

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KILIFI

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 30th April, 2014

The House met at the County Assembly Chambers, Malindi Town, at 9.30 a.m.

[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): After the afternoon session, we will be having a Kamukunji, so members are requested to step in the Kamukunji Hall for a few deliberations.

MOTION

SALT FIRMS IN KILIFI TO PAY FOR INDIAN OCEAN WATER USED

Hon. Kiraga: Thank you so much Mr. Speaker. I rise to move the following Motion;
AWARE THAT, there are 8 salt firms situated in Magarini Constituency.
AWARE THAT, of the 8 salt firms, 6 of them are in operation while two are not.
AWARE THAT, their raw materials are water from the Indian Ocean and the light intensity.

Further Aware that, salt firms have been using the salt water from Indian Ocean free of charge since their establishment.

This honourable Assembly urges the County Government to compel all the salt firms to pay for the sea water they are using, by installing meter readers to all the pumps stations drawing water direct from the Indian Ocean.

Thank you so much Mr. Speaker.

(Hon. Stanley Kenga stood at his place and bowed to second the Motion)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): Yes Hon. Stanley seconded. Honourable Members, allow me to put the Motion to you so that we can begin the deliberations. So anybody wants to deliberate? Hon. Mwayaa.

Hon. Mwayaa: Asante Mheshimiwa Spika. Nimesimama kuunga mkono hoja ambayo imeletwa na ndugu yangu Mheshimiwa Albert Kiraga Hare. Kwa mtazamo wangu nikiangalia hivi Mheshimiwa Spika, kampuni hizi za chumvi zimetumia maji yetu ya bahari kwa muda mrefu ambavyo nikitazama hivi hata yule ambaye anapika chapati ama mahamri hununua unga akaenda kupika chapati ili akarudi tena barabarani akauza halafu kisha ndio akapata mapato. Tunashangaa sisi kama mwanzo wa kutengeza chumvi ni maji yetu ya bahari, wanunue yale maji waje watengeze kile ambacho wanatengeneza ndio wapate kuuza.

Inashangaza ikiwa hata biashara yoyote mpaka ukanunue kile kitu ndio halafu uende ukauze. Leo hii maji yetu ya bahari yanatumiwa bure bila kununuliwa kisha watu wale ndio ambao wanakataa hata kulipa ushuru zaidi pale wakiwa wanalipa katika baraza letu kama hapo zamani.

Mimi Mheshimiwa Spika naunga mkono moja kwa moja kuwe na kiwango fulani wataambiwa walipe ili kwamba maji yetu ya bahari ni rasilimali yetu, ni rasilimali yetu Mungu alitupa nasi tunataka kuitumia vyema vilivyo. Wanafanya biashara si kwamba eti wanachukua maji tu ile siku moja na kama ni biashara wanafanya. Wacha waweze kutoa kiwango fulani ili hata Kaunti yetu iweze kupata mapato kupitia hii bahari yetu. Asante Mheshimiwa Spika, naunga mkono.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): Hon. Chai, Chiriba Chai, I know we have two Chai's.

Hon. Chiriba: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir; I rise in support of this Motion as tabled by Hon. Albert Kiraga, the able Chairperson of the Health Services Committee.

As my fellow member who has made his contributions said, it is very true in such kinds of investments people use a lot of money to acquire the natural raw material and as we know, Kilifi County borders the Indian Ocean and that becomes our natural resource.

It is high time that even when we can utilize the same, it can bring a lot of revenue to the County. If we look at these salt firms Mr. Speaker Sir, and even asking the natives who border these salt firms, it is like these salt firms are becoming a bother to them instead of being a tool of economy, because you will see that they cannot even go ahead to do some other activities like farming as their farms are saturated with salty water. Even the houses around those areas use iron sheets in roofing their housing, you will find that salt is very corrosive with these iron sheets and so people are very desperate...

When we look at employment, we have heard many complaints from those people who are working there and I think this honourable house should move quickly and impose these rules to make sure that these investors take the right course because they are not an exemption.

If people use money to acquire the natural ore then they have to do the same and I believe we will take the blessings of this honourable house to make sure we support the honourable member and have this thing implemented with immediate effect. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): Hon. Ngombo.

Hon. Ngombo: Asante Bw. Spika kwa kunipa nafasi hii. Kusema kweli Mheshimiwa Kiraga amefanya jambo la maana kwa kuleta Mswada huu katika bunge ili tupitische ili serikali yetu ya Kaunti iweze kunufaika kwa rasilimali yetu. Hivyo basi pia ni hali ya kuweka uwanja wa kufanya biashara sawa.

Kama wenzangu walivyotangulia, unapata kampuni nyengine zinagaramia kupata ile malighafi ilhali kampuni hizi za chumvi hazina gharama yoyote. Hii inaonyesha kuwa kuna upendeleo fulani katika hali ya kufanya biashara. Kwa hivyo, ni jambo la muhimu kuweka kodi katika utumiaji wa maji yale ya bahari. Hivyo ningependekeza kuwa baada ya hapo kile kinachopatikana kwa kodi fulani kiweze kuwa asilimia fulani kuweza kusaidia wale watu wa maeneo yale maanake tunaelewa kwamba watu wa maeneo yale ambayo yanatolewa chumvi wamedhulumiwa pakubwa na wenye makampuni haya. Kwa hivyo, ingekuwa pendekezo langu kuwa chochote kitakachopatikana kutokana na utozaji wa kodi ile kiwe kitaenda, ama asilimia fulani, itaenda moja kwa moja ili kuwafidia wakaazi wa maeneo yale. Nilitaka nichangie hapo, asante.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): Hon. Mangi.

Hon. Mangi: First of all, may I take this early opportunity to congratulate Hon. Kiraga for having brought on the floor this very important motion. I am supporting this motion with very few words. Mr. Speaker Sir, you will agree with us that in our first year when we were making our budget we had a very big deficit, in fact, we had put aside anticipating revenue collection at Ksh 2 billion and yet again we were forced to reduce up to Ksh 700 million. Because this motion will automatically enhance revenue collection, there is no other way out rather than to support this very important motion by charging these salt firms. We shall be earning revenue and as a County this revenue is really one of the areas where every member or all the Executive Members should not relent until they identify areas where they can raise revenue.

This is an open avenue the honourable member has identified. This is an aspect that we can never lose, it is therefore my request that honourable members of this supreme organ to support this motion so that the product or end point will be enhancing revenue that we are really much in need of.

I beg again to support this Motion and with those remarks, I say thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): Hon. Mbeyu.

Hon. Mbeyu: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Motion brought in by Hon. Kiraga being my able Chairman in the Health Committee.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have seen for ages since these companies came into our area, the way our people have suffered out of their work using free water from Kenyans. The Indian Ocean water, 200 miles is Kenya's water not Indian Ocean water and they have been using it for free, not paying our people well, exposing our people to diseases, their finger prints are wasted or lost. They can't even take IDs and they have been getting a lot of money out of this.

So, it is high time now as the County government we get revenue out of this and so charge the waters they use and the other way compensating our people who have suffered out of these companies which have been making a lot of profit from the salt they get from the water. In the near future, I think even the prices of this salt should be partly given as revenue to the Kilifi County government so that we can raise our revenue. I stand to support. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): Hon. (Ms.) Sophie.

Hon. (Ms.) Sophie: Asante sana Bw. Spika, nasimama kuunga mkono hoja hii.

Mimi najua kuna wawekezaji wengi sana wanaokuja hapa Kenya na wengi huja kwa minajili ya kusema hakika watu wetu watapata kazi, lakini ukiangalia ni kama ni shida. Tunaona kuna kina mama mahali pale ambao wanafanya kazi katika mashamba haya na ukiangalia kina mama wengi ambao ni wajawazito, wengine hata huavya zile mimba zao na ukiangalia mapato ni madogo sana.

Wacha niseme kwamba mimi nashukrani kwa ndugu yetu Mheshimiwa ambaye ameleta hoja hii. Ni vizuri sana Kaunti hii ikaangalie hawa wawekezaji ambao wanakuja hapa; je ni faida katika Kaunti yetu? Ninaona ni hasara maana mashamba haya yangetuletea sisi faida lakini inakuwa ni hasara hata kwa watu wetu, wengi wanaingia magonjwa mashamba pia unaona yanakauka; kwa hivyo hakuna faida.

Ni wakati wetu kama bunge hili la Kaunti ya Kilifi tusimame tuone kwamba kuna sheria ambayo tunaiweka kwa wekezaji wanaokuja katika Kaunti yetu; tunaweza sheria gani ambayo itasaidia ili hata mwananchi aliye mahali pale afaidike na Kaunti yetu pia isaidike.

Nasema asante na ninaunga mkono hoja hii.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): Hon. Nzaka.

Hon. Nzaka: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise to support the Motion which has been forwarded before the House by Hon. Kiraga with a few remarks.

First of all Mr. Speaker, Sir, once our County gets revenue from these salt firms we are going to increase the productivity of our County. As a County, there is a lot of money which we are losing and as a result we don't have the capacity to employ more workers because our revenue collection is still low but once we get something from these salt firms as people from this County we are going to earn a lot of revenue as a County which will help us perform our duties.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a County we are the ones to maintain the environment and there have been complaints that there is garbage lying here and there; as a County we should make sure we are maintaining the environment and we can't maintain the environment while we are getting nothing. We have to get something so that we can provide good services to these salt firms.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you see water is a natural resource and if at all marine fishermen are paying something to the County, if at all the boat operators are paying, why are the salt firms not giving something to the County? First of all, I support Hon. Kiraga for moving this Motion because it is going to assist us as a County so that we can get more revenue.

Mr. Speaker Sir, for every natural resource in this County, we have to get something for instance government is getting revenue by using the atmosphere. You see the communication and aircraft industries like Safaricom and Orange are paying revenue to the government.

The sea is a major resource we are having in our County which attracts tourists. So I beg to support this Motion because it is going to empower our people within our County.

Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): Hon. (Ms.) Mbaru Elina.

Hon. (Ms.) Elina: Asante Bw. Spika. Nimesimama kuunga mkono hoja hii iliyoletwa na Mheshimiwa Kiraga. Wawekezaji wengi wanaokuja hapa Kilifi ama Malindi huwa na mambo mengi ya kudhulumu watu. Kule wanatumia mali yetu asili bila kulipa maji wanayachukua. Ikiwa sisi wakaaji wenyewe wa Kilifi maji tunayoyatumia tunanunua yanatoka kwa mto wetu hapa Kilifi yapigwe na pampu pale, yataingia nyumbani mwa mtu na huyo mtu atalipa, ikiwa mimi naweza kununua yale maji ili niweze kutumia yule anayefanya biashara huwa na alipe zaidi yangu kwa sababu amekuja kuleta uchumi kuongezeka katika sehemu ile.

Shida ni kwamba walitudanganya wakisema watapatia vijana wetu kazi, saa hii wameleta mashini; hakuna kijana anayepata kazi pale. Kwa hivyo, kama wao wamewacha kuwaajiri vijana wetu kwa sababu wanasema kuajiri mwananchi ni hasara wacha maji yetu ambayo yako katika area yetu ile na ni raslimali yetu wayanunue wafanyie biashara zao lakini kama mwananchi wa kawaida atanunua maji atumie yeye aje afanye biashara na maji yetu bila kuyalipa itakuwa si vizuri.

Pili tunataka wawekezaji wengi wakija hapa wajue kwamba Kilifi inataka kujengwa na hakuna mwingine atakayejenga, ni wale wanaokuja hapa wakiona ni nzuri wanaweza kufanya biashara zao waiboreshe zaidi hali ya watu wa Kilifi wanavyoishi. Lakini kama mwekezaji atakuja badala ya kuboresha maisha ya mwananchi ajiboreshe yeye mwenyewe kwa kupata utajiri zaidi, sisi hatutamuunga mkono.

Kwa hivyo namuunga mkono Mheshimiwa Kiraga, ni wakati wake kutuletea hoja hii na hoja hii tumalizie kulingana na vile tunavyonunua maji.

Saa hii cubic litre moja kwa hawa watu wa water hapa wanatuuzia kwa shilingi 100 anayetumia maji nyumbani. Yule anayetumia maji kwa kuuzia mwananchi mwingine anauziwa

cubic litre moja shilingi 120. Sasa nasi tuwe na cubic litres ambazo zitapimwa kule baharini ndio wamimine tujue wamechukua maji kiasi gani na kuyatumia kuweka ile chumvi.

Kwa hivyo nimesimama kuunga mkono Hoja hii na nakushukuru Bw. Spika kwa kunipa nafasi.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): Hon. Kenga.

Hon. Kenga: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise to support the Motion as brought by the honourable Member for Gongoni ward.

Mr. Speaker, the idea of bringing this Motion, the idea of drafting this Motion was born out of a dream that I and Hon. Albert Kiraga met at a school by the name Kinyaule Primary School. During our visit to the school we learnt that students at a tender age were sitting under shades of trees learning and out of that then we came up with the idea because this is a school that borders the Indian Ocean to the East and on the Northern part and on the Southern part we have two salt firms; Krystalline Marereni and Malindi salt at Kambi ya Waya.

Now we were looking at it this way; on my left hand as I speak, this is a bottle of water and this is a 500ml water bottle and it is retailing at the rate of 20 shillings and this is safe water for drinking. How come those investors who are doing major investments within the County are exploiting our resources and paying nothing? We are getting nothing out of it, how then are we going to grow our economy as a County?

Mr. Speaker, I want to take you back to the time we were preparing the Budget for Financial year 2013/2014. After every department was given an opportunity to make their estimates our budget figure was at Ksh 17 billion and what we were supposed to get from the National government was around Ksh 5 billion and what the County was able to raise was around Ksh 2 billion, bringing a deficit of Ksh 10 billion shillings.

Let us look at the Health facilities that we have in the County, let us look at the Education facilities that we have at the County, let us look at the infrastructure that we have in the County, you will realize that they are of poor quality and for us to improve on this we must make sure that we come up with ways of broadening our revenue base and we cannot do this if we are not going to take stock of our natural resources.

With the resources that we have within the County, we are sure that we not only exploit the resources, but we fully utilize them to the benefit of the locals and to the benefit of the entire County of Kilifi.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish as we discuss, as we debate on this Motion that has been brought, this is my sincere wish that those concerned; the Executive member concerned will not just aim at receiving this as a Motion which has been passed but will go ahead and even try to legislate, bring a Bill that this House is going to deliberate on and even pass it and as we do that, as we are looking at the water as a resource that is being used by the investors let us also look at the light intensity that has been mentioned in the Motion. Let us look at the solar energy that these people are using, these people are harnessing to use during the evaporation process as they made their salt investment activities within the County.

I want to say that as I move across the 47 counties that we have within the Republic of Kenya, many counties are of the wish that they have these resources that Kilifi County is blessed with. Many of the counties do not have access to the Ocean, and they do not have sea water as a resource. Many of them are even anointing a position because of the little resources that they have. It is thus my wish that as a County we move fast, we make sure that this Motion has been put into law and all investments are bound with the use of the ocean water. We need to charge

them, we need to tax them and whatever comes out a greater percentage should remain within the County to make sure that the people of the County are going to benefit out of it.

Thank you very much Mr. Speaker, I beg to support.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): Honourable Members allow me to call upon the mover of the Motion to respond.

Hon. Kiraga: Mheshimiwa Spika wacha kwanza nishukuru wajumbe wenzangu ambao wameweza kuchangia msawada huu na kuunga mkono kwa dhiti.

Mheshimiwa Spika, katika Kaunti yetu tumebarikiwa na hizi kampuni ambazo ni nane na kama mlivyosema kwa Msawada huu, sita zinatoa chumvi na kuingia kwa kampuni hizi kuna watu ambao wamefurushwa katika maeneo yao. Kuingia kwa kampuni hizi tumeshuhudia mito imezibwa ama kuelekezwa kwa njia zengine. Kuingia kwa kampuni hizi tumeshuhudia barabara ambazo zinaelekea baharini kuzibwa na hivyo basi mwananchi hawezi kuingia baharini aidha kuenda kujivinjari ama kuenda kuchukua mazao kama ya nazi au samaki kupeleka sokoni. Kuingia kwa kampuni hizi Mheshimiwa Spika ni kwamba mwananchi leo akiezeka nyumba yake mabati baada ya miezi mitatu ama sita unakuta bati lile limeshika kutu na mwenye bati lile anaingia gharama aidha kupaka rangi ama kutoa.

Mheshimiwa Spika, ukiangalia hali ya wafanyajikazi katika kampuni hizi wengi wameathirika, wako na vidonda, tumeshuhudia pia kina mama ambao ni waja wazito kuavya mimba baada ya miezi mitano au miezi sita. Kuingia kwa kampuni hizi tumeshuhudia ile mimea ambayo tulikuwa tunapanda ya jadi kama pamba, ufuta, korosho na zile tunaziita mbono; mazao yake hayapatikani tena kwa sababu ya ile hewa ambayo iko kule.

Mheshimiwa Spika, saa hii tunavyoongea visima vimekauka sehemu zile za juu kama Nyaule, Hondo na Jambiani, kumekauka. Kule ambako kumebakia saa hii maji ni chumvi na wananchi wanahangaika. Mheshimiwa Spika, tukaona ya kwamba hizi kampuni zimekuwa zikitumia hizi rasilimali bure bilashi tangu waingie pale ndipo tukaona kuwa wakati umefika kampuni hizi zianze kulipia yale maji maanake kampuni zote ziko na pump stations ambazo zimewekwa huko baharini zinachukua maji masaa 24 wakiweka kwa kampuni zao. Kitu tunaweza kufanya ni kuweka meters katika hizo pumps ili tuweza kunasa ni maji kiasi gani wanatumia aidha kwa mwezi, miezi mitatu ama kwa mwaka tujue vile maji yale watayalipia.

Nimesema asilimia fulani Mheshimiwa Spika iende kwa cess yetu ya Kaunti na asilimia fulani ibakie pale kwa yale maeneo ambayo yameegemea upande wa chumvi ili matatizo haya ambayo yanapatikana kule kwa mfano mabati kupata kutu wakaazi wa kule waweza kununua kama ni red oxide wapake mabati yao. Wanaweza kununua pia hata mbolea na kujaribu bahati yao kwa upande wa kilimo. Mambo ya visima, tuchimbe visima kwa sababu kuna vikundi ambavyo vimejitokeza kupanda mikoko ambayo imeharibiwa na wawekezaji wale.

Mheshimiwa Spika, uvuvi kule pia umeharibika kwa sababu hawa watu wanarusha maji ambayo yako chumvi zaidi katika bahari, yanaingia kwa mikoko na yanaua mikoko na viumbe kama samaki. Pesa zile ambazo zitabaki kule zitajaribu kusaidia wale wananchi.

Mimi Mheshimiwa Spika nawashukuru wajumbe wenzangu ambao wameniunga mkono na ni ombi langu tungetaka Msawada huu uwe sheria kamilifu katika Kaunti yetu maanake ni aibu tukiwa tuko na hizi rasilimali pale na hazitusaidii.

Nataka nielezee bunge hili ya kwamba ukiangalia kama ile inaitwa 'Fourteen Falls' ambayo iko sehemu ya Thika. Mtu akienda pale kuzuru analipa fidia. Tukiangalia mfano mwingine pia kama Lake Bogoria, mtu akienda kuangalia maji moto pia analipia. Basi kwa nini sisi rasilimali zetu ambazo zinapatikana huku hatuwezi kuzitumia?

Kumalizia Mheshimiwa Spika, eneo la Magarini liko mara mbili; kuna kata ya Marafa na pia kuna kata ya Magarini. Mashirika mengi ya kupeana msaada hayawezi kuingia kata ya Magarini kwa sababu wanasema ya kwamba kuna wawekezaji wa chumvi ambao watatusaidia. Wakiingia kule wanaenda sehemu za Marafa kama World Vision, Action aid na Mlangaza, wote wako sehemu za Marafa.

Ukiangalia yale ambayo yanatendeka katika sehemu za kati za Magarini ni hali za kutamausha. Kwa hivyo, mimi nasema nashukuru wajumbe wenzangu kwa kuunga mkono Msawada huu. Asante sana na ninashukuru zaidi.

(Applause)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): Honourable Members, allow me to read the question so that you can determine the fate of this Motion.

(Question put and agreed to)

(Applause)

ADJOURNMENT

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): There being no other business, let me adjourn this House until 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 10:10 a.m.