afford for the National Government to deny us to have a tea factory in Mt. Elgon because I know we have so many Members who want to contribute, I cannot go through the whole budget, but I have some issues that I wanted to raise.

Allow me to finish with the cooperative, Page 17, 3.14, Supply of feeds. During the PAC Committee in the second term, we went to Chwele Fish pond. That fish pond, if we can enhance and promote these people, we can have a Kisumu Ndogo here in Bungoma. But

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Tony, Proceed

**Hon. Tony Barasa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker I am saying we can rare our fish in Bungoma through Chwele fish pond but looking at the budget estimates from the Budget Committee, a 3.1 supply of feeds of the fish reduced by 4 million, another one reduced by 5 million, another one reduced by 2 million. So for us to promote those people who are there, we need to do something to better them so that we can up our games and help our people from Chwele

*(Applause)*

So that is my input. Allow me to rest there so that we can allow other members to proceed. I support with amendments.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Allan. I will come back to my Deputy Speaker. He asked to step out, he is back proceed.

**Hon. Allan Nyongesa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. First, allow me to start by thanking the Budget Committee for bringing this report to this House on time. I have just a few observations to make. I want to start by pointing out an irony in this Budget. On page 8 to 9, where they are mentioning key projects to be undertaken by this government during this financial year. They have mentioned among them Youth, Women, and Disability Funds mentioned there as key priorities for this County. Then when we proceed in the report, you will realize on the contrary they have now removed the money meant for the Youth Fund, money meant for women and people living with disability and they are pointing out the reason being the legal framework. And I remember in this current budget there was money that was allocated towards the policies for the Youth Fund money. But up to now, the Youth Policy is not ready, the question we remain to ask, whose responsibility is it and how long is it supposed to take for the policies to be ready? because money was allocated towards the same.

On page 11, you realize Gender and Youth and Sports Department budget allocated towards it is less than 1%, as already pointed out by Hon. Ipara. The question we are remaining to ask is the youths and women of this County not a priority to this County Government. Or is someone sabotaging the manifesto of the Governor?

*(Applause)*

Because Governor's manifesto are very clear to the youth and women of this County but youths of this County, and women of this County have been very patient since the inception of this Government. Now we are doing the third budget but nothing is coming forth towards the youths and women of this County. They have been patient waiting but soon they will revolt against this Government. Hon. Tony has just mentioned something about the Gen Z and millennials which has just started today and soon it will be a revolution.

*(Applause)*

And we will have nowhere to hide our face. We are taking the youths of this county for a ride. It is now long overdue, when you talk of youths to be prioritized, we don't mean only youths in sports. It is not about the stadium and the high altitude. We have other activities that are youth-engaging in this County but for this entire long, nothing is being considered towards the youths of this County. It is high time this House needs to allocate some money towards the youths and women and people living with disability.

*(Loud Consultations)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Linda you will be sent out. I don't have that leisure to allow that nonsense today. Proceed.

**Hon. Allan Nyongesa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Then there is something I need to understand. Maybe the mover can help me understand. I have seen there are some activities pertaining to gender and people living with disability under the Department of Gender and Culture allocated Ksh6.1 million.

**Mr. Speaker:** Which page please so that I...

**Hon. Allan Nyongesa:** Just under Gender and Culture Department we have some money allocated towards gender and people living with disability Kshs6.1 million. Then we are also having stakeholders meeting with women, youth, and people living with disability in the Office of the Governor. We also have a resource center and training of PWDs worth Ksh8.6 and Ksh2.8 million respectively, also in the Office of the Governor.

In the Office of the Deputy Governor, we are also having activities of teenage pregnancy and GBV. Also in the Office of the Deputy Governor, we are also having sports programs there. The question I am remaining to ask, where exactly are these activities with youth, sports, and women supposed to be? Is it supposed to be under the Department of Gender and Culture, or under the Office of the Governor? Is it not duplication of roles? That's the question I am remaining to ask myself. Maybe the mover will help me understand this better.

**Mr. Speaker:** I hope, Hon. Charles, you are noting those concerns. They are very valid, and I fully support those concerns that you must be very clear that money follows the activities.

*(Applause)*

**Hon. Allan Nyongesa:** Thank you. Why I am saying that is because this Department of Gender and Culture is underfunded, and we wonder why we have a ministry there where a CEC and Chief Officer, they are there to pay salaries or to do what? Because their budget, as compared to the Office of the County Attorney who is having a bigger budget as compared to the CEC, Gender and Culture, Even the County Secretary, is having a bigger budget as compared to the Department of Youth and Sports,

*(Applause)*

So why do we have this ministry in this county? it is high time if it is not very important then they should merge it with another department so that we reduce on the wedge bill by reducing on the CECs and Chief Officers.

Lastly, there is something I also need the mover to help me understand. We are having money meant for special programs Kshs.41 Million in the office of the Governor and also we are having emergence fund Kshs.100Million under finance. What I want to know is the

difference between emergence fund and special programme funds and whose docket are they supposed to be under.

I think my other concerns were well captured by Hon. Ipara and I will not wish to repeat for the sake of time. Thank you Hon. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker

**Hon. Stephen Wamalwa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker for according me this opportunity also to make a remark on this very important document before us. First of all I want to honestly commend and appreciate the Budget committee for doing this work. We realized that this is the highest ever amount to be appropriated in this County and the committee did its best.

A lot has been said by members who have been on the floor, Hon. Ipara being one of them and I am not just repeating what he said but trying to echo his presentation when he talks about those issues that are bedevilling this County. We are not effectively dwelling on the devolved functions and that is the reason why we are crying or we want to cry. As a people we have chosen sometimes to give priority to functions that are not devolved and they are very many honourable Speaker and most of us support them.

I also pity the Budget committee because while we are saying that we need money in different sectors as we are pointing out, we must be ware, and members this is very serious, we must be aware that as we tell the Budget committee that we need money here and we need money there we must be ready that some other areas are going to be reduced. Otherwise where do we expect that this Budget Committee is going to fund those deficits? I want to urge you and us including myself that we should look at this positively; they went out and did what they should have done. They may have not done it well and we are here now to support them but as we do that let us be ready that some areas are going to be reduced which will touch again on you. I don't know which area but we have to be prepared because we cannot tell them that we need money here yet we are not giving them the source so that they add on those other votes we are talking about.

Hon. Ipara said here that we are not dwelling on some issues because we tackle them in a bad way, we are not laying the foundation and that is why when you look at ECDE for example before I come for what I have here, ECDE is forgotten. Just like Hon. Allan has said it is given like Sports, we don't give it a lot of attention yet it is one of the serious devolved functions. If I may ask Hon. Members, how many of you are keen that we look at ECDE better and give it the desired allocation? That is very minimal, same as Sports and Culture. Those are devolved functions and Agriculture and Health but we choose to close our eyes and look the other way so that we make them look the way they are looking. This may be an eye opener and I want to call upon each one of us that going forward, leadership is not just about you and I being re-elected every other time or the legacy that we leave even if we serve for 5 years but what legislations are we doing. At some point, I like the president of this Country because he says leadership is not about being popular, it is about being bold and brave to give the right direction. We are called upon now, if this Budget or this moment is the time for us to do the right things then let us do them.

Hon. Speaker, devolution is about ensuring that every corner, every region and every village of this County benefits and that is the Spirit of this Budget that is why the issue of Ward based projects allocation should be looked at. When you look at the budget the only equalizer is when we empower the Wards. Each Ward has diverse and unique requirements and challenges and that is an area that I believe as a County Assembly we must focus on so that we bring about development that is equitable across this County. While doing that, it is also important that the makers and formulators of the policies should do things that have similar aspirations. The programme based budgets should address these issues on a very serious note.

I want to be very fast, in the department of Finance, the CECM has been in this Assembly, I am a member of Finance Committee and I want to be bold here, the CECM always reassures the committee and the Assembly that Finance is a compliance department. He should be bold enough to inform this County Assembly and everybody concerned why we are having this issue of KRA day in day out, why can't we seal those loop holes that are forcing KRA to come and charge this County Government a lot of money? In this budget I can see Kshs.60Million earmarked for KRA, why are we having this recurring every other time, and what is it that the CECM and the compliance department cannot address to seal the loopholes? I am worried. This Assembly had an issue with KRA and you are the Chair of the County Assembly Service Board and I want to commend you with the board because it is like you managed to see which is the area that is making KRA raid the coffers of this Assembly and you managed to reduce if not stop the same. Why is it that the County Government under the leadership of the CECM who is very knowledgeable about matters Finance cannot stop that? I am worried about this Kshs.60Million going towards KRA, these money could have been used to do other very important things that have been mentioned by members here.

The issue of parking has been mentioned; members, we are looking for money and projects that we do that can bring revenue to this County are very important. I therefore concur and agree that indeed the purchase of the 4 acres for trailer parking is important so that they cannot be along the road; it is also a health hazard. When you go to Bukembe in the evening or early morning an accident can happen and I am sure it is a black spot courtesy of those trailers. In Kanduyi in the evening s I am told, I have not tried to do an experiment, and I am not intending to do it, I am told that when you walk along those trailer after 9:00pm you will meet people who will ask you to surrender your phone, your wallet and if you are not careful they can also tell you to surrender your trousers. It is very dangerous and so it is important that members...

**Mr. Speaker:** Then you require someone like Hon. George Makari to do the experiment for us, proceed

**Hon Stephen Wamalwa:** Thank you Hon. Speaker, so members it is important that we look at that aspect and address it as is required.

I have met the workers of this County, I have met the enforcement officers, those ones who wear green and starting from that level all the way to the top, these workers require motivation, they require incentives to make them even appreciate what they are doing. It is

important that we have allocation that goes towards promotion of these workers who have been working since 2014 in this County without any promotion. It is very important and in your wisdom I know you will know how to go about that so that we can motivate these workers who work for this County very faithfully and in a very loyal manner.

The issue of Co-funding of LEREC has been mentioned here and the National Government seems to have given its part of the bargain Kshs.45 Million. This Assembly allocated funds for the same and again I want to call upon the CECM Finance to tell us where is the Kshs.45 Million equal share that this County should put in the basket so that this programme can run. We need those transformers as early as yesterday and you know Soysambu is very dark because it is the forgotten far end of this county. Maybe this town like Khalaba and Township have no problem with lights, the Wards like Bukembe, Tuuti/Marakaru may not need lights but Wards like Soysambu, Misikhu, Tongaren, Siboti those at the far end require lights and therefore we are putting this on the CECM Finance to ensure, because we allocated these funds, to ensure that part of the County Government is also realized so that we can get these transformers.

I want also to mention to you that as much as we may say this, we have not put in place measures to ensure that we are having local revenue that is going to be used by departments. As we speak today, the departments are using their finances and they end up spending even equitable share and therefore we lack what we call roll over and because it is development vote that are rolled over because contractors may not finish within the stipulated financial year necessitating payment to come when the year has lapsed.

We are losing money because departments are spending way beyond what they are collecting and therefore I want to urge and this House and this is the recommendation I will make as an amendment to this document; that those departments when they make their procurable programs, the Chief Officers and all those under them should first of all align those programs that they want to procure based on what they collect, it should be tied to what they collect. They should not spend money meant for development in their programs in their offices. I want to believe that this is a very strong issue that should emanate from this Assembly today, that Chief Officers will not spend money beyond what they have realized in their programs.

*(Applause)*

If they don't collect revenue and spend then they should not go out, let them do their business in the offices. They are employed to be in those offices so they should remain there. Programme based budgeting should be done and the source funding the activity should be well put as they want to do the activity.

As I finish, there is this issue of pending bills, and in this budget you can see is another cancer that we have. The problem is pending bills are paid on how do you know someone, do you know anybody? There is a problem and this echo should reach the offices concerned. They are paying bills based on do you know anybody. It should come to an end and they should just pay pending bills for as long as they know it is worth it; work has been done and there is value for money, there is no problem paying these Bungoma people who have



worked. We have contractors who are our sons and daughters, our fathers, uncles and aunts who worked in this county and their work is seen but they have not been paid. It is an area that we have to address seriously so that we move forward as a county.

I finish by saying this, we have projects that do not have an end plan, these projects include the famous Brigadier- Misikhu road with no end plan, we have the dual carriage no end plan, we have the High Altitude there is no end plan. For how long will they run? We must have end plan on these projects. We are tired, we need people to come and pronounce themselves on these projects.

Having said that, members it is not the problem of the committee on Budget to propose some allocations to some activities or projects, it is the work of the CECM and the executive. I was in this assembly members; for those of you who are new, there was a time that we passed here budgets and when things got hot outside they said it is the members in the Assembly who did that not us so, if you are not careful we are going back there. I want to urge you, when the CECM and executive fail to appropriate funds to a certain project we have to question them. It is not our work, we support but then we have to look at it with a keen eye.

I submit and support with amendments.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you Hon. Christine

**Hon. Christine Mukhongo:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker for this time. I also take this opportunity to appreciate the honourable members who have been on the floor before me for the concerns they have raised, they are very genuine and we need to look into them so that we build our County.

I wish to start with the department of Roads, we want to thank the president for giving us a chance to host Madaraka day in this County and it brought us a lot of goodies. When we look at the development of roads, I think we need equity across the County through our Wards. On development of roads in the Roads department we are seeing there is upgrading of urban road Salmond-Khalaba which has been given Kshs.54.5Million and we very well know that this Khalaba Ward was one of the beneficiary Wards, Khalaba and Township. A lot was done in these Wards, why are they again being given 54Million, we need to know this. This money can be put in other parts of the County or in other Wards or we can take this money and be taken to...not actually Misikhu road but we can...

*(Loud consultation)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Let's have one speaker at a time because today I am in very good mood of sending people out, the mood is very good, proceed.

**Hon. Christine Mukhongo:** Thank you Speaker for protecting me from Khalaba MCA, he is really complaining

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Christine proceed

**Hon. Christine Mukhongo:** I am proceeding, so we are proposing that this money, Kshs.54Million be put in other Wards or rather we have our department of Education. I am sorry that the executive from Education department did not ask for anything so that we employ teachers and this has become a hazard to our ECDE teachers in Bungoma County. We only need Kshs.90Million to employ ECDE teachers; why we can't take this Kshs.54Million and look for something else from somewhere, add to that to get Kshs.90Million so that we get Kshs.90Million to employ ECDE teachers in our Wards.

Secondly, still looking at the department of Roads; maintenance of rural unpaved road framework, that is 100km and then we have County routine maintenance of 150km; you find that we need to know how these roads have been divided across 45 Wards. You will find that most of these Kilometres are put in some Wards that I don't know how they reach them but we need as a House to know which roads are going to benefit from 100Km and 150Km so that we share them to promote equity in the County. I remember in my Ward, Matili road was started by this RMLF and trees were put down on that road and up to now when we go back the road is unfinished. We need to know from the department what they are doing to finish it. I may not be the only one complaining so we need the department to do its best so that our people benefit from this money allocated, around Kshs.607Million that has been put under development in the Roads department.

I want to appreciate the committee for giving Kimilili Municipality whatever they have given them so that we can also develop in various ways. I want to urge the committee that we need to develop and support women in our County just as other speakers have spoken. Kindly let us look into this if it is through the department of Gender or the office of Deputy Governor, we need to know where exactly these women are going to benefit from.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you Hon. Christine, Hon. Simotwo

**Hon. Franklin Simotwo:** Thank you Speaker for allowing me this opportunity to have my views. First of all, I want to appreciate the Budget committee for working on this document and I also want to appreciate the vice chair for reading this document for over 9 hours.

Allow me point out that on issues of Roads, there are some allocations which are grants and they cannot be moved...

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Simotwo, you aren't replying to the motion; that is the work of the mover

**Hon. Franklin Simotwo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of...

**Mr. Speaker:** Do your contribution, the mover and the team is waiting to reply.

**Hon. Franklin Simotwo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will go to the department of Agriculture. I was looking at the issue of drugs on vaccination, if you look at the allocation; it is very minimal given that this is an area that we need more funds so that we can be able to vaccinate our animals. As we speak, we have our animals that are sick and not getting this treatment, how I wish this allocation would be raised because if we fail this then the issues of



milk production will go down, the issue of production of meat will go down then eventually we will have a decrease in revenue. Again I would wish that I stand with pastoralists, those areas that are affected most because of a large number of herds of cattle. How I wish that in future they consider this so that our animals are not lost.

On the issue of Trade; I have seen from the report that KShs.45Million infrastructure and civil works which was entirely removed and that the markets will entirely be taken over by the National Government. I was shocked because not all the markets will be taken by National Governments, there are some markets not earmarked by National Government and the County Government had started work, for instance, Kipsigon was one of the markets that was earmarked by our government which the Governor himself pronounced when he was in Mt. Elgon. This is one of the only major projects which is being done in the region and now the whole amount has been removed they have only remained with money for feasibility study. This is a disaster because now it means the on-going projects will stop and yet the County Government had started this project by fencing. I wish that the Budget committee could have analysed this and make a scrutiny so that some money could have been allocated for this project.

Lastly, the issue of Roads department; as you look at the report, every department will be having their revenue stream but when you look at the Roads department, the machines allocated for maintenance of the equipment is not sufficient. The equipment that has been targeted for revenue stream in the ministry of Roads will not be maintained hence the Roads department will not be able to meet the target of revenue through these machines. These are the areas that could have been enhanced so that we are able to get this money.

The issue of fuel equally the money is minimal. I know this is an area where elected leaders will be able to look at in terms of emergencies in different Wards but the allocation is insufficient, they have allocated only KShs.8Million which I think is not sufficient to make these machines operational.

Finally, the issue of Gender and Culture; I have looked at the allocation, there are two areas that have been allocated funds, establishment of Bukusu and the other one Sang'alo, how I wish Mt. Elgon would also be part of this with some little allocation for issues of culture. Otherwise I want to say I support this report with amendments. Thank you Mr. Speaker

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Simotwo. Hon. Sheila proceed.

**Hon. Sheila Sifuma:** Thank you Mr. Speaker sir for this opportunity to contribute. Maybe to start it off, I want to let the House know that I know the House is composed of many baby boomers and generation X

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Sheila, proceed to the issues at hand

**Hon. Sheila Sifuma:** Yes, I am just saying that we are not at war we are just planning for our...

**Mr. Speaker:** There is nothing like war in this House, we are all protected.

**Hon. Sheila Sifuma:** Maybe I just go directly to what I have noted; in the department of Finance, page 36, there is a budget for ICT networking which is KShs.37Million for upgrading the ICT system, I am just concerned should this allocation be maybe under Public Administration or is it misplaced. Maybe the mover can advise. That is confusing.

The second item on Finance is purchase of software worth KShs.18Million for Health department information system. Should this system go directly to Health department or Finance department? I think that is the clarification I need from that page.

Then on page 32 on the Kimilili Municipality, it is saying the master plan of Kiwanja Ndege in Kanduyi, maybe it is a typing error that should be under Bungoma Municipality that is page 32 for those who are tracking because it is saying the master plan of Kiwanja Ndege requires KShs.5Million.

I will go to the issue of recurrent expenditure, I think it is an issue that has been noted by many members on this floor that the recurrent expenditure of this County is quite high, and it is almost double the limit that the PFM Act 2012 allows for. We are trading at almost 68 per cent, this is not feasible for the organization to grow because you are only having a mere 30 per cent for development and without developing our county where will we get our revenues going into the future if we are not investing in avenues that will give us revenue. I want to agree and support most of the speakers who have spoken on the floor on measures to be taken to reduce recurrent expenditure.

Maybe I go directly to department of Youth and Sports, youths in this County have been molested by this budget for lack of a better word. Less than a half per cent of the total budget is the allocation for the population that is almost 70 per cent of the county. That is pure molestation and I think the Gender committee needs to look at this issue also because issues of molestation are things that have to be considered and we need to be able to protect. The underfunding is a denial of a right for a population that is supposed to take this county forward. After a few years, most of us will not be in this House and our children and sisters are the ones who will be sitting in this House, where will they get their resources from? I intend to bring amendments in terms of Youths and where we will get this money.

I am glad that Hon. Christine has mentioned that the department like Roads has projects that have already been done and if we are looking for where to get money for the young people I think the Roads department is an easy catch because we have seen there is money where roads have already been done, that is the Salmond Road that *mheshmiwa* Christine has mentioned.

Together with other youthful colleagues, I will implore upon you to help us figure out how we are going to get money for the young people of this County. We have allocated loans for the young people, which is a plus but it is only in the Youth department that there is no money for training. We are going to give people money without knowledge on how to use it. I have noted that the Gender committee and in all the other departments there is allocation for training but it is conspicuously missing on the young people and yet these are the people who are supposed to be trained on how to move forward because if they have a business and they

are asking for a loan have they been empowered to know how to use this money? Is there support for any legal provisions? I think these are the issues we need to look at moving into the future.

Also on ICT, I feel like the Budget of 0.37 per cent of the total budget is quite low, everyone is moving to digital era and I think even with the events that have happened in the Country there is a conversation that we are moving from a stone age era to a digital era but our budgets do not reflect. Our budgets are those of Stone Age era because if you don't put money for ICT how do you expect as to move forward as a county. For the young people, we don't just need a physical adjustment of the figures on this document; it is actually a preparation of how children of this County will go moving forward.

Another thing in terms of County and National Government, the budgets of the County Governments are not there to compliment the National government, National Government should do their things in this County because we are also part of this country and County Governments budget for things that will be able to lift us. Like the stadium was already in our budget and it has been there for quite a while and the National Government has picked it up and supported us to some extent, where are we taking the money that we previously used to put in the Masinde Muliro stadium. But not all young people in this County are sportsmen, not all of them go to high altitude stadiums, we need to help, can we even have a driving course for the young people?

We have a passport center that has just been opened by the government, how are we planning to use it to be able to benefit the young people of this nation because if you are to export talent internationally then what are we exporting as Bungoma County to the world as far as this budget is concerned. Those are my major concerns Mr. Speaker sir and as I finish, I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak on this floor you know this floor is an equalizer to most of us who are marginalized in other areas...

**Mr. Speaker:** In this House, there is nobody who is marginalized, we are all protected

**Hon. Sheila Sifuma:** Mr. Speaker sir, thank you but as a marginalized member, I want to implore other members, may God guide you, may he soften your hearts, may he be able to lead you to the right direction to do the right things for this County. Some of us will not be here in one or two years but the County should still be there. I am praying to God that you soften your hearts, those who have the voice I implore them to do the right thing not for us, not because they are winning or losing but because the future depends on what they do and may this County Assembly not be one that will impoverish the county but to lift it up to higher standards. Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir.

**Hon. Benjamin Otsiula:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. From my end I will be very brief...

**Mr. Speaker:** I am seeing one member trying to request to speak, I am seeing Isaiah Sudi but the one requesting is not the one so I wonder, he wants to speak as Hon. Sudi or who will I allow to speak at the dispatch

**Hon. Benjamin Otsiula:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also wish to loud members of Budget committee, for the first time they have tried to remember what the members of the committee on Education and Vocational Training have been asking save for one crucial thing. You remember last year members in this House approved a budget and set aside close to 56 Million which was meant for employing and recruitment of ECDE teachers. We were told stories and this process was deliberately delayed, eventually when it was remaining three months to come to end of the financial year, the Public Service Board of Bungoma pretended to be interviewing applicants they shortlisted. I remember in the 2<sup>nd</sup> supplementary budget they were remaining with only Kshs.26Million which they were supposed to spend and ensure that our daughters and sons of this county are employed to serve in this department. This has been a very serious let down to the members in this House and to the whole county. As we speak, no single teacher has been employed despite our concerted efforts in our oversight role to ensure that the County Government of Bungoma makes a provision for these teachers. Shockingly and I am very sad, in this budget, any members seated in this House knows very well that people have been interviewed but in this budget there is no clear road map as to when and how these teachers are going to be employed.

Are we saying that we are forgetting this issue once and for all? After we approve this budget without touching on that sensitive issue I am 100 per cent sure that we are going to become a laughing stock from the members of the public. What are we going to tell these people? That the process has been abandoned or what are we going to say? Let us be fair, and if I go back to my pastoral duties, the book of 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:8, anyone who does not love doesn't know God because God himself is love.

We must show love to the people of this County, let us not take our people in circles, I want to implore upon members of this House to resonate with the public views and ensure that they spare something for the sake of our teachers in this very noble department. We even have proposals on this issue, if the executive is unable to fully allocate funds to cater for employment of ECDE Teachers then let them go the internship way where they can put 600 teachers on internship program and pay them even 12 thousand shillings per month instead of taking these people in circles. Bungoma County is known to be one of the counties which is paying the highest salary for ECDE teachers in the whole country so if they are worried that by employing they are going to have a bloated budget then I was expecting the executive to present something so that we secure some funds and retain 600 teachers on this programme. Remember ECDEs in this County don't have personnel and if we continue with this trend I am very worried that we are going to jeopardize the right to education in this county.

Finally, the issue of VTCs, we have tutors and I have not seen anything spared for the recruitment or promotion of these tutors. These VTCs from where I sit and from where the members of my committee of Education and Vocational Training sit, they are in urgent need of instructors. I am aware this year some VTCs were denied instructors, in fact what the department was doing is they were going to specific VTCs taking instructors from those VTCs to elsewhere Honourable Speaker. As we speak right now, this is an area that I was expecting even close to Kshs.15Million for the purpose of replacing those tutors who have

been taken to other institutions. As much as i support this report, I pray that an amendment can ensue to take care of issues of concern.

Finally, I have been looking at the report concerning the High Altitude Training Centre and the Budget committee itself is not sure why they have allocated that money there. If you look at the report, they are saying they don't want funding to go to that project in future and they are saying they don't understand the amount that was allocated to that project was expended. I am praying that this KShs.19Million can be taken back to the department of Education and Vocational Training to employ our ECDE teacher.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members, I do appreciate your contributions very well but be aware that each sector has its ceiling. Hon. Kennedy,

**Hon. John Kennedy:** Thank you Mr. Speaker for according me an opportunity to make my contribution on the annual budget estimates for F/Y 2024/25. I will be brief and I will start with the department of Energy, I see in the budget there is an allocation of KShs.15Million for purchase of lighting equipment. The budget Committee did some justice and made an additional KShs.5Million for lighting up markets. I want to mention here that KShs.15Million is so little, this means that in the department of Energy for the financial year 2024/25 we are not going to have any new projects for lighting, this money is specifically for repairs and maintenance.

Secondly as the mover of the motion comes to reply, maybe if he can just make a clarification on what was the wisdom of allocating KShs.5Million from lighting up of markets, which are these specific markets that the money was allocated.

Lastly, under the department of Energy that was touched by Leader of Majority. Recently, we put a lot of street lighting on the express way, actually all the way from Ndengelwa to Musikoma yet there is no allocation towards electricity bills for this lights that means soon the entire road is going to be in darkness again.

Under the Roads department, there is an allocation KShs.150Million from expansion of roads, specifically the dual carriage way. Mr. Speaker, as the mover of the motion again comes to reply, I need some clarification on two issues. One, as you are well aware the entire section of the dual carriage way from Kanduyi to Musikoma, drainage works for the roads leading to Khalaba Ward have not been done and traders are really suffering so as the mover of the motion replies if he can just clarify, does the 150Million include money for drainage works.

Secondly, if you may have noticed this entire dual carriage way from Kanduyi to Musikoma does not actually have pedestrian crossing, with the recent beautification that we have done, it is causing a lot of problems to pedestrians because when a pedestrian crosses the road, they are arrested and yet there is nowhere to cross. So if a clarification can also be made on whether the KShs.150Million can also be used to put up zebra crossing that will also even assist on the sustainability of beautification process.

Under the department of Education, I think my chairman has already mentioned it, there is some little effort but it is a drop in the ocean or something. I see under supply of learning materials the Budget committee made an additional KShs.20Million then equipping of VTCs as well the Budget Committee made an addition of KShs.20Million. As per schedule 4 of the constitution this is the core mandate of the devolved units so the executive needs to be more serious so that they allocate funds towards VTCs and ECDEs.

Under Education there is an item under school feeding programme. This is a very good programme because it is going to assist us with retention of pupils in schools but there is a footnote I have seen which I will also ask for clarification from the mover of the motion, I have seen a note saying that it will be co-founding with parents, so if you can just clarify on that. Thank you Mr. Speaker, with the few remarks I support but with amendments. Thank you.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Aggrey

**Hon. Aggrey Mulongo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir for giving me this chance to contribute to this motion. I take this opportunity to congratulate the budget committee for the well done work. For the first time since I came here in 2017 this is a wonderful budget that you have come up with.

I will start with Education, we wanted to employ teachers, money was put in the budget, where is this money? Why do we allocate money and we don't see anything coming up. When we want to employ we are not employing a person from Leader of majority or Hon. Mulongo's home, we are employing Bungoma teachers.

On Trade, there was money for every Ward, where is this money? Have we given out the loans? The money was there, was the money taken to... we might be joking around but outside people are looking at us in a negative way.

Let me come to Kimilili Municipality, Hon. Sheilah has just talked about it, when I went through the report yesterday I don't know whether it was a typo or what, they talked about Kiwanja Ndege and then the plan on it, now Kimilili then Kiwanja Ndege. Where is it coming from, are you keen? Before the report comes here you people of Budget Committee must have a good secretariat to go through. Otherwise with that error, there was KShs.2.5Million that was decreased so I don't know, look at that Kimilili Municipality.

When it comes to Matulo Airstrip, I don't think we are supposed to add there any single cent, why? That is a national function. It was taken by the National Government and we are not supposed to add there any money because when the president was here during Madaraka day he mentioned that we are supposed to buy but it doesn't mean that we are supposed to put that money on our budget. We have the aviation team, you need to approach it as a County Government so that they can add because as we are going to put there money, what are we going to get from that as a County? If something is a national function let it be for national functions.



On the side of the stadium, last supplementary budget if I can remember, the money was split for completion of that stadium, why are we allocating KShs.68Million again? We must look into that, there is nothing to do with amendment on this budget according to me towards the stadium.

When you go to Governor's residence and the Deputy Governor's residence, when you pass at Mabanga the pillars are there but the contractors are not on site. Why are we putting money there? If the contractor has deserted what next, what is our priority as a County, as this House? Is it really to put up the governor's residence and the deputy governor's residence?

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Mulongo, let me correct you, the residence, of the Hon. Speaker, the residence of the Governor and Deputy Governor is basically a must for every county, if you don't do so you will be paying for those individuals rent monthly. That is why the former Governor while exiting the office, they paid him rent of KShs.4Million because he was staying in his own House. Those houses are basically part of the package of the transition authority, proceed

**Hon. Aggrey Mulongo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. But when you look at the residence itself, the pillars are just there, they only raised pillars, up to date, how much was put in the first allocation and right now we are putting there some KShs.30Million, why are we putting there and yet the contractor is not on site, that is my concern.

On the side of casuals, I must say congratulations for the Budget committee for putting them on PNP, thank you so much, they are our brothers so let them get employment

On the Roads department, RMLF on that side, we need to come up with a plan so that it is rotational, there are some Wards that are only benefiting from RMLF but the rest we are not even seeing anything. We want the chairperson Roads to come up with a plan to show us how many Wards benefited last year and how many Wards are benefiting this year for this allocation. We can't have RMLF being allocated year in year out and you know we are not seeing anything, like in my Kibingei Ward there is nothing.

On the side of Finances, we need to rubber stamp our authority as an oversight body because we are losing a lot of resources outside there. We are losing a lot on the markets, we are losing a lot especially on market days, and we are really losing a lot of money. We are supposed to be having over KShs.1Billion as our own source revenue but at the moment we are only getting KShs.500Million, 600Million and less. We need to see ourselves as the champions for revenue enhancement. Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I support

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Opwora, members of the Budget Committee hold your horses, you were with the budget for ten good days, members are seeing it for the very first day

*(Applause)*

**Hon. Edwin Opwora:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also want to laud the Committee on Budget for the work done and the able vice chair for reading the document for all that time despite his age. I want to start...

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Opwora, has he complained that he is old to you? No, there is only one person who can confirm his old age, proceed

**Hon. Edwin Opwora:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to start my contribution by what Hon. Mulongo said here that he doesn't see the need of the Matulo Airstrip and the need for this Assembly to allocate money. It is important to know that the Airport is also going to help bring revenue in this County and I want to laud the department for adding money there ...

**Hon. Aggrey Mulongo:** (*On a Point of Information*) He is responding instead of debating

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Opwora, you proceed but the mover is still alive and kicking, he will be responding

**Hon. Ali Machani:** (*On a Point of Information*) Hon. Speaker as a House of debate and in any common wealth country, there is no rule that stops a member to share his views as much as he cannot only leave it to the mover to respond but you can see a grey area where you have an answer and you can also share with the members. You cannot stop any member to assist to give a highlight on grey areas that members have not understood.

**Hon. Speaker:** Hon. Ali Machani, that is a strange discussion I have ever heard from you, if a member has raised an issue arising from a debate or a motion moved by a mover, the replier will be able to respond to it accordingly but if you become the one replying now what will be the work of the mover? You can debate the motion but you cannot purport to be replying to the motion on behalf of the mover when the mover is around. If that is the case then everybody will start responding. The moment Hon. Mulongo raises Hon. Opwora responds. I think I appreciate hon. Ali Machani's submissions but I think that one I can say it is because of age.

**Hon. Milliah Masungu:** (*On a Point of Information*) thank you Hon. Speaker for also giving me this chance, I am...

**Mr. Speaker:** I hope when you came in you overheard my communication; it is going to be effective from tomorrow, proceed. I made some communication when I came in and I think when you got it right or you will ask what I did communicate. They always say that the Speaker has no eyes but sometimes he has eyes

**Hon. Milliah Masungu:** Speaker I have only stood on a point of information with regards to what you have communicated. As members of Budget, we are not barred whatsoever to contribute on the motion from our committee and this has been the norm in this House. We have brought a report on the floor of the House, we are not barred...

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Milliah Masungu, I was very clear, that you had a chance to look at the report, if you all speak and imagine I deny Hon. Jeremiah not to speak about the document he



is seeing for the first time, will I be fair? I said just hold your horses you will all speak, and we are not in a hurry, the day is still young.

**Hon. Milliah Masungu:** Mr. Speaker I was just saying that it is also good to compliment our colleagues on the best and good support they are giving our report.

**Mr. Speaker:** You are going before the chairperson

**Hon. Milliah Masungu:** When we rise we are only complimenting,

**Hon. Edwin Opwora:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker; I will be short now that my line of thought was destructed...

**Mr. Speaker:** And those destructors next time...

*(Laughter)*

**Hon. Edwin Opwora:** I just want to thank the committee for allocating the KShs.20Million towards buying land for the dumpsites. As you know, Hon. Sudi is not here and he has been issuing threats and this gives courage that we are going to have more dumpsites in different parts of the County. However, my concern is on the garbage collection allocation, I note that KShs.25Muillion has been decreased. I know most of the members are craving for their markets to be included on that scheme where the garbage collectors can be moving around. If we decrease this amount then we are going to incapacitate the contractor who is running and yet we expect that through this contract we will have some of our sons and daughters getting employment.

There is also an issue of co-funding. Under the department of Environment, we are getting grants for Climate change and it is only through these grants that we can also realize more revenue or development. My concern was however on the amount allocated, as a committee we had a recommendation that if we increase the amount then the co funding will also be increased. We are still stuck at the KShs.80Million allocation yet we are anticipating that through this if we have like 3 per cent increase, it will translate to around KShs.160Million and the money will be translated towards development to all our Wards.

Otherwise, I stand to support the report with amendments.

**Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba:** Ahsante Bw. Spika kwa kunipa fursa hii. Langu hasa nashukuru wale waliotengeneza bajeti hii isipokuwa dosari moja ambayo iko katika bajeti hii. Tuliangalia katika ukurasa wa 25, sehemu ya mwisho inayohusu maendeleo na matumizi katika idara hii. Ukitizama hapo utaiona kwamba sehemu ya *scholarship* ambayo ilikuwa inapewa milioni 144 tukiwa na wanafunzi wa kidato cha kwanza, cha pili na cha tatu imekatwa hadi million 45. Tuna tofauti kuwa mwaka ujao wakati bajeti hii inapoanza kutumika katika shule tutakuwa na tofauti kuwa kidato cha kwanza tu ndicho hakitakuwa. Tutakuwa na watoto wa kidato cha pili, tatu and nne, je hizi fedha zitasosha? Sisi tumasumbuliwa, imetubidi twende tuchukue fedha ambazo zilikuwa za *bursary* tuje tulipie hawa wanafunzi ambao wako katika *scholarship*. Katika miaka iliyopita hatujaletewa ripoti

kamili ikiwa bajeti ilifanywa ya Milioni 144 kulipia watoto hawa kuanzia kidato cha kwanza hadi cha nnee na bado hawa watoto hadi sahizi hawajalipiwa. Mabaki ya hizi fedha yako wapi na ikiwa Million 45 zitatosha kidato cha pili, tatu na cha nne.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Jeremiah. Hon. Luseneke,

**Hon. Anthony Luseneke:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I also stand to support the report and the motion and I will be very brief. My attention is drawn to the implementation of this budget, this House appropriates funds to specific projects in this County, my request is to the Chairpersons of various committees to make sure that you follow up and make sure that most projects in these departments are implemented. We want to avoid a scenario whereby we have to rush at the end of the financial year to start implementing the budget. My appeal is that once we pass this budget let those involved especially the procurement team advertise our projects maybe in August and by September we have contractors on site so that by December they have completed the work and in January they are being paid.

Last year, this House approved a budget and maybe quoting the department of Education, up to now money has not been released to our schools, only KShs. 1 Million was released, we still have a balance of KShs. 3 Million. I just want to request the chairpersons of various committees, once we pass the budget please make sure that any project under your docket you make a follow up so that we can help this county.

Secondly, it was in the wisdom of the budget committee that we have projects which the National Government has interests in, we have our stadium, the High Altitude Centre, we have the tea factory whereby money was allocated by this Assembly for the second part of the construction and National Government had committed to construct. When you look at the High Altitude Center, the minister for sports personally was at the site and he promised to equip. The committee felt that they should not allocate funds because that project may have been taken up by National Government. When we look at the stadium Hon. Speaker, the department of Youth and Sports never requested for funds so it was inappropriate for the committee to allocate funds where the department itself did not request for funds. Maybe in his reply, the Chairperson will explain on that.

My attention is drawn on the implementation of this budget, let us make sure that whatever we pass as an Assembly, whatever is appropriated for let us make sure that the money is put into good use. Thank you Hon. Speaker.

**Hon. Ali Machani:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker for allowing me to pass my voice over the same. As we discuss over the budget of this year, there are areas we need also to come out very clear on that once the budget has been committed to the Budget committee, it is a document controlled by the Budget committee. Away from that, once we bring it to this House, it becomes document controlled by the House but not the Budget committee. When we have that understanding we can't point fingers at the Budget committee. Once the document has been pronounced, it becomes the property of the House, that is why we have room to debate and if we see sense in an area where we need to adjust that is the work of this House.

We cannot personalize the document as the Budget committee because when the members started there were some fears that when you talk about the budget or maybe when they raise eye brows on some grey areas to be adjusted the Budget committee can feel offended. Any committee, once it's report is brought in this house it is a document that the House must debate and also point out areas. But when we are pointing out grey areas we should not be personal also, we should look at this County wholesomely, that if today an area has benefited in Agriculture, tomorrow there is another area that could benefit in Roads.

When this document has been approved in this House, the members in the various sector committees should also fast track the issue of implementation and I wanted also to say that we need to support the implementation committee that once we have resolved here anything we need to support them so that they can also fast track on the resolution so that the implementation part of the resolution of this House is realized

I wanted also to say that when we started this County Government, we started with KShs.1Million money allocated at the Ward level, but today I am happy that we are talking about KShs.22Million and I want to thank the Budget committee within some arrangement we have KShs.24Million. I want to thank the leader of Majority who is talking from the government side that we need to increase up to KShs.25Million or even more. How I wish that we could even support him more because he is from the government side. We need to reason over it and establish goodwill on implementation of the Ward funds. Majority of members here have suffered including me, that when we approve the budget and attach the projects, there is some laxity in department of Procurement and Bill of Quantities within that control they will always delaying until we are remaining with three months it's when you will see a project being advertised. Hon. Speaker with the Honourable Members we need to work together not only that I come from the opposition side or the minority side , the other one is coming from the government side if the Executive we can't push them on implementation the blame will lie squarely on the legislative arm.

And why I am saying that we need the good will, we can pass and say we need even Kshs 30,000,000 but are they ready to assist us on Far trucking in terms of procurement, are they ready to assist us to identify key and potential contractors who have the capacity, one to implement or to work out on the project finish within the time frame so that we can also avoid the pending bills because if they can't work out within the time frame that project cannot capture the attraction of payment and that one will spill over that's where we have serious pending bills within this county.

Away from that we are aware that the VTC and the ECDE are within our mandates but also it depends on the key players in those departments, they must have plans. I was in the budget Committee and this time round we managed to call over some of the CEC Members, some of them, they were not able to tell us even the ceiling of that ministry. They were not able even to tell us their plans if given more resources and how they spent the money that was allocated before.

So that is where the CEC finance gets room sometimes to do bailment) because if you don't have plans money is just lying there and another departments has more challenges. so we need also to talk closely to our CEC Members, our chief officers to fast track pending on what they approved in terms of plans because in every department or ministry they have the ceiling but if you have a ceiling you have requested money you have been given and you don't work out within that time frame. It means this Assembly when they will go to supplementary they will be forced to reduce the money, when they reduce, that project will remain there years and years that's why you see there so many projects that have over stayed for even fifteen years but they cannot be completed at time, so that one will always give us a serious challenge in terms of allocating.

There is another thing, as Honourable Members and the Executive working jointly we need to come up with the force working policy framework. on the time we hand over project in a ward the Honourable Members are called to witness but when a project has been completed there is no Honourable Member called to witness if when a project has been completed so they go on corridors and be paid but on the ground the project are not completed. Now at the end of the day the Honourable Members are blamed that they are not working to the latter but now the point of the table is we need to have policy framework on maintenance so that when we have constructed or we have started a road, we create a side some money to do some maintenance and drainage so that at the end of the day we cannot continue funding the same project every year every year because in the rural there are some roads that just require bush clearing some roads needs drainage clearing but that one cannot be costly like again pumping enough serious money on the same road.

This is an example a living testimony in my ward there are roads I started working on them away from 2013 up to now I still pump money on the same roads, what is missing is only maybe clearing the bush, maybe working on the culverts, maybe drainages and that makes us to continue pumping money on the same projects we can't move to new projects.

Lastly it's on the issue of after us allocating money, is the work of the finance committee to assist us also. Coming up with the raising measures that will assist us to collect money so that we can realise the budget because when we budget, we don't have enough money to actualise our budget but if Finance Committee can assist us to work out within 90 days to come up with the finance bill that will assist us to raise measures, to raise some funds it will assist us.

Away from that minus going far we have the point that one of our colleagues raised that we need to write of the money we gave the locals under trade ,we will be setting a very bad example that today those who took money there are still existing in our villages some of them said that we had been given money free because of politics. Then again we said that we add more money to give trade, the same characters will just come up because today you have given Wekesa loan and you are not going to recover the loan then you write off then tomorrow you allocate again money, He will be the same person again coming to request for money.

So I cannot agree that we write off .Let us encourage our people that when they take money, they can pay back, I think I can't go far what I was happy it was all about Bitabicha and other things because these are the things that have been in the budget all through but the Budget Committee managed to work out, this are the areas that most of our community members have been keen coming up to request if money can be allocated under Gender, Culture so that one we need to appreciate.

Otherwise, I don't have much to say because I was part of it we also say that amendments are not cast and stones but let us not create amendments that are not within the ministry and also let us understand the ceiling in that department otherwise you can create a lot of amendments as one of my senior speaker, deputy speaker said you are creating an amendment where is the budget committee going to raise money again ,so raise an amendment which you understand that if money will be sourced ,they will source from ward fund, they will source from bursary , they will source from trade those are the areas they may pick the money but those amendments are always inevitable thank you.

**Mr Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Henry. Use dispatch please

**Hon. Hentry Nyongesa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity also to say a word on our budget. First I want to thank the budget committee and in particular the mover of the motion that is vice chair of the Budget Committee. He took a lot of time to take us through the budget remember the minister in charge of the budget at the National Treasury took three hours ,ours took almost seven hours and that is what we require that when given time we can come out with the good document for the people of Bungoma .

I have some few areas which I wanted the House or rather the mover of the report to respond to, one of the areas is the department of Health where some money are hanging and you can't say where it will operationalize especially when you look at page 29 we have some little money called food and rations is given 2,000,000 it is not specific whether this food is going where though it is in the ministry but you remember we have a lot of facilities within the ministry, we also have ....

**Mr Speaker:** Which page?

**Hon Henry Nyongesa:** That is page 19 under Recurrent Expenditure, under the same item down there you will see there is a supply an x-ray which is coming to a total of 2.3 million is as well not specified where it is going, so it's just within the ministry and we can't tell where it will be handled, we have other areas which I just want to move very quickly, under primary health, we have fungicides, insecticides and sprays, they are given KShs.6, 000, 000 so I do not know where they will spray, I don't know if they start from Naitiri up to Bumula, that's my concern. We have the same ministry which has fuel and oil and lubricants at KShs.5, 000,000. I'm looking at the Ministry of Health, which is the critical ministry in the County and it is given in terms of fuel and lubricants kshs.5000, 000, I don't know if maybe in the next annexure, the main annexure, the Chair will respond if that is an addition to what is allocated under fuel or maybe that is what we have on the same.

We have also in the same department, and I don't know if that is at the facility level, the Chair will explain that one, because we are having only kshs.2,800,000 that is put aside for vehicle maintenance. In the department of Health and all other departments in a nut shell I'm not seeing where we are talking about insurance for our facilities and motor vehicles or rather the assets, that is touching across all departments but mostly we have seen the department of Health, it doesn't have that but I've realized it's cutting across all the departments.

In the department of Water, it has come out very clearly that each department will come up with revenue measures and that is maybe what will come out during our Finance Bill but I look at a very important item in the Ministry of Water, we have a rig. I have seen the rig has been provided all the materials and it is very clear that it is going to have maybe drilling of water in the entire 45 wards but I look at that rig as a very important component in the Ministry of Water. For a half of this year, that rig has just been lying there, doing nothing and if we could have put it in use in terms of raising revenue in that department, it could have done a great deal. I think the Chair will also respond to it although that is mainly under Finance bill but it's important that we are given an explanation on that.

You look at in the same Ministry, the Budget Committee has indicated that they are going to have purchase and installation of braised steel tank and extension of piped water in Mbakalo Ward, they have given it KShs.1, 459,000 and they have also given Tazo water project that is extension of pipeline and water kiosk at KShs.3, 392,188 in the same department, but I don't know where Tazo water project is. They have also given rehabilitation of Sirare water projects at a cost of KShs.534, 351 and then Nabikoto projects they have given it KShs.4, 362,000. I want the Chair or the mover of the motion to explain why he has just concentrated on one area, I don't know if this water is cutting across the entire County or it's meant for just a section of the County.

As members have alluded and the chairman of the Education Committee has said very clearly, it will be... I don't know the law, but somebody who has vigorously taken the process of being employed from advertisement we are using County money, shortlisting we are using money, interviewing we are using money and all the processes using money and at the end of the day this department has left our own sons and sisters without saying a word in the budget. The chair I think will respond on that so that we can have an answer while we are there.

Under Trade, I'm seeing we have infrastructure works of KShs.47, 500, the entire allocation has been dropped, so we have only kshs.4, 000,000 set for a pre-visibility study for the market since most of the major markets I think they are saying have been taken by the National Government. I want the Chair to be specific on where the feasibility study is going to be done and for which markets in particular.

Under Lands, we are having an issue on Kabula market and it has been given KShs.5, 000, 000 meant to facilitate re-planning of the Kabula urban centre. I don't know how it became urban, that is Kabula market, but it has been given kshs.5, 000,000 to re-plan it. I think the chair will respond on that.



We are having a problem in this County and I'm sure you have been seeing us moving up and down, we have been seriously chasing what is supposed to be done by the department of Lands and here I want to say that the Budget committee has gone an extra mile to say that "Land registration/ processing of title deeds" but they are just becoming particular, they are mentioning Chebkube Market at the cost of kshs.4,285,000, how I wish that the mover of the motion will be particular that this money is meant for the entire processes or for title deeds in the department.

In the Municipality, they want to purchase a vehicle, this is giving it an open check to the department that they want to purchase a vehicle of ksh.7, 000,000, I don't know which type of vehicle that is. We might be giving them kshs.7, 000,000 and they purchase a Saloon vehicle of ksh.1, 200,000, and I think the Vice Chair must be specific on that.

*(Laughter and applause)*

In the same department, we have acquisition of 4 acres of the trailer park, which I want to echo it, this is a very hazardous area and the committee has tried because it's giving this County some sleepless nights. As Deputy Speaker, was putting it that you pass by Kanduyi at night, you can start wondering if that is the one that was mentioned in the Bible because everybody is almost half naked and especially ladies, I'm sorry to mention that, ladies who are our children, found at Kanduyi use those trailers as shelters and some of them even use them as of course, members can catch where I am.

**Mr. Speaker:** We aren't catching where you are.

*(Laughter)*

**Hon. Hentry Nyongesa:** Mr. Speaker, under Gender and Culture, the committee has come up with a very good proposal that we want to have celebrations when our young men whom Hon. Simotwo was even mentioning that they have left out Mt Elgon but here, they are looking at the end product, Where the problem lies, they have mentioned and they have even given it some good money; it is the production of these children. You remember we are in an era of HIV/AIDS and the area we have to concentrate at is to take care of these children at the initial stage that is training the circumcisers and maybe having some small goodies for them even the children themselves. I wish the money meant for "*khukhwalusia*" that word is changed to circumcision so that we can rebrand it better and put it to better use Mr. speaker. So the chair...

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Hentry, you know with due respect, when you start speaking the local language without even quoting it or giving translation, imagine Hon. Evelyn Anyango is wondering what it means.

**Hon. Hentry Nyongesa:** Mr. Speaker, I have found the terminology here so I don't know if it is imported because it's called '*khukhwalusia*' @ KShs.1.5. It's here and the chair will respond so that he gives it a better translation because it's here. A celebration of '*khukhwalusia*' @KShs.1.5, so the vice chair will explain something on that

*(Loud consultations)*

I can see the members are keen about 'khukhwalusya' and I'm sure the chair will be keen on it. We have this issue of Youth fund, it is a song we have been singing and you may realize as the National Assembly is spending time to discuss the finance bill, the population out there making a lot of noise is comprised of the youths because they are more oppressed. I wish the chairman could have looked at the issue of youth fund because I'm seeing the allocation under youth fund, which is KShs.10Million, was declined. This is an honourable entity Mr. Speaker how I wish the chair could have the answer under the same because if they decline, I don't know what the answer is for the same.

Every department has been tasked to collect revenue and a critical area that has been put under the department of roads for the purpose of revenue collection is boda boda. I am not seeing any indication or money under the department of roads that is going to maybe put up boda boda sheds so that they can use it as an incentive to collect revenue out of it. I'm imagining the boda boda people are being burned by the sunlight on road sides or on Mateka market or Kopsiro and then you go to them and ask them to pay the revenue.

**Hon Millie Masungu:** *(On point of information)* I just wante to inform Hon. Nyongesa that boda boda sheds are not under roads...

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Nyongesa you must sit please.

**Hon Millie Masungu:** ... But they are under Trade and Industrialization.

**Mr. Speaker:** I hope that is sufficient Hon. Hentry proceed!

**Hon Henry Nyongesa:** Thank you Mr. Speaker for informing me that, but I'm looking at the "Zakayo" who is going to ask them to pay...

*(Laughter)*

**Mr. Speaker:** I think that is more than sufficient if you can't stick to the content here, then get off the mic!

*(Applause)*

**Hon Henry Nyongesa:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I withdraw that, but I'm saying whoever is going to collect revenue will be having those questions, so he must prepare.

Under the department of Roads, we have construction of bridges; it has been given KShs.20 Million. I'm not an architect neither can I design a bridge because it is something supposed to be put on a bigger river, but KShs.20Million I don't think if it is sufficient for a bridge. Also a clarification should be made on where the bridge is going to be constructed. I think the vice chair is supposed to be specific if it is a drift or abridge. Let me hope this bridge will not be within Khalaba River which has been given a lot of money under the National Government.



We should come out of this issue of giving open cheques to the executive where we have maintenance of unpaved roads (1000 kilometres) in future let's run from this issue of giving executive money which is open and they can take it anywhere. I am a victim of this circumstance, the department had prepared some BQs for various roads and those BQs were being held at the chest, so you can't tell whose BQs will go through. One morning, I saw the roads being advertised and when I went to the department, I was being given assurance that one of the roads that I had proposed is number one; it has never been done since I came here for the second term. The roads I gave under this framework have never been done for the last two financial years and we are going for the third financial year and I'm seeing the same happening. So I think the chair could assist me not unless this framework is becoming a cash cow somewhere

Further, we have money under Public Service that is meant for staff establishment, training and development. Let us be sincere in that every department discharges its mandate, let us put the money in the right department. Look at what we are handling at the department where I am the chairperson; Committee of Labour Relations. We are having HR manuals, the HR manuals under the Public Service Board is talking about staff establishment, training and so on. I wonder why such money is put under the ministry of Public Administration. I think the chairperson has the answer on that.

Lastly, I want to finish by saying that some money we have been having which is under the law that every financial year we must have money for emergency. Last year, we allocated money almost Kshs.100, 000,000 and to my surprise, I can mention it without contradiction that some of the projects that were done were not an emergency. Some of them were used to construct a bridge when there is no rain then you record it as an emergency.

History will judge us harshly and remember when we are just going towards the end of this financial year, we have had a lot of rain everywhere including Cheptais and I think it was Chesikaki where a stone fell and almost buried some people. When it did that we didn't have money now for emergency because it has been spent at a wrong time.

Let me hope that because we are following the law, that the money that is put under emergency that is a KShs.100,000,000 is going to be put in a right use if there is no emergency then we shall re-allocate that money during supplementary budget for the right purpose.

Lastly, as I said Mr. Speaker, we have not seen money for insurance purposes in the entire county, I have only seen medical insurance but I have not seen any money set aside in the budget for insurance purposes in terms of our assets.

I want to conclude by saying that from where I sit, I want to thank the committee for Budget that in terms of the County Assembly we have enough money only that the wordings will be a problem but am already privy that we are having money for committee management, I mean for general operations, utilities, communication, operations, managements committees at Kshs.107, 764, 000 and another money that is of the same that is Kshs.58, 723, 000, I am sure that money is meant for committees maybe the chair and the vice chair will say

something about it but am sure that is meant for the welfare of the members in terms of sectoral committees and so on. I submit and as I have indicated we require some minimal amendments on the document.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Hentry. Vice chair you have the honour of replying to the motion

**Hon. Charles Nangulu (The mover):** Thank you, Hon. Speaker and may I take this time to thank all members who have contributed to this report.

I will start by talking about our resource envelope, when you talk about allocation of our resources it is good also to know where the money is coming from and how much money we are dealing with.

On page...sorry Honourable Speaker we get money from equitable share that is from the National Government, we also get grants from the National Government, we also get A in A then we have our local revenue. The money that we are taking about is KShs.15,400,000,000 which each and every section has ceilings so as much as we are discussing about how much we need to put here or there we must also look at the ceilings and where are we getting this money from.

Before I proceed also, I take you back to page 32 where we had an issue about the Kiwanja Ndege and I have just communicated from the team this is a typo error is not supposed to be under Kimilili so the typo of Kiwanja Ndege should go to page 31 under Bungoma municipality but not under Kimilili municipality simply because Kiwanja Ndege is in Kanduyi in Bungoma municipality and is captured on page 32 under Kimilili municipality so that is a typo and when we look at our report at our increases and decreases, it is not appearing there so is just a typo that we moved aside and that our budget still remains the same.

Honourable speaker, I will be very fast simply because most of our communication from the members has a lot of repetition. I will start by where our Leader of Majority mentioned about our County Fiscal Paper we have a small deviation which was captured from the executive and which is actually supposed to be 1% and as you can realize it weighs above 1% which we have factored in when we were doing our appropriation for the budget.

I will go to the tea factory in Mt. Elgon where we have KShs.10, 000, 000. When we did the interrogation on these particular projects with the department, we realized that there is no MOU, we have an MOU that was done just verbally and we tasked the CEC and his team to find the MOU that binds between the County and the National Government and the money we allocated is KShs.10,000,000 simply for the land for the purposes of the factory itself Honourable speaker you should have the land first before you can engage in coming up with a factory and KShs.10,000,000 is enough that the department requested so that one with an MOU then money could be given so that land is bought and the tea factory will actually be constructed to help our people.

Hon. Ipara mentioned about the pending bills which we have annexed amounting to almost KShs.1, 900,000,000 and as you know, pending bills should be a first charge all the time so it is up to the department of Finance to actually have them charged first because it is a first charge before you do anything else, pending bills and salaries walk hand in hand when it comes to running of the county.

About sanitation, Hon. Ipara mentioned about sanitation which he tasked that we should have the committee to look into money and actually have abolition block that is toilets on each and every market. Every elected member has money under CEF and if you have market it is easier to put them under safe other than waiting for a department or Budget committee to put this kind of utilities like toilets. Honourable members, we can use our money for CEF to put up these facilities to the market so that the traders and the people who are walking around are able to use them as required.

On trade loans there is KShs.115, 000, 000 that was put and indeed this money was given to individuals in the county and is up to the department to look for this money because this money was given out and we have a team that should go and have this money brought back to the department so that it is used to actually give loans to other people but in the same spirit, the budget committee has given Kshs 30,000,000 to be used to give out trade loans and if the money isn't enough, we had proposed at one level that we get at least ksh1,000,000 per ward but the department asked for ksh30,000,000 which we have given and I think the subsequent we do at our supplementary and money can be put so that each and every ward gets good money for trade.

About the Youth Fund, Women Fund and disability, we had interrogation with the department of Youth and Gender and we realized they have don't have policies and regulations on how this money should be given out and how money can be given in. So let's go back to our own sector committees and let's ask our CECs, Chief Officers to give us this policies and regulation]ns so that we can report to the House to see how this money can be given out.

There is no way we can give out money and the youth, women or disability without regulations and policies .Remember this money was given in the first 2013 after devolution, money that was given out with 115 we are looking for it now .This money was given out without regulations and policies which has been a big problem in most ward you find out you have to spend money to get money. This is public money which is also has irregularity and the Auditor General has noted it, so unless we have policies and regulations this money, we could not actually give them and we can see in the current budget, the money has been there but we could not use it, So adding the money again or leaving the money again and we had other things to do that why the money had to be removed.

*Mheshimiwa* Sheila talked about some generation that are existing, the gen Z but I think that with this regulations...the gen Z Which I believe and am told is 22 years and below and none of them is with us here .So you are old enough not to be with group so don't assume that you're in that group. You are in different groups, stay with us hears and we see what we can

do. At the same time, this House, when you have an issue like that on, let's try and have statements and everyone will listen because no one is superior here than the other. We are all the same members of County Assembly so you have anything that you want to be done .A statement can be done and you will be replied.

About the trailer parking money was removed simply because the current financial year we have put money there for the parking but the ministry of lands took the money and bought land at Chebkube which was irregular. So they are aware about it aware about it and am sure trailer if the land is found money will be put back and they will have the parking take place.

About the policies I mentioned that one. There is a member who mentioned that why are we having the activity of Youth, disability, pregnancy in the Office of the Governor and the Deputy Governor .The Governor is the CEO of the county and you can see the list of activities put on the governors work plan. It covers each and every department, so it is not only the youth and disability that has been touched. There are going to do everything and the Governor works with all departments.

Also the Governor had a ceiling which was 700 million and the budget was below his ceiling. So the Governor office and the Deputy Governor office are well taken care of and if as a department and a member of the County Assembly if you have a function in your ward or any area .When the Governor comes he can come and chip in be it the youth ,women or disability and that will be in order.

Hon. Wanyama mentioned about the five million for markets. The money we put to the energy department is actually after the lights were put and I think we explained that the KPLC bills will be higher and this money will cater part of it and as we go the first supplementary we are very sure that the department and the CEC will come up with a work plan and as budget committee we see how we can have that money taken care of with the new bills because now we cannot anticipate how much it is going to cost unless we get to see how the first bill will look like.

Most of this ,we are just repeating what we said .The deputy speaker mentioned about the penalty that we get from KRA ,indeed as a committee we are also very concerned. Let us task the executive to be paying KRA on time or to make sure that they remit on time to avoid this penalties because the penalty we get is around Kshs 60,000,000 you realize it's going to interfere with our budget and this money could have been saved .as an oversight body, the Assembly we have the right to actually work on it and make sure that the money we don't accrue this penalties that come year in year out. So I think we know how to go about it as an Assembly and we can task and ask and invite the CEC finance to come and tell us where the problem is so that we don't get this penalty that come year in year out.

Also some member mentioned about the dual carriage about the Kshs 150.000,000 which is a pending bill, which is going to be paid and the dual carriage as we talk now is supposed to be taken over by the national government .Then about the beautification there is another layer that is supposed to be done by the national government which I think is KenHA and that will be fine.

Hon. Opwora mentioned about the garbage collection and why the money has been reduced the garbage collection is contract and is paid on monthly basis so the money that was actually reduced and this was done in twelve months. By the time we go to the supplementary still the money that is there will be there so just have to top it up. So this money was just reduced from the contract for now but as we go to appropriate the money during the first supplementary the money will be returned so the contractor will be paid on time.

This report is self-explanatory and how I wish that this House adapts this report without any amendments simply because as we amend this report then how did source for this extra money. The money that we actually have appropriated and budgeted is Kshs 15.2 Million, so if we maybe say we take some money and put in the Stadium where do you source the money from? Then we will re do the whole budget again. So my plea to the House is actually to adapt this report the way it is without any amendments, thank you.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Nangulu. Hon. Members as per our Standing Orders that brings to an end the debate and as you look at the notice the way it was framed its meant for the House to take note of the content of the report, because you will end up going to the Committee of the Whole House in our next sitting and the Committee of the Supply accordingly.

So at this juncture Hon. Members, we will be able to adjourn the sitting and resume on Tuesday at 2:30p.m accordingly, so we adjourn accordingly.

*The House rose at 6:04 p.m.*