

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**MANDERA COUNTY ASSEMBLY**

**THE HANSARD**

Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

*The House met in the Assembly Chambers  
County Assembly Buildings at 2:30 pm*

[Temporary Speaker (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow) in the Chair]

**PRAYER**

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Confirm whether we have quorum.

**STATEMENTS**

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Statement to be issued, Hon. Abdinur Diisow Teno. Let us go to the next statement. Do you have his blessings? Next statement by Hon. Halima Billow!

TOTAL NUMBER AND THE CRITERIA USED TO  
RECRUIT VILLAGE ADMINISTRATORS

**Hon. Halima Billow** (Nominated): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. Pursuant to the provision of Standing Order No. 44 (2) (c), I wish to seek a statement from the chairperson of Public Service, Conflict Management, Cohesion and Integration and Devolved Unit on the following;

1. The total number of village administrators recruited in the recent recruitment by Mandera County Public Service Board.
2. The number of female village administrators recruited by Mandera County Public Service Board in the said recruitment.
3. The number of persons with disabilities recruited as village administrators
4. Whether Mandera County Public Service Board had considered the diversity in the recruitment of village administrators.
5. The criteria used to fill the position of village administrators.

Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Chair for Public Service!

**Hon. Kulow Alio** (Rhamu): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I thank Hon. Halima Billow for coming up with the question. The CEC for Public Service is away on official

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duty until the first week of April. All the PSs are also on leave; one is on maternity leave and the other one is on annual leave. I request for four weeks to bring the response.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Yes, Hon. Halima.

**Hon. Halima Billow** (Nominated): Madam Temporary Speaker, I think that office is not vacant and still there are people who are serving. Four weeks is a lot of time. Let the Member request like two weeks.

**Hon. Shankaron Sheikh Ibrahim** (Nominated): Madam Temporary Speaker, with your permission, I think if we take four weeks it is going to be overtaken by events. I think the office of the Public Service Board is there. One of the directors can request and give us a response in the next two weeks if possible.

Thank you.

#### STATUS OF THE CURRENT DROUGHT IN THE COUNTY

**Hon. Abdinur Diisow** (Elwak South): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. Pursuant to Standing Order No.44 (2) (c), I wish to seek statement from the chairperson of Finance and Economic Planning Committee on;

1. Whether the department is aware the current drought situation in the County.
2. Whether the department is aware of reported cases of starvation of persons especially in Elwak town starvation inflicted by the current drought situation.
3. Whether the department has distributed the relief food meant for vulnerable household affected by drought in Elwak town.
4. Provide the list of beneficiaries and amount of food distributed per household in each ward in the County.
5. The total amount of money spent to procure the relief food to mitigate the current drought situation in the County.

Thank you.

**Hon. Mohamed Rashid** (Kutulo): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. As we are aware, His Excellency the Governor recently launched the disbursement of relief food. So, I will request for two weeks to respond to this statement.

Thank you.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Next statement!

#### SHORTAGE OF WATER IN BANISA

**Hon. Halima Golo** (Nominated): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. Aware that Article 43 (1) (d) of Constitution of Kenya 2010 provides that every person has the right to clean and safe water in adequate quantities;

Pursuant to the provision of Standing Order No.44 (2) (c), I wish to seek a statement from the chairperson of Water, Energy, Environment and Natural Resource Committee on the following;

1. Whether the department is aware of a serious water shortage in Banisa and Mandera West sub-county.
2. Any plan the department has put in place to address water shortages in the said area.

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Thank you.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Chairman water? Vice chair? Any Member? Use the mic

**Hon. Adan Maalim Abdullahi** (Township): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I am a Member of the Committee on water. I am requesting for two weeks to respond to the statement.

Thank you.

WHY MR. MAHDI HUSSEIN, A RADIOGRAPHER, EMPLOYED IN 2008  
HAS STAGNATED IN ONE JOB GROUP FOR THE LAST SEVEN YEARS

**Hon. Fatuma Issack** (Nominated): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. Mr. Mahdi Hussein Haji of personal number 20008103111 is a radiographer employed by the National Government in the year 2008 and later deployed to the County Government of Mandera. The officer is currently attached to Banisa sub-county referral hospital. The employee has stagnated at one job group for the last seven years.

Pursuant to the provision of standing order No.44 (2) (c), I wish to seek a statement from the chairperson of Public Service, Conflict Management, Cohesion and Integration and Devolved Unit Committee on;

1. Why the said staff has stagnated at one job group for the last seven years?
2. What measures has the department put in place to promote the said staff.

Thank you.

**Hon. Kulow Alio** (Rhamu): *off the mic*

*(Technical hitch)*

**Hon. Alinur Hassan** (Dandu): Madam Temporary Speaker, I am the vice chair of that committee and we are still compiling that report because this is the issue of bursary. We request to be given another one week because we have returned it to the CEC and we are still waiting for the result.

**Hon. Abdinur Diisow** (Elwak South): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I think this statement of bursary has got a timeline. We know the kind of fund which is idle in that account of bursary and this statement is quite shallow. I do not know why the department keeps on taking too long. Let the committee tell us what they have in hand. They are about four questions; how many are ready now and how many of them are not ready.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Kula!

**Hon. Kulow Alio** (Rhamu): Madam Temporary Speaker, when this question was asked some two to three weeks ago, it was asked as a matter of urgency and the chair for education actually said that he will respond to that question within two weeks and now it is running four weeks. What is being requested for are just documents which are in the file. There is nothing the department is compiling. They are not going to the wards to compile anything. These are documents which have already been prepared and are just in the file. They are supposed to just retrieve those documents and forward it to the Assembly. I do not know why it is taking too long for those documents to be on the floor of the House. I do not know whether the honorable

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Member for Dandu is in touch with the department. We need your ruling. Some of our children are going without fees and we want to peruse through those documents. We need your indulgence.

Thank you.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Abdullahi!

**Hon. Abdullahi Siyad** (Lafey): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. As a Member of the Committee on Education, we have done our best in trying to get answers from the department. You know we are a conveyor belt. We send the statement to the Executive whatever response they bring, if we are satisfied we bring it to the House. We wrote two reminders to the department and an impression should not be created that we are not also interested parties. Our children are also suffering. Hon. Kula and Hon. Teno should not create an impression that the committee including our vice chair have no interest in this issue. We have done our best. We gave them up to Thursday when the committee will sit. So, I urge the Members to be patient.

Thank you.

**Hon. Bishar Maalim Abdullahi** (Takaba): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I just want to echo the response that was given by our able vice chair of education, Hon. Alinur and our active Member Hon. Abdullahi of Lafey. We have been discussing this issue for quite some time and as you know the CEC for education has recently resigned and the Chief Officer for education is also in Mombasa attending a retreat in Mombasa. We have written a final reminder and in doing so we wanted to take some actions but in consultation with the clerk's office, we have given some time line. Our committee meeting is on Thursday, we might be able to give a positive response by next week.

Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Abdullahi!

**Hon. Abdullahi Yunis** (Morothile): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I think this statement has been here for quite some time. If you look from number one to number five, it is just an original list. Number two is about the balance, number three is about the list, number four is the double allocation and number five is the double allocation. I do not know why the Committee on Education is taking us merry go round. You should give this (*off record*)

**Hon. Mohamed Rashid** (Kutulo): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I just want to echo what other Hon. Members have said. This matter of bursary is a concern to the population of this county. Even the cheques which have been disbursed have not reached the institutions. Up to now the students are calling us and telling us that they did not get allocation. I urge our honorable Members of the committee to take this matter very serious so that In Sha Allah by next week we have a concrete response from the department. Otherwise, if they fail, Madam Temporary Speaker, protect me. I want to conclude.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Bishar, have a seat.

**Hon. Mohamed Rashid** (Kutulo): Madam Temporary Speaker, as I conclude, let us not take this very lightly. Our population are suffering when it comes to bursary allocation. The allocation that has been disbursed from the wards has not reached the institutions. So, if maybe they fail to provide a comprehensive response by next week, I request with your leave to form an Ad Hoc Committee.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Hindia!

**Hon. Hindia Hussein** (Nominated): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. In this House the people who are representing us in education department are the Members of the Committee on Education and what we require is a good report. If the Members have said that the report has been there, it is not sufficient and they returned it to the department, I think the House needs a good report so that it won't be returned back from the floor of the House. So, I urge the committee to fast track and bring a good report.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): What is your point of order?

**Hon. Hindia Hussein** (Nominated): I do not need information Madam Temporary Speaker.

**Hon. Kulow Alio** (Rhamu): Madam Temporary Speaker, there is no report which is important to the committee. The department has not even forwarded anything to the Assembly. Talk about...

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Order Hon. Members! Hon. Shankaron!

**Hon. Shankaron Sheikh** (Nominated): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I agree with Hon. Member representing Morothile that this House should create an Ad Hoc Committee because it seems like the Education Committee is not doing their work properly.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Adan!

**Hon. Adan Maalim Abdullahi** (Township): Madam Temporary Speaker, there are a lot of issues, complains and a lot of grey areas around disbursement of bursary. It is either an allocation sent in the name of certain child is missing in totality or it is reduced. So, between the Wards and the school there are some places with grey areas and every Ward is affected. We are concerned and we are urgently waiting for the report. If not I concur with Hon. Fitracho, Ad Hoc is the only way to go.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Mohamed!

**Hon. Mohamed Ibrahim** (Guticha): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I am a Member of the Committee on Education and I agree that there is a concern when it comes to disbursement of bursary in this county. As it has been alluded to by the vice Chair Hon. Abdullahi, I think it is true that the Committee has taken serious steps.

After we wrote, the department responded asking for additional timeline. We rejected their response and told them that they should respond in two weeks' time with substantive report. They wrote back to the Committee again saying that the CEC was away on official duty by then and we gave them a final reminder and the final reminder stated that the deadline will be tomorrow. We will bring the substantive report next statement day on Wednesday.

Thank you.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Abass. Order Hon. Members!

**Hon. Abass Abdille Mohamed** (Nominated): Information to this House and everyone is that schools will be closing by next week part one. Before we went for recess, we put the Committee on their toes and by then there was no disbursement but to our dismay, it has been three weeks and they have not even answered one question. Madam Temporary Speaker, I should not be interrupted. Protect me.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Abdullah, what is your point of order? What is your point of order? Hon. Abass, are you properly dressed?

**Hon. Abass Abdille Mohamed** (Nominated): Madam Temporary Speaker, I am properly dressed. Let Members of the Education Committee not interrupt what we are discussing.

**Hon. Hindia Hussein** (Nominated): Madam Temporary Speaker, the tie that Hon. Abass is putting on is for Hon. Teno. We should respect the House. One is in jeans and the other one is putting on someone else's tie.

**Hon. Bishar Maalim Abdullahi** (Takaba): You will be setting a very serious precedence if you allow ties to be exchanged in this House. People should be dressed with decorum and maintain the dignity of this House. I think we need to discipline Hon. Teno and Marothile on this.

**Hon. Abass Abdille Mohamed** (Nominated): Let me make an explanation Madam Temporary Speaker. According to our Standing Order, when a Member is asked if they are properly dressed, it is the Member who can make the clarification. I am properly dressed.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Members, I know Hon. Abass is formerly dressed.

**Hon. Abass Abdille Mohamed** (Nominated): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Teno, are you properly dressed? Hon. Teno?

**Hon. Abdinoor Disow Teno** (El-wak South): Yes.

**Hon. Abass Abdille Mohamed** (Nominated): Madam Temporary Speaker, according to the Standing Order, a Member can be asked if he or she is properly dressed only when they are addressing.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Order Hon. Abass! Order Hon. Abass! Hon. Teno, are you properly dressed?

**Hon. Abdinoor Disow Teno** (El-wak South): Yes, Madam Temporary Speaker.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Teno, I can also see. I have eyes. I can see you are not properly dressed. Kindly leave the House.

**Hon. Abdinoor Disow Teno** (El-wak South): I can explain.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): We do not need explanation. Hon. Teno, kindly leave the House.

**Hon. Abdinoor Disow Teno** (El-wak South): Madam Temporary Speaker, I was helping him because he is disabled.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Teno, move out. Hon. Abass, proceed.

**Hon. Abass Abdille Mohamed** (Nominated): What is point of order again? Which Standing Order?

**Hon. Abdullahi Siyad** (Lafey): Madam Temporary Speaker, Hon. Abass is not complying with Covid protocols. He has no mask and he should go out and put on a mask.

**Hon. Abdiaziz Dakat** (Arabia): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I echo the sentiment raised by Hon. Fitracho that we have serious problem concerning Education department and the criteria they use. Those guys do not follow the law. They distribute bursaries like personal fund. I was with the board Chair this morning and I shared my issues with him. His response and explanation has not satisfied me properly. I support my colleagues that we should form an Ad Hoc Committee. The education committee has failed in their mandate. The bursary fund is the only fund that is meant to reach the vulnerable society in our community. If the

bursary fund is not distributed fairly it means we are not doing our work properly. Madam Temporary Speaker, let us form an Ad Hoc Committee.

Thank you.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Order Hon. Members! I want to rule on this statement. Hon. Abass, have a seat. That Statement needs urgent response. If I go back to this file, I can see this statement was raised on 17<sup>th</sup> of February. That was three weeks ago and the Chairman committed on 3<sup>rd</sup>. He is again committing himself today. I am ruling that come next Wednesday we will give him the last chance.

Next Statement to be responded to! Chairperson Agriculture!

**Hon. Bashir Ibrahim** (Kiliwehiri): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. Reference is made to your letter ref no that sought by MCA Guticha ward Hon Mohamed Yussuf Ibrahim regarding death of livestock in Mandera County. The outbreak of rift valley fever in Mandera North Sub County!

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Order Hon. Members!

**Hon. Bashir Ibrahim** (Kiliwehiri): Rift valley fever was first confirmed in human on 21<sup>st</sup> January followed by confirmation in five camels on 3<sup>rd</sup> of February and as of today a total of 24 camels have developed serious forms of rift valley fever characterized by bleeding from orifices (body opening) with the latest case on 22<sup>nd</sup> February in Rhamu Dimtu. A total of 19 deaths were reported with the latest on 24<sup>th</sup> February in Yabicho A.

The distribution of those cases is as follows: Rukey 5, Kalmalab 5, Yabicho A 6, Rhamu Dimtu 1. The rest of the cases were reported from across the border in Sathey (7) which lies on the Ethiopian side of Kalmalab.

The vast majority of human infections results from the bite of infected mosquito mostly *Aedes spp*. Direct or indirect contact with the blood or organ of infected animal is a major source of severe disease. The virus can be transmitted to human through improper handling of animal tissue during slaughtering or butchering, assisting with animal birth or conducting veterinary procedure or improper disposal of carcasses or fetuses. Certain occupational groups such as farmers, herders, slaughter house workers and veterinary officers are at higher risk of infection. The virus infects human being through inoculation, for example, via a wound from an infected knife through contact with broken skin or through inhalation of aerosols produced during the slaughter of infected animal. Infection with Rift Valley Fever can also occur following the ingestion of uncooked liver and unpasteurized milk.

The virus is transmitted biologically by Aides Mosquito. However, other mosquito species are efficient vectors – notably species of the *Culex*, *Aedes*, *Anopheles*, *Eretmapodites* and *Mansonia genera*. Other biting insects may transmit the virus mechanically. Animals are infectious (Potential source of infection) during their viraemic (having fever) period, which can be up to eight days after onset of the disease.

The hemorrhagic syndrome is the most rare and fatal form of RFV in both human (less than 1%) and animals (2-5%).

RFV occurs in goats, sheep, camel and cattle. Its characterized with high rate of absorption of up to 100% in exotic shoats (sheep and goat), biphasic fever, weakness, anorexia, vomiting, muco-purulent nasal discharge and death in 24-48 hours. Indigenous goats and sheep may show none of the above sigan other than few abortions and can still transmit to humans. In cattle, cows abort and they may however show fever, a sharp drop in milk production, with

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lymphadenitis, anorexia and malaise. Haemorrhage from the mouth and nares occur with abdominal pain and haemorrhagic diarrhoea. In camel it is reported to be largely sub-clinical. However, all the confirmed and suspected cases in Mandera north are haemorrhagic in nature.

Outbreak of diseases tends to go down when the risk factor is eliminated. The risk factor for RFV is already known and in an attempt to eliminate, the Vet department carried out the following response interventions (from 27<sup>th</sup> January to date) – supported by county and partners;

1. Outbreak investigation to map the affected area and identify the common environment risk factors.
2. Vector (mosquito, biting flies) control; county supplied assortment of veterinary drugs including acaricides.
3. Two teams (seven technical staff per team) were dispatched to apply contact acaricides to livestock in affected areas of Yabicho A, B, Kalmalab and Rhamu Dimtu- it ended on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2021.
4. Vaccinated 40,000 livestock (sheep, goats, camel and cattle) along River Daua from Rhamu to Malkamari (only non-affected herds) – it ended on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2021.
5. Public education through barazas in the affected areas.

Despite the response interventions, the magnitude of the outbreak is still unknown. Based on the dynamic of RFV virus, the already infected herds will continue to move around re-infecting the vectors, increasing human exposure and widening the geographical spread of RFV because of the following; -

1. Unimpeded movement across the Kenyan Ethiopian border.
2. Unimpeded movement of animals from Mandera north to other parts of the county and country.
3. Unimpeded sell of sick or potentially sick animals.
4. Unimpeded slaughter of apparently or sub-clinically sick animal at home, bushes and in slaughter houses.
5. Unimpeded sell and consumption of potentially RFV laden meat and unpasteurized milk.

These challenges need to be addressed urgently and can only be done through quarantine notice which is one of the best practices/procedures recommended by OIE and Disease Control Cap 364.

Based on the aforementioned and in order to mitigate against full blown outbreak of RFV and in line with my responsibility as County Director, I published quarantine notice on 24<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2021. The following is the scope of the quarantine notice; -

- No movement of livestock and their product including milk, hide, skin and manure (camel, cattle, sheep and goats) into and out of Mandera north sub county.
- No movement of livestock into Mandera north from across Ethiopian side.
- The carcasses of the animals suspected dying from RFV shall forthwith be either buried at the depth of not less than 4 feet below the surface of the ground or burnt at the expense of the owner.
- All livestock markets in Mandera north and slaughter houses shall remain closed.



The notice was addressed to the County Commissioner for the purpose of enforcement. However, the integral activities/procedures/items that are required to be implemented by Vet department during quarantine period are as follows; -

1. Regular (bi weekly) active surveillance and sampling to ascertain the presence of the virus in the suspected herds. This will inform the withdrawal of the quarantine.
2. Training of staff on RFV protocols and contingency planning- staff at high risk of infections.
3. Sanitary tools- movement control permits, meat transport permits and meat markets inks, not in stock.
4. PPEs for the Vet staff – not in stock.
5. Sampling tools – out of stock.
6. Public education and sensitization through print media and radio.
7. Continued vaccination of uninfected herds and vector control measures.

The above support activities are yet to take effect due to lack of adequate support to the department.

The implementation of quarantine notice and all related measures requires resource mobilization, coordination, collaboration and consistency in information sharing. Delays and uncoordinated efforts will impede the control and create confusion.

Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker.

**Hon. Mohamed Ibrahim** (Guticha): Madam Temporary Speaker, I would like to sincerely thank the Hon. Chair for Agriculture for the prompt response. This disease has seriously affected Mandera North. This gazetement of quarantine has caused challenges in Mandera North specifically Rhamu town because all commercial traders stopped carrying out their trading activities, food in terms of meat has been also banned. There are no livestock markets. There are challenges as a result of this outbreak. Even milk market has been closed. All livestock products have been banned and as result of that there is a serious challenge coupled with the biting drought. The county department of special programs has not yet distributed food to the most part of the constituency. The county department has also tried. I can see the response they have done and we witnessed that they have some vaccination of forty thousand livestock specifically in Rhamu-Dimtu and Malkamari area. That is where the diseases have been reported and we pray that this disease will not take long so that our people will not suffer.

Thank you.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Okay the response is satisfactory. Hon. Kulow.

**Hon. Kulow Alio** (Rhamu): Madam Temporary Speaker, as correctly alluded to by Hon. Member for Guticha my ward is the most affected because the people of Rhamu normally depend on business that is small scale business and with the coming of this quarantine, the livelihood of the common mwananchi has been totally disrupted. Recently I received 62 members or groups who are doing some slaughtering of animals at the slaughter house most of them being vulnerable women of my ward. As I am speaking now those people have been deprived of their livelihood, they depend on nothing and they are just at the mercy of God. We need the department of Agriculture and veterinary to take this matter very seriously so that at least the livelihood of the people of Rhamu and its environs is brought back to normal. I want the honorable chair for Agriculture to tell the House when the quarantine will be over and when they

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think they will do away with this rift valley fever. Just a quick response may be if he will be able to give.

Thank you

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Bashir!

**Hon. Bashir Ibrahim** (Kiliwehiri): Madam Temporary Speaker, the honorable member for Guticha said already he is satisfied with the response but for Rhamu he is asking when it will be opened. Personally I do not know because I am not a veterinary doctor and I have not gone to Rhamu to go and assess the animals. For that one he can raise another statement on when it will be opened. Personally I cannot tell him when that market will be opened because I do not know when the disease will be over.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Shaban!

**Hon. Shaban Hassan** (Ashabito): Madam Temporary Speaker, the issue raised by Hon. Kulow has been answered here. The department said there is regular weekly active surveillance sampling to ascertain the presence of the virus.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Which page?

**Hon. Shaban Hassan** (Ashabito): Page three. They are doing surveillance after every two weeks and once the situation subsides is when they will remove the quarantine. I am also satisfied with the response from the department. The only thing is that our people depend on this livestock. All the milk market and the livestock market in Mandera North have been closed. These people are suffering. My appeal to the county government through the department of finance should be to support these guys so that at least their suffering is alleviated.

Thank you.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Next statement is by Hon. Alinur. Chair for Water! Vice Chair for Water! Order Hon. Members!

**Hon. Yussuf Maalim Dakane** (Alungu): Madam Temporary Speaker, when you go straight to the response.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Be louder, use the mike.

**Hon Yussuf Maalim Dakane** (Alungu): When you go straight to the response of the department on the statement of water issue in Dandu ward, the first statement is about whether the department is aware. The response of the department is yes the department is aware of the reported death of livestock but this death has nothing to do with the water of the said bore hole. The bore hole has been operational and continuously used by both human and livestock. The second day of death of livestock, the livestock has consumed water during the morning hours, the trend recorded therefore clearly shows that the bore hole water is nontoxic.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Member for Alungu, use another mic. Kindly, give him another mic. Order!

**Hon Yussuf Maalim Dakane** (Alungu): Madam Temporary Speaker, it should also be noted that not all that consumed water died. 'Wacheni hii maneno'.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Order Hon. Members!

**Hon Yussuf Maalim Dakane** (Alungu): Madam Temporary Speaker, any member who does not want to listen to the response, let him go out. It should also be noted that not all goats that consumed water died if at all death occurred. Few goats died and the majority remained unaffected. In view of the above, we highly suspect the death of the goats after consuming water from the borehole could be due to over hydration or water top linear which is a potential and

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functional disturbance in brain functions which you usually occur when the normal balance of electrolyte in the body is pushed outside to save limits by excessive water intake causing a condition called hyperthermia. The death of the goats that consumed water is therefore definitely not as a result of water.

Question two, whether the department has carried out testing and treatment of water samples of the said borehole before its consumption by the human and livestock, yes water sample was sent to the Kenya institute of water quality laboratory for analysis and the results conveyed rules out water as the cause of the death of the goats. Attached below please find a copy of the laboratory result. The laboratory result is annexed to these results and therefore the members can peruse and see the result.

Madam Temporary Speaker, on that statement response in the meantime we have also taken a second sample and sent it to the water resources authority laboratory to provide us with an alternative opinion. We shall share copy of this second laboratory test results once we receive it. It should be noted that the bore hole is presently in use without any problem.

Question three, any plan the department has to compensate the owners of the said goats. Please, note that since there is no evidence mentioning water the department has no plans to compensate anybody. In conclusion, we also wish to resolve these issues with the county veterinary department to enable them investigate if there are other underlying issues to the death of goats as suggested and share their reports with the assembly, both the department and county assembly.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Member for Dandu!

**Hon. Alinur Hassan** (Dandu): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I thank the committee for what they have done. I learnt English under a tree at Takaba secondary school of which I do not understand what it means by saying there is no death occurred after consumption of water by all the livestock species. If you come now to the next statements however the death of the number of goats occurred among the livestock that consumed the same water, the death of the goats occurred after consuming the same water. In the first statement they said no death occurred after the consumptions of water by all livestock species. If you allow me to give a brief history about this borehole, the water department drilled a borehole at a place called Arges-Awara. When they drilled, I am not a water engineer but over my research and the little research I did, when they are drilling the borehole there is a certain chemical that they put in order to soften the hard rocks. When the borehole yields water, they normally close and equip after a while. When they come back to equip the borehole they are supposed to pump that water outside for a certain number of hours, for two or three hours so that the chemical deposit which is at the top layer of that water is supposed to be pumped out. What the water engineer and what the ministry of water did is immediately they equipped the borehole they advised the people of Arges-Awara to consume that water whereby the first herd of goats that consumed that water died instantly, over fifty of them of which I have a video to proof the same which I have also shared in the forum.

Madam Temporary Speaker, injustice done to the people of Dandu is an injustice done to the entire people of this county. Today it is Dandu, tomorrow it will be somewhere, either Fino, Malkamari, Khalalio, Alungu or somewhere else. Remember our people are depending on livestock for their livelihood. They do not depend on salary. Remember a person that lost over fifty goats and that is what he has in this world. He has nothing left for him and he has school

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children to pay school fees, children to feed and a family to take care of. When they come and deny the goats have not died as a result of consuming contaminated water and they did test. I cannot follow this analysis where they talk of a lot of alkalinity. I am just a third world classroom teacher. I know nothing about this but what I know is the number of goats that died at Arges-Awara died as a result of the contaminated borehole of Arges-Awara. I am not satisfied with this response and I urge the honorable members of this House also to support me on the same in order to save the lives of our people.

Thank you.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Yussuf!

**Hon Yussuf Maalim Dakane** (Alungu): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. If I may go back to this response, the department of water is very clear. They said they want to clarify that the death has nothing to do with the consumption of water from the said borehole. The borehole has been operationalized and the people of Dandu are using that borehole. They said the first day the borehole was operationalized there was no death reported concerning the animals that have taken water. There is no death of camels and cattle and therefore when the member representing Dandu said that all the animals that consumed that water died, I think that one is not there because it is very clear in this response that the department has categorically stated that the livestock population in the area was equipped in the first day of the borehole as no death occurred after the consumption by all livestock species. On the second day no death of livestock that consumed water during the morning hours was reported. However, death of the number of goats occurred and the livestock that consumed water in the afternoon. How is it possible that in the morning the animals that have consumed that water have not died and in the evening those that have consumed have died because as a result of whatever that had happened they have explained and they have taken the samples to the laboratory. Therefore, saying that it is not satisfactory or not satisfied, I do not know whether the member wants a specific answer from the department.

In the conclusion the department said we have also referred this issue to the county veterinary department so as to enable them to investigate if there are other underlying issues to the death of goats suggested above. Might be there are a lot of animal diseases in this county. Therefore, I think the department has referred these things to the veterinary department. We wait for the response and when they get back the next sample is when we will share the response with the member.

Thank you.

**Hon. Alinur Hassan** (Dandu): Just for clarity over the conclusion. I have seen the conclusion part and they want to refer to veterinary for investigation or checkup. The goats died almost two months ago. I think we do not know what the veterinary department will go and do at Dandu. Will they go and investigate? Will they go and check on those bones or what because those goats died almost a month ago. I really wonder what the veterinary department will go and do at Dandu at this moment and they are referring this to the department at this stage that is why I am not satisfied with the issue.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Kulow!

**Hon. Kulow Alio** (Rhamu): Madam Temporary Speaker, I think the matter before the House is serious because there is no doubt those goats actually died and that people lost their

livelihood. Those are facts that we cannot run away from as far as we know. The department has also confirmed that there are deaths of goats.

I do not think whether referring the matter to the department of Livestock is going to help this House or even the people of Dandu because the goats died 1 month ago, the carcass have been eaten off by the hyenas. There is nothing that they are going to do with investigation.

The pertinent issue before this House is the resumption of the livelihood of the people who lost their goats. Therefore, if there is a way that the County Government can chip in and compensate those who have lost their goats, that will be better than carrying out any further investigation because the Department of Water has already said that the goats died because of over hydration. Over hydration means that the goats were very thirsty when they got at the site of water, they rushed and over drunk the water. That is actually what it means and they died. That is simple explanation of the statement by the Department of Water. Therefore, further investigation is not going to help these people. What has happened to the people of Dandu will happen to the people of Rhamu tomorrow.

Therefore, we need direction on this so that we conclude this matter once and for all.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Bishar Maalim Abdullahi.

**Hon. Bishar Maalim Abdullahi** (Takaba): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I also want to support what Hon. Kulow Alio said because this is one occurrence that has happened in many years in this county. What touches me most is the livelihoods of few families have been affected.

One thing is very clear, we cannot say that the Department of Water has deliberately killed these livestock. That one is far-fetched. What concerns us most is that we are the representatives of people. I have one proposal to make and I want the Honorable Speaker to make direction on this. I think there has been programs that has been going on in this county through the Government of Kenya, County Government and Non-Governmental Organization. Since these families have been affected very seriously and their economy has been neglected, I want you to give direction on this because there has been livestock keeping programme that has been ongoing through the support of the County Government. Let these families be beneficiaries of this programme. These are vulnerable families. They should see on how they can be assisted through the County Government.

One thing is very clear that these livestock have died by consuming toxic water. We would like to request through you that these families should be compensated for not by the Water Department but the County Government so that they can be able to sustain their lives.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Mohamed Rashid!

**Hon. Mohamed Rashid** (Kutulo): I just want to echo what Hon. Bishar Maalim Abdullahi said. The matter before us is very weighty. It is on record and it is on the social media. The death of the goats is a result of contaminated water from the drilled borehole. If we do not put the concern of the population of this county, and more so the people of Dandu, it will become a norm for the County Government and it will happen again, next time. We stand with the people of greater Dandu so that those people who have lost their livestock be compensated. We need your direction because those are very vulnerable people and that is what they rely on to sustain their family.

The department of Water cannot play hide and seek game about this issue. It is upon the County Government to compensate this family. We stand with people of greater Dandu.

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**Hon. Shaban Hassan** (Ashabito): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. Referring this matter to Veterinary Department will not help. The borehole has been equipped and already in use. Since the first day, there is no death of livestock reported. The only thing is how the County Government will chip in and compensate these people because their livelihood has been disrupted.

On Second page, paragraph two, when they said the animals are thirsty, they took a lot of water and because of the toxic water there was disturbance of brain function which usually occurs and they died. In medical terminology, it usually happens especially now that pasture has been depleted. Once you overtake water, there are some electrons which regulate the amount of water into the cells and outside the cells.

When the department said that the animals were thirsty and re-hydrated and went to water toxemia, even in medical terminology it usually happens. Now that there is drought and there is no pasture. Once an animal or human being takes excessive water there is usually disturbance of electrolytes. There is an element called potassium which regulates the amount of water into the cells and outside the cells. Once that level goes down, it is diluted and there is excessive water into the cells which leads to the cells to swell and especially the most affected is the brain and the kidney. Once it swells, it leads to some symptoms like vomiting, comma and eventually death. So, the hypothesis they have put is very correct. The issue now is for the county to re-stock what these families have lost and also support them through food distribution.

Thank you.

**Fatuma Issack** (Nominated): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker. The people of Arges-Awara deserve justice and they must be compensated by the County Government. Our people are very vulnerable and this is what they depend on to educate and sustain their children. The County Government must compensate the people of Dandu.

Thank you.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Mohamed Ibrahim!

**Hon. Mohamed Ibrahim** (Guticha): I agree that the concern raised by Hon. Alinur Hassan is there but I want to add my voice. The department has responded and said that indeed those goats died. But later they are saying there is no evidence attached or linking the death of those animals to the new borehole. There is no point of them re-directing this to the Department of Livestock. I think the best thing is for Hon. Alinur Hassan to follow up this matter with the Department of Disaster Management so that they can help that family in terms of food and other interventions. I do not see any other action the Department of Water can take because just recently in our neighbouring Wajir County, a relative of mine in a place called 'Gunaney' lost 350 goats in a span of one hour because those goats consumed the water of the newly drilled borehole and that borehole was immediately closed as we speak. It is closed permanently because in a span of one hour that relative of mine lost 350 goats. This is a problem that occurs. I want to request Honorable Member for Dandu to look for help for these people because he is their representative. I agree with him and he has their sentiments and mandated to do advocacy for them. I want to request him to follow this matter and take it with the Department of Disaster management so that they can help in terms of food intervention.

Thank you.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Abass Abdille!

**Hon. Abass Abdille** (Nominated): When I inquired from Hon. Member for Dandu, he told me it is 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2021. The samples attached here were sent on December last year meaning that when those animals died these people have not carried out any sample.

The sample of the date was 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020, date received by this company is 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020, and those animals died 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021. This means that the Department of Water has not answered the questions.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Hon. Member for Alungu-Gof!

**Hon. Yussuf Maalim Dakane** (Alungu-Gof): If you check very well, question two, whether the department has carried out testing or treatment of water samples of the said borehole, that is what the Member is asking.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): Ok. I have heard you. Hon. Abass Abdille!

**Hon. Abass Abdille** (Nominated): Madam Temporary Speaker, I have not concluded. The result sample is after the borehole was drilled and it is not after the animals died. What the Honorable Member asked was the water contaminated? That result should have been carried out after those goats died. In my opinion, the questions were not answered. Even the result of the second sample was released on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and these animals died 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021. So, this response is not realistic.

**Hon. Mohamed Ibrahim** (Guticha): On a point of information. According to the Department of Water, when the County Government drills a borehole, after drilling, there is something called test pumping. In the test pumping, they take a sample of the water to Kenya Water to do chemical analysis; whether that water is fit for consumption or not. Even from the perspective of health, they cannot release a borehole to community without doing laboratory test of that water. If after drilling, chemical test was done then they are in order. I think the only thing maybe Honorable Abass Abdille would have required is whether they have done another test after the death of the animals. But it is must for the Ministry of Water, after drilling a new borehole then they must do a laboratory test of the water. It is by law.

**Hon. Abdullahi Yunis** (Morothile): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I think the response is not satisfactory. You can see that they have confirmed few goats died and at the same time said that they cannot compensate. When Honorable Member for Dandu was drafting this statement, he was looking for 50 goats. He never wanted a lot of English from the department. It was my first time to see Honorable Member for Kutulo saying that the department of water is not doing the right thing. I think we can refer this statement again until we get those goats. What we are looking for is the compensation of those goats. There is a budget that is coming. Some of us have lost billions and someone is looking for 50 goats here.

I think there are two options, we can either look for budget line or the Honorable Member can pay from his mileage; 50 goats multiplied by 3 is Kshs. 150,000. The Honorable Member is earning more than Kshs. 600,000 in three months. Let us look for a solution on how the people of Dandu can get those 50 goats.

Thank you.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): I know this issue is weighty. When I went through the statement, I think the department had no bad intention but to provide safe water to human and livestock. But unfortunately some livestock were lost and still they are claiming that there was no evidence. The first result is out, the testing before the borehole was used. There

is the second one that they are waiting. Still we do not have evidence that the goats died because of consuming the water.

Hon. Alinur Hassan, you need to take this matter to the department. Otherwise the statement is satisfactory. But still, you can go to the department individually and look for ways of helping them even if, as said by Honorable Abdullahi Yunis, it is from your pocket.

Thank you.

**Hon. Alinur Hassan** (Dandu): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker for your ruling. I think I am representing my people in this House. I can only address the grievances of my people through this Assembly.

*(Applause)*

The issue of me alone going to the CEC, CCO and Director begging them to pay me cannot help.

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): We have not said that you should go and beg them. Right now we do not have evidence that shows that these animals died because of the water. Kindly, wait for the second sample or raise another statement. Otherwise the statement itself is satisfactory.

**Hon. Alinur Hassan** (Dandu): I am not satisfied with that.

ADJOURNMENT

**Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Sokorey M. Issackow): I now adjourn this House to Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 at 9:00 am.