

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF TAITA TAVETA

THIRD ASSEMBLY - THIRD SESSION

THE HANSARD

Sitting no. 057

Wednesday, July 31, 2024

The House met at 2:45 p.m. in the County Assembly Chamber

[The Acting Speaker (Hon. Anselm Mwadime) in the Chair]

PRAYER

QUORUM

The Acting Speaker: Honourable Members, I confirm that there is quorum to proceed with this Sitting. Clerks-at-the-Table, read the Orders of the day.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

The Acting Speaker: Honourable Members, the Chair has the following communications to make:

COMMITTAL OF PUBLIC WORKS FULL YEAR DEPARTMENTAL REPORT TO RELEVANT COMMITTEE

The Chair is in receipt of the 2023/2024 full year departmental report of the Public Works, Roads, Transport, Housing, Energy and Infrastructure Department. The report stands committed to the Transport, Roads, Public Works and Infrastructure Development Committee.

SUBMISSION OF NAMES OF ECDE CENTRES TO BE VISITED BY ECDE COMMITTEE

The Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE), Libraries and Vocational Training Committee is planning to visit selected ECDE centres in the County. In this regard therefore, the Committee requests all elected Members to submit the name of one ECDE centre that they would like the Committee to consider during its visit to the Committee secretariat, Mr. Joseph Mwakisha and Ms. Esther Mwakina, by Tuesday, 6th August 2024.

I thank you. Next Order.

MOTION

APPROVAL OF REPORT ON STATUS OF COUNTY MARKETS

The Acting Speaker: Hon. Anisa Mwakio.

Hon. Anisa Mwakio (MCA, Nominated): Thank you, Mr. Acting Speaker, Sir. I beg to move the following Motion:

That, this Third County Assembly approves the report of the Sectorial Committee on Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Development on the status of County markets, laid on the Table of this House on Wednesday, 31st July 2024, Morning Sitting no. 056 and its recommendations thereof.

In summary, the Committee visited County markets in the four sub-Counties, that is, Taveta, Voi, Mwatate and Taita. In Taveta sub-County, the Committee managed to visit the following areas: Cess Market/Trading zone, Njukini Market, Chumvini Market, Chumvini Livestock Market project, Kasokoni Cess/Revenue Collection Point, Taveta Town Market and Taveta Highway Border Market.

In Voi sub-County, the markets visited were: Maungu lorry park, Maungu Market, Rukanga Market, Upper Market, Marikiti Market, Highway Market and Modern Market.

In Taita sub-County, the Committee visited Wundanyi Market, while in Mwatate sub-County the Committee visited Mwatate Modern Market.

The Committee made the following observations during the market visits:

1. Most markets lack proper drainage systems, making it difficult for traders to conduct their businesses during rainy seasons.
2. The markets lack enough enforcement officers to boost security in the markets hence property are vandalized and traders' goods are stolen during the night.
3. The markets lights are not repaired in good time which perpetuates insecurities in the markets.
4. Poor hygiene across most markets since most of the environmental officers (cleaners) do not operate on daily basis while some lack proper working tools to perform their duties and lack of designated garbage sections or areas.
5. Entries to most markets have a stench because the garbage is not collected at the right time and many times the garbage is overflowing.
6. Most markets lack toilets.
7. Incomplete market projects in Njukini and Chumvini which were initiated since the year 2017.
8. Unfair treatment of Kenyan traders in Taveta Highway Border market at the expense of Tanzanian traders.
9. Lack of gates in most markets and porous fences have contributed to insecurity cases.
10. Lack of market sheds in most markets hinder traders' operations during rainy and

sunny seasons.

11. Entrances to most of the markets are in poor condition making it difficult for traders and customers to access markets during rainy seasons.
12. The tenants living at the rental houses behind the Maungu Parking lodges channel their waste products to the parking's drainage resulting in a stench.
13. Shared electricity meter at the Lorry park has brought about misunderstanding among tenants working in the premises.
14. Regular traders at the market are charged Ksh. 10 every time they need toilet services.
15. Traders in Marikiti Market operate under an asbestos roof exposing them to getting cancer.

Committee recommendations;

The Committee on Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Development recommends the following:

1. The department should complete all the stalled market projects countywide.
2. The department to assign cleaners in all County markets to ensure that they are regularly cleaned to improve hygiene levels in the markets.
3. The department should periodically carry out maintenance works in the markets to address the issues of lighting, porous fences and blocked drainages and even opening new drainages.
4. The department in conjunction with the Finance and Economic Planning Department must ensure all cess/revenue collection points have proper infrastructures, signboards and designated parking area for heavy commercial vehicles in Cessi market and Kasokoni revenue collection point.
5. The department should ensure entry gates are constructed in markets to ensure there is controlled movement of people and goods so as to curb cases of insecurity and sneaking of goods and maximizing on revenue collection.
6. Extra sheds should be constructed in markets to accommodate all traders to avoid traders erecting their own makeshift sheds.
7. The department should ensure all markets have toilet services.
8. The department should work in unison with market committees to ensure that all traders are given fair trading grounds irrespective of their social status or country of origin.
9. Signboards should be put up at the entry points of every market to show where they are located.
10. The department should put up receptacle bins in markets which will be emptied regularly to avoid stench.
11. The department should ensure separation of electricity meter at Maungu lorry park.
12. There should be a one-time toilet fee charged for regular market traders (regular traders to have tags showing details of their membership)
13. The department should set aside money for renovation of the Marikiti Market

- since the traders operate under asbestos roofs.
14. The department should ensure all receptacle bins are gated
 15. The department should ensure that tenants living at the rental houses behind the Maungu lorry park lodges stop channelling waste products to the lorry park's drainage system with immediate effect.
 16. The department should task all the County enforcement officers to arrest and bring to book all traders that will be operating any business outside the designated areas including the traders who sell their products from the car boots.

On behalf of the Committee on Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Development, I take this opportunity to sincerely thank Members of the Committee, the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk for their valuable contributions and facilitation during the deliberations that culminated in this Report. It is my pleasant duty and privilege on behalf of the Committee on Trade Industry and Cooperatives Development to present this Report to this Honourable House for consideration and adoption.

If the House approves this Report, the Committee will have responded to the Statements sought on the status of Marungu, Rukanga and Wundanyi markets. I call upon Hon. Mabishi Kirubai to second the Motion. Thank you, Mr. Acting Speaker.

(Hon. Mabishi Kirubai bowed in secondment)

(Question proposed)

The Acting Speaker: Honourable Members, the Floor is open for debate. Yes, Member for Mahoo Ward.

Hon. Kimuyu Daniel (MCA, Mahoo): Ahsante sana, Mhe. Kaimu Spika, kwa kunipa nafasi ili kuunga mkono Hoja hii na kukubali Ripoti iliyoletwa Bungeni leo. Kama Mjumbe katika Kamati hiyo, ninampongeza Mwenyekiti na Kamati nzima kwa kutembelea masoko na sehemu za biashara ambazo zinaletea Kaunti hii ushuru unaosaidia kuiendeleza.

Kama ulivyosikia katika Ripoti hiyo, hali si hali katika masoko haya. Kwa mfano, soko ya Taveta Msikitini, wafanyibiashara wamebanana, milango hakuna na hata ulinzi wa mali yao haupo. Ukienda soko ya Mpakani, hali pia ni hiyo hiyo. Ukiangalia pia masoko mengine tuliyotembelea yapo katika hali zisizo za kawaida. Naona hii ni kati ya zile sehemu ambazo hatujazivalia njuga kama Waheshimiwa ili kuona ni kwa jinsi gani tunaweza kurekebisha masoko yetu.

Wanabiashara wana kilio kikubwa. Masoko hayo yapo katika hali isiyo ya kawaida, ilhali kwa upande mwingine, pesa zinazopatikana ndizo zinazopangiwa kuendesha Kaunti hii. Nitatoa mfano wa soko moja tulilolikuta Maungu pale sehemu ya kuegeza malori. Ukiangalia vyoo vyenyewe, sio mahali ungependa kukaa; hakuna umeme, mashimo yako sehemu ya kuingilia na kutokea magari kiasi cha kwamba hata gari kuingia na kutoka ni tatizo. Kuna mjumbe alikua katika Bunge hili, yuko na nyumba zake hapo nyuma lakini amewachilia maji machafu ya chooni kuingia kwenye mtaro wa lile soko. Ukiangalia wale watu, hawana

pakukimbilia. Tulipofika tulionekana kama malaika waliotua.

Tuachane na hapo, twende soko la Wundanyi ambalo liko hapa. Tulikuta choo ambacho kinatozwa pesa lakini hakina maji. Soko lililojengwa halitumiki. Lile soko ambalo niliambiwa lilitengenezwa na serikali hapo awali ni kasehemu tu. Jengo lilivyotengenezwa, lipo tu pale. Jengo hilo halitumiki kwa sababu lilijengwa kinyume na mapendekezo ya wananchi na hawakuhusishwa. Halina nafasi ya kutosha ya kuwekea mizigo, ni kibanda tu kimetengenezwa; ni chako lakini pia mzigo wako hauwezi kutoshea hapo.

Tulitembelea masoko mengine sehemu ya Maungu na Kasighau. Soko lile halitumiki, ila watu wanafanyia kazi nje kwa sababu mandhari yake hayafai. Tunapo endelea kumkamua ng'ombe, ni lazima tumlishe vizuri. Hatutaendelea kuwakamua wanabiashara wetu kwa kuwatoza; anapoweka mzigo wake kidogo tayari watu wa ushuru wanakimbia kumtoza. Ukiangalia, siku hizi vyoo ni vya biashara, mtu analipa shilingi 10 na wengine wako na ugonjwa wa sukari.

Ningetaka mustakabali mzima wa soko ujadiliwe na tuwe na mdahalo na Serikali ya Kaunti ya Taita Taveta pamoja na Gavana. Tunafaa kuleta mawazo pamoja ili tuone ni miundo misingi gani tunaweza kuweka kwa ajili ya watu wetu wa sokoni na kama hivyo vyoo vinapeanwa, watu wavitunze na walipe shilingi 10, basi ni vizuri tuwe na vyoo ambavyo kwa njia moja ama nyingine mfanyibishara ana haki ya kuenda kufanya... kwa nini alipe ushuru halafu tena alipe gharama za kutumia choo? Ni wapi uliona mtu analipia kuenda haja?

Wakati umefika sasa tulete mawazo yetu pamoja kwa sababu watu wetu huenda sokoni kujitafutia maisha; kuna wafanyibiashara na wanaofanya vibarua. Wakati umefika wa kumaliza ujenzi wa masoko yetu. Ninaomba kama Bunge hili linaweza kupeleka kutembelea nchi ya Tanzania na kuona jinsi wanazijali masoko yao na jinsi wananchi wanatukuzwa na kutunzwa ili tukirudi hapa tuweze kugeuza masoko yetu.

Kwa hayo machache, ninaunga Hoja hii mkono na tunapoichukua tuanze haraka na tuhakishe masoko yetu yamebadilika. Mungu akubariki. Ahsante Mhe. Kaimu Spika.

Hon. Rose Shingira (MCA, Nominated): Ahsante sana, Mhe. Kaimu Spika kwa kunipatia fursa hii nami nikaweze kutoa mchango wangu. Ninaipongeza Kamati iliyoleta Hoja hii.

Ni dhahiri kwamba, wanabiashara wetu wanatozwa ushuru pasipo mazingira yakufurahisha. Ni vizuri wakati mfanyibiashara anafanya biashara, awe kwenye mazingira yanoyo furahisha. Tuko na Mheshimiwa wa Taveta, Mhe. Sakina Kusania, aliyeleta mjadala kwa Kamati ya Mazingira kuhusu uchafu katika masoko yetu na miji. Tukiangalia masoko ya Voi, Wundanyi, Taveta na Mwatate, uchafu umekithiri na sijui Waziri anafanya kazi gani kama mambo haya hayawezi kushughulikiwa.

Vilevile, upande wa vyoo, unapata wanaolipa ushuru wa masoko, bado watatozwa ushuru kutumia vyoo ambavyo hali yake si nzuri. Kama ni mtu wa nje atozwe ushuru, lakini kama ni wale kina mama na wafanyi biashara, wacha waweze kutumia vyoo vile bila malipo kwa

sababu washatoa sehemu yao ya ushuru.

Kuna biashara nyingi sana. Nilienda Mbulia na kuna mtu ametengeneza nyumba ndogo na watoza ushuru wa Serikali ya Kaunti hawakujua kama kuna biashara kama hiyo hapo. Wakati waliona imeangaziwa kwenye televisheni ndipo wakajua ipo. Cha kustaajabisha ni kwamba, walimuitisha mfanyibiashara huyo ushuru na ukiangalia, hakuna maji wala barabara.

Mfanyibiashara anauliza, analipa ushuru wa nini na amejitengeneza barabara , maji wala umeme hakuna? Ningeomba sisi kama Wajumbe tuwakabilishe wananchi wetu kikamilifu kwa sababu kama ni Bajeti tumetenga na wao wanalipa ushuru, wacha wafanye kazi kwenye mazingira mazuri na waweze kufaidika au kufurahia mazingira yale. Ahsante, Mwenyekiti.

The Acting Speaker: Mhe. Rose Shingira, labda kwa kukusahihisha, ukizitazama Kanuni za Bunge letu vizuri, Mwenyekiti inatumika tukiwa katika vikao vya kamati, lakini kwa kikao cha jumla, ni Spika.

Hon. Rose Shingira (MCA, Nominated): Samahani, Mhe. Kaimu Spika, Kiswahili ni kigumu sana. Ahsante, Mhe. Kaimu Spika.

Hon. Joseph Kennedy (MCA, Mwatate): Ahsante sana, Mhe. Kaimu Spika. Kwanza, niipongeze Kamati ambayo ilitembelea masoko ya Kaunti yetu. Nimesimama kuongea kuhusu soko letu la Mwatate. Ripoti hii inaeleza kwamba soko la Mwatate ilianza tarehe 21 Oktoba 2021. Soko hili lilijengwa kwa sababu kulikuwa na msongamano wa wafanyibiashara pale Mwatate. Kulingana na Ripoti hii, soko hili linaweza kutupatia mapato ya zaidi ya shilingi elfu saba likitumika vizuri.

Wafanyibiashara wa soko la Mwatate wako na mambo ambayo wangetaka wafanyiwe. Kwa muda mrefu, wamekuwa wakiomba mlango wa kutokea upande wa chini na bado hawajawekewa. Hii ni kwa sababu soko hili lina mlango mmoja unaotumiwa kwa kuingilia na kutokea. Mambo yanaweza kutokea wakati wowote na Kamati hii imefanya vizuri kugundua hilo.

Pia, ukiangalia soko hilo, halikusanyi maji na kuna vyoo hapo ndani. Hii ni hatari sana kwa sababu kuna vyakula ambavyo vinauzwa hapo. Wanabiashara wa Mwatate wanalipa kodi, kwa hivyo ni jukumu la idara husika kuweka maji kwa wingi na yasikosekane katika soko hilo. Idara inayohusika na usafi pia haiangalii usafi wa soko hilo inavyotakikana. Kamati hii imefanya vizuri kwa sababu wamegundua soko hilo linahitaji huduma hizo.

Wakati wanabiashara wa Mwatate wanalipia licence, sijui kama huwa zinaonyesha ni biashara gani mtu anafanya kwa sababu utapata wanaopika na kuuza vyakula wanakatazwa kufanya biashara hapo ndani. Hilo pia ni suala lingine la kuangalia kwa sababu, wanapolipia leseni hizo, inafaa ionyeshe ya kwamba huyu mwanabiashara amekata licence hii kwa sababu anafanya kazi hii.

Hon. Dorcas Mlughu (MCA, Rong'e): Point of Order!

The Acting Speaker: What is your point of Order, Hon. Dorcas Mlughu?

Hon. Dorcas Mlughu: Thank you, Mr. Acting Speaker, Sir. Standing Order no. 78 clearly states that a Member is supposed to use English or Swahili continuously, but I am wondering why Hon. Joseph Kennedy seems to be ignoring the same. We need your indulgence Mr. Acting Speaker, Sir.

The Acting Speaker: Hon. Joseph Kennedy, kindly stick to one language and summarize because your time has lapsed.

Hon. Joseph Kennedy: Mhe. Kaimu Spika, kipaza sauti hiki ni kama hakifanyi kazi.

(Kicheko)

The Acting Speaker: Endelea Mheshimiwa.

Hon. Joseph Kennedy: Ahsante sana, Mhe. Kaimu Spika. Kwa kumalizia, wakati unaongea halafu mtu aingilie kati, kidogo maneno hupotea. Ninafikiri nilikuwa ninatumia Kiswahili tu. Sijui alikuwa anasikiliza na wapi lakini wacha tuendeleo.

Kwa kumalizia, wanabiashara pale Mwatate mara nyingi wanapokuja na bidhaa zao huwa wanalipa pale kwa kiingilio na tena wakishapanga bidhaa zao pale ndani ya soko, utakuta wanalipishwa tena. Hii ni sawa na kulipishwa kodi mara mbili. Wanakamati naona pia wameona makosa hayo na tungependa yarekebishwe. Ninaunga Hoja hii mkono asili mia kwa mia. Ahsante sana, Mhe. Kaimu Spika.

The Acting Speaker: Motion mover, reply.

Hon. Anisa Mwakio: Thank you, Mr. Acting Speaker, Sir. Again, on behalf of Hon. Lawrence Mzuga, the Chairperson of this Committee, I want to thank all the Members who have contributed and even those who have not. I believe silence means concurrence and where we expect to get revenue, we must be ready to spend more and a conducive environment for any business is paramount and that goes without asking. For us to reap well, we must invest more.

Markets are the strongest revenue streams for Taita Taveta County and the vendors demands must be taken care of and be addressed as soon as possible. I beg to reply. God bless you all. Thank you, Mr. Acting Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

ATTENDANCE AT THE GALLERY

The Acting Speaker: Honourable Members, the Chair would like to recognize Members of the public seated at the public gallery; Mr. Renson Mnyamwezi of the Standard Media group, Mr. Robert Maghanga of Anguo FM and Mr. Raymond Njumwa of Radio Rahma and Sheki FM.

ADJOURNMENT

The Acting Speaker: Honourable Members, there being no other business, the House stands adjourned until Tuesday, 6th August 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

(The House rose at 3.18 p.m.)