



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KILIFI

THIRD ASSEMBLY-THIRD SESSION

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 13th March 2024

*The House met at the County Assembly Chamber,
Malindi Town, at 2:30 p.m.*

ARRIVAL OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

(His Excellency the Governor escorted by the Hon Speaker Teddy Mwambire entered the Chamber at half past two thirty o'clock)

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

CONVENING OF SPECIAL SITTING FOR THE ANNUAL STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR

The Speaker (Hon.Mwambire): Good afternoon hon. Members. I welcome you all to this Special Sitting convened Pursuant to Standing Order 18 of the County Assembly of Kilifi Standing Orders.

I would like to acknowledge the presence in the Speaker's Gallery, Members of the County Executive Committee and other Senior officers that have accompanied H.E. the Governor today.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

I request that each Member or officer or nominee to stand when called upon so that they can be acknowledged in the legislative tradition and practice: -

1. H.E. Flora Mbetsa Chibule Tsuma -Deputy Governor
2. Hon. John Raymond Ngala - CECM Finance and Economic Planning
3. Hon. Catherine Kenga -CECM Roads, Transport and Public Works
4. Hon. Peter Samuel Mwarogo -CECM Health and Sanitation
5. Hon. Omar Said Omar -CECM Water, Environment, Forestry, Natural Resources and Climate Change
6. Hon. Clara Chonga - CECM Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives
7. Hon. Dr. Ruth Dama Masha -CECM Gender, Culture, Youth, Sports and Special Programmes
8. Hon. Yaye Shosi Ahmed -CECM Devolution and Public Service Management
9. Hon. Felkin Kaingu Ndena - CECM Education and ICT
10. Hon. Henry Kazungu Luganje - County Attorney
11. Hon. Martin Mangi Mwaro Baya Kaluwa- County Secretary and Head of County Public Service
12. Mr. Philip Charo - Chief Officer, Roads
13. Ms. Lynne Farah - Chief Officer, Trade
14. Mr. Naphtali Owino - Chief Officer, Youth and Sports
15. Hon. Caroline Kalume - Chief of Staff
16. Hon. Nixon Mramba - Political Advisor
17. Mr. Joshua Mazera -Economic Advisor
18. Raphael Katana Diwani - Director, Administration Office of the Governor

On behalf of the County Assembly of Kilifi and on my own behalf, I welcome them to the Assembly and wish them well.

(Power blackout)

(Loud consultations)

The Speaker (Hon.Mwambire): Hon. Members, we have power interruption and I hope the technical team is working on it. Kindly allow me to adjourn this Sitting, we will be back soon. Thank you.

(The House adjourned)

(The House resumed)

The Speaker (Hon.Mwambire) Hon. Members, as a matter of procedure, Standing Order 20 (2) to (5) provides:

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

- (2) Whenever the Governor addresses the County Assembly, the Speaker of the County Assembly shall take the seat on the right of the Governor and the Senator(s) of the County shall take the seat on the left side of the Governor.
- (3) When delivering an address to the County Assembly, the Governor shall be heard in silence and the Address shall not be followed by any comment or question.
- (4) Whenever the Governor delivers an Address, a Member may as soon as practicable thereafter, lay the Address on the Table of the County Assembly following reading of such Address.
- (5) A Member may give a Notice of Motion, THAT, the thanks of the County Assembly be recorded for the exposition of the public policy contained in the Address of the Governor; but on the Motion shall not exceed four Sitting days.

Hon. Members, it is now my pleasant duty and pleasure to invite H.E the Governor Gideon Maitha Mung'aro, OGW, to his Second Address to this County Assembly. Welcome.

GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS TO COUNTY ASSEMBLY

EXPOSITION OF COUNTY POLICY

His Excellency the Governor (Hon. Mung'aro): Her Excellency the Deputy Governor, Hon. Speaker, Hon. Members of the County Assembly, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Mr. Speaker, we are gathered here today in fulfillment of the provisions of Section 30 (2) (j) of the County Governments Act, 2012, which obligates me to report annually to this House on the implementation status of the County Government of Kilifi's policies and plans. This is in line with the spirit of Articles 174 and 175 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, which places strict constitutional thresholds in the performance of my duties and mandate as your Governor.

It is with great humility that I present myself before the Third Assembly of the County of Kilifi to share with you and by extension the people of Kilifi, the milestones we have made in the first year of my administration. I will also take this opportunity to highlight to the House about my administration's plans; short term, medium term and long-term going into the future.

In presenting this Address to the House, I have also taken cognizance of external and historical factors such as the turbulent global economic environment, the performance of the national economy with high and increasing inflation, high absolute poverty rate in Kilifi County of over 70%, and inherited high pending bills, against very high public expectations. In the midst of the foregoing challenges, my administration has remained focused on surmounting these challenges to realize sustained growth and development. In order to ensure that we do not leave anyone behind we have chosen the theme "accelerating socio-economic transformation for inclusive growth" in our County Integrated Development Plan.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, and hon. Members, throughout my campaign for the position of Governor, I interacted firsthand with most of the challenges facing the people of Kilifi. I promised them my commitment to provide solutions to their problems, promote an enabling environment for economic growth and prosperity, lifting the people out of the devastating poverty and hopelessness, and begin a journey of wealth creation for all. It is now my humble

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

duty to report on the progress made in various sectors in line with our County Integrated Development Plan, for the period under review.

Public Administration and Intergovernmental Relations Sector; Mr. Speaker and hon. Members; The basic requirement for any new county administration, upon assuming office, pursuant to Article 179 (2) (b) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and Section 30 (2) (e) of the County Governments Act, 2012 is to constitute the County Executive Committee into office. I am proud to report that I was among the first Governors in the Republic of Kenya to successfully constitute the County Executive Committee (CEC) in October 2022. The appointment into office of Chief Officers followed shortly thereafter in December 2022. This formed a firm foundation for my administration. Following the removal of the County Public Service Board by a resolution of this House, I immediately commenced the process to recruit a new County Public Service Board. I am happy to report that we now have a new County Public Service Board in office, and that it is discharging its mandate. I am aware that although the County Public Service Board has the requisite quorum to conduct its business, two (2) positions are yet to be filled. I am giving my assurance and commitment to this hon. House that I shall fill the two remaining positions in the County Public Service Board before the next reporting cycle.

I re-affirm my commitment to operationalize the Delivery Unit and establish a Donor and Private Sector Coordination Unit to strengthen coordination of development partners working with Kilifi County. This collaboration will provide an opportunity for our County Government to be able to align the operations of different partners with associated government line departments.

Mr. Speaker and hon. Members; my administration is taking practical steps to lay a firm foundation for the promotion of Articles 10 and 232 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 in respect of National Values and Principles of Governance as well as the Values and Principles of Public Service. Allow me to emphasize that it is the responsibility of every individual public officer to uphold high levels of integrity that give honor and respect to the respective offices assigned to them.

It is on this background that following allegations of lack of integrity by some officers in the Supply Chain Division, I took action and suspended the affected officers. I appointed and gazzeted a committee to receive complaints, investigate such specific complaints and make recommendations. I am glad to report to the House that the committee concluded its work and submitted its report to my office. Useful recommendations we made by the committee, including the re-structuring of the Supply Chain Division, establishment of a Standing Complaints Committee to be domiciled in the Office of the County Attorney among others, which will be implemented in due course.

I have made further changes in the Department of Public Service Management; Division of Devolution, Civic Education and Public Participation in order to enhance service delivery. These changes will continue as and when it becomes necessary to ensure we have a public service that upholds high levels of integrity and is responsive to the needs of our people. This is a clear demonstration of my administration's commitment to strengthen ethics, integrity, accountability and the rule of law in the County Public Service. In the long term, I have directed all Departments, working closely with the County Public Service Board, and the Head of County Public Service, to review the high numbers of casual employees in the County Public Service and find a lasting solution on this problem. We need the County's employees to be engaged on

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

permanent and pensionable basis. I am happy to report to the House that significant progress is being made in addressing this challenge.

On Health Sector, Mr. Speaker and hon. Members, the people of Kilifi can only participate fully in the growth of our economy if we have a healthy population. I resolved to make the provision of health care my principal priority. In my first address to this House, I abolished charges for ambulance services to make emergency services accessible to all. My administration has since increased access to emergency services by establishing a dedicated Emergency Medical Service Centre equipped with five state-of-the-art ambulances, and twenty-five (25) highly trained paramedics in pre-hospital care. This unit is based at the Kilifi County Referral Hospital. This initiative is intended to increase access to emergency services for the people of Kilifi.

To promote timely access to specialized medical care, my administration has in the last one year, made strategic investment in health infrastructure development. We have upgraded Rabai, Mtwapa, Gede, and Marafa Health Centres to level four (4), or Sub-County Hospitals. The new Sub-County Hospitals now offer a wide range of health services including but not limited to, operating theatre services, radiology services, and patient services with an average bed capacity of one hundred and eighty-two (182) beds in Marafa and Mtwapa. At Malindi Sub-County Hospital, a modern, state-of-the-art kitchen has been completed and the menu for patients improved. The construction of a blood transfusion satellite bank has also been completed at Malindi Hospital. Soon we are opening inpatient services in Gede and Rabai.

Additionally, two wards, for males and females, have been renovated and a civil servants clinic established at Malindi Hospital while Mtwapa Hospital has benefited immensely from the completion of a drug store. During the period under review, my administration invested heavily in both diagnostic and therapeutic equipment in our new hospitals. We acquired electrocardiogram (ECG) machines, anesthetic machines, theatre tables, and modern hospital beds. We also acquired dialysis machines to enhance renal services at Malindi Hospital and opened a new dialysis unit at Kilifi County Referral Hospital. These services were previously available far away, approximately thirty-five (35) kilometers from these new hospitals. The procurement of a CT- Scan and a commercial incinerator is in progress, and both are expected to be delivered to Kilifi County Referral Hospital before the end of the current financial year.

Further, plans are underway for construction of accident and emergency centres in Malindi and Mariakani Sub-County Hospitals. Renovation of the old wing of the Kilifi Referral Hospital to include a modern outpatient block and a doctor's plaza, a patient waiting pavilion, a modern hospital kitchen, purchase of seven additional modern ambulances, and introduction of an Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system in our health facilities are some of the additional projects scheduled for implementation this year. In order to enhance access to medical care in remote areas, we partnered with the Agha Khan University and commissioned a mobile track to strengthen mobile outreach health services in areas far away from our health facilities. My administration has improved supply of both medical and non-pharmaceutical supplies to all health facilities in the County. During the year under review, we cleared outstanding bills with the Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA) worth over Kenya Shillings Three Hundred and Fifty Million (Kshs350, 000, 000) and purchased drugs worth over Kenya Shillings Two Hundred and Fifty Million (Kshs250, 000, 000) for distribution to our health facilities. The

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

purchase of Health Products and Technologies Track will improve movement and distribution of our drugs across the County.

My administration has developed a comprehensive five-year period Human Resource Plan for the County. The plan will begin with the immediate recruitment of at least eighty-seven (87) additional health staff across all cadres in the medical field. Existing staff will be trained and adequately equipped to provide effective and efficient, high-quality services.

In the long term, my administration's plan is to increase the number of ambulances to thirty-five (35), upscale the procurement of health commodities to Kenya Shillings Eight Hundred and Fifty Million (Kshs850, 000, 000), construct new modern wards in Malindi, Mariakani, Kilifi County Referral Hospital and private wings for all hospitals in our great County. I have plans to upgrade Vitengeni Health Centre to a level Four hospital. This will require construction of additional infrastructure including in patient wards, a radiology unit, staff houses, an administration block, a theatre, kitchen and recruitment of staff. We have plans to improve the infrastructure at Bamba Hospital through the construction of a radiology block, modern laboratory, perimeter wall fence, and in patient male and female wards. We are also working in collaboration with the Coast Development Authority to construct an eight-bed capacity Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at Malindi Hospital. Malindi Hospital will also benefit from the construction of a funeral home. We are also working closely with the Safaricom Foundation to improve maternity wings in level-two and level-three health facilities. I commit to provide accessible, high quality health care services for our people.

On the Education Sector, Mr. Speaker and hon. Members; Article 186 (1) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 sets out the respective functions and powers of both the National and County Governments. Part 2 of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 has assigned counties the mandate of managing pre – primary education, and vocational training. These roles constitute a very critical function. Early childhood education lays the foundation in molding our children into dependable players in the economy in the foreseeable future. My administration is committed to providing an enabling environment for uninterrupted growth and development of the children's skills from the very beginning of their education.

To this end, my administration began a school feeding programme in November 2022. This programme provided nutritious porridge to eight hundred and twelve (812) schools during the period under review. This has seen the number of learners rise from fifty thousand and twenty (50, 020) to fifty-six thousand (56, 000). This represents a significant increase of 12% enrolment in a very short period. The programme will be sustained in subsequent budgets to support all public Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centres in the great County of Kilifi. To further improve learning, my administration has provided furniture to seventy-eight (78) public ECDE schools among them Bomani ECD in Sokoke Ward, Rare ECD in Ganze Ward, Mikamini ECD in Bamba Ward, Mwanawiji ECD in Kaloleni Ward, and Muungano ECD in Kibarani Ward, etc. Additional funding will be made available to cover the rest of the schools in the County. Two (2) schools, namely Mtomondoni ECD in Shimo La Tewa Ward and Mwarandinda ECD in Sokoke Ward have further benefited through allocation of indoor playing equipment. These will also be extended to another five (5) schools and later to all public ECDE centres in the great County of Kilifi.

My administration has equipped seven (7) vocational training centers with modern tools and equipment during the review period. These are Tsawa Vocational Training Centre in

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Kaloleni Ward, Mwaeba Vocational Training Centre in Gongoni Ward, Watamu Vocational Training Centre in Watamu Ward, Kaoyeni Vocational Training Centre in Malindi Ward, Mwele Simakeni vocational Training Centre in Rabai Kisurutini Ward, Ruruma Vocational Training Centre in Ruruma Ward, and Dzitsoni Vocational Training Centre in Chasimba Ward. My administration is constructing a Vocational Training Centre at Kagombani in Magarini Ward; and an ICT Lab and Vocational Training Centre at Marafa in Marafa Ward. We completed construction of four (4) new ECDE centres namely Mitangoni ECD in Mnarani Ward, Midodoni ECD in Ganze Ward, Danicha ECD in Ganze Ward and Amkeni ECD in Marafa Ward.

Projects in twelve (12) ECDE centres among them the construction of two (2) ECDE classrooms at Sogorosa Nairobi in Gongoni Ward; the construction of two (2) ECDE classrooms at Takaungu in Mnarani Ward; the construction of ECDE model centre at Zowerani in Tezo Ward; the construction of two (2) ECDE classrooms at Kazaheni in Gongoni Ward; the construction of two (2) ECDE classrooms at Saba Saba Kwa Kangindo with toilets in Gongoni Ward; the construction of two (2) ECDE classrooms at Katsemerini – Majengo Mapya in Gongoni Ward; the construction of two (2) ECDE classrooms at Ndarako in Marafa Ward; the construction of two (2) ECDE classrooms at Mogole in Marafa Ward; and the construction of two (2) ECDE classrooms at Amukeni in Marafa Ward are ongoing construction.

Our plan is to roll out construction of fifty-three (53) new ECDE centres in the County of Kilifi to improve infrastructure for conducive learning. The new projects are to be constructed in Mazimbani Pre School in Mariakani Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms and four (4) cubicle pit latrines; Buro Pre School in Ganze Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms and four (4) cubicle pit latrines; Laa Mwajoha Pre School in Rabai Kisurini Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms and four (4) cubicle pit latrines; Mroka in Jaribuni Ward where we shall construct one (1) ECDE classroom and two (2) cubicle pit latrines; Moi in Sabaki Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms; Kizingitini in Shimo La Tewa Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms; Takaungu ECDE in Mnarani Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms; Bombi Primary School in Adu Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms; Mwangea ECDE in Sokoke Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms; Watala Primary School in Marafa Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms and toilets; Majahazini in Magarini Ward where we shall construct one (1) ECDE classroom; Kaliapapo ECDE in Kakuyuni Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms; Umoja Pre School in Mwawesa Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms; Tsunguni Pre School in Kaloleni Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms and four (4) cubicle pit latrines; Mbungoni Pre School in Kambe Ribe Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms and four (4) cubicle pit latrines; Bahati Pre School in Tezo Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms and four (4) cubicle pit latrines; Mugumoni Pre School in Sokoke Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms and four (4) cubicle pit latrines; Dzanikeni ECDE in Ruruma Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms and four (4) cubicle pit latrines; Keresa ECDE School in Bamba Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms and four (4) cubicle pit latrines; Ziani in Chasimba Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms; Kadzambani ECDE in Garashi Ward where we shall construct two (2) ECDE classrooms; etc.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

As part of my administration's drive to enhance use of e-commerce, we have made available free Wi-Fi at Kwa Charo wa Mae Market, Oloi Tip Tip Market and Mazingira Park in Kilifi as well as Buntwani Park in Shella Ward, Malindi. This will further be extended to other targeted areas to improve coverage. These centres will be complimented by the Thirty-Five (35) Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) hubs to be built, one in each ward across the great County of Kilifi.

My principal programme for Education is the Ward Scholarship Fund. My administration prepared an amendment to the existing Fund to consider expanding the Fund progressively from the current Kenya Shillings Three Hundred and Fifty Million (Kshs350, 000, 000) to Kenya Shillings One Billion (Kshs1, 000, 000, 000). I thank this honourable House we were able to achieve this and on the 30th day of January 2024, I duly assented to the Kilifi County Ward Scholarship Fund (Amendment) Act, 2023.

From the recently disbursed allocations, two thousand five hundred and eighty (2,580) National School going students benefited from the Ward Scholarship Scheme with a total sponsorship of Kenya Shillings Seventy-Three Million Four Hundred and Thirty-Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-Five (Kshs73, 432, 845). If we consider allocations done at the Ward level of the number of beneficiaries will be much higher. We are in the process of compiling the number of beneficiaries for each Ward and will be able to provide a more comprehensive figure on beneficiaries in the next cycle of reporting. It's my prayer that we all shall support this initiative.

On Environmental Protection, Water, Sanitation and Natural Resources Sector, Mr. Speaker, and hon. Members; I am glad to report that County of Kilifi has become a strategic destination for investment, owing to availability of suitable land, our proximity to key transport infrastructure including major roads, the standard gauge railway line, air, and seaports. We may not sustain our strategic position as a preferred investment location if we do not have piped water in our County. Recognizing the centrality of adequate water provision for both domestic and industrial use, my administration has undertaken to rehabilitate existing but ageing water infrastructure. Among the infrastructure under rehabilitation during the review period were Baricho – Bungale – Marafa water pipeline, Kadzandani and Kambicha boreholes in Magarini Sub County. New projects were also done to compliment existing infrastructure. The new works undertaken include construction of Bwagamoyo – Mkapuni pipeline in Rabai Sub -county, and Dam View – Tsangatsini pipeline in Kaloleni sub -county.

Sixteen (16) boreholes were sunk in four Sub-Counties namely, Kaloleni, Malindi, Rabai and Magarini. Seventy-two (72) last mile extension pipelines covering a total of one hundred and forty-four kilometers (144 km) were laid bringing the overall pipeline coverage to 67% from 62% at the beginning of the review period. Additionally, two (2) water pans were constructed, one in Rabai and the other in Ganze. Twelve (12) water storage tanks were also constructed during the review period. These include Magogoni in Jaribuni Ward, Kang'amboni in Sokoke Ward, Uwanja wa Ndege in Rabai Kisurutini Ward, Kailo Tank in Rabai Kisurutini Ward, Boyani Ferro Tank in Rabai Kisurutini Ward, Vuma Ferro Tank in Mnarani Ward, Mtezo Mwema in Tezo Ward, Gandini Village in Mwarakaya Ward, Kathama Mansonry Tank in Adu Ward, Bwagamoyo in Mwawesa Ward, Kajolobi Ferro tank in Mwarakaya Ward, Mbarakani Ferro Tank in Rabai Kisurutini Ward. These water tanks will bring an additional total of eight

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

hundred and fifty thousand (850,000) litres of water storage capacity. My administration will continue to prioritize water provision for all giving more emphasis to disadvantaged areas.

On Agriculture, Livestock Development and Blue Economy Sector, Mr. Speaker, and hon. Members; our County is one of the counties in the region that has for a long time suffered from food insecurity. Various reasons may be attributed to this situation, among them being the over reliance on rain fed agriculture, poor quality seeds, lack of farm inputs such as fertilizers and pesticides, post-harvest handling losses, and lack of market especially for perishable food items.

To address this situation, my administration embarked on a journey to eliminate reliance on rain fed agriculture and eventually put the county on its path to sustainable food security. To achieve this target, we begun the rehabilitation of Mudachi irrigation scheme where fifteen (15) water pumps were issued to farmers. Eight (8) additional pumps were issued to farmers at the Dagamra irrigation scheme.

Through the support of various partners, a significant number of projects were implemented. My administration working in collaboration with the Kenya Marine Fisheries and Socio-Economic Development Project (KEMFSED) supported one hundred and thirty-five (135) farmer groups. Out of the one hundred and thirty-five (135) groups, twenty-six (26) were funded to undertake livestock related projects including poultry, goats, purchase of boats and dairy activities. Sixty (60) groups received funding to carry out fishery related projects while thirty-five (35) groups preferred to undertake agriculture related activities such as farm ponds and boreholes to support irrigation. A few groups were funded to support environmental and welfare-based projects.

At least twenty-two (22) acres had been prepared to utilize water in the said ponds for irrigation at the close of the review period. More irrigation opportunities had begun at the close of the review period in Mwangatini, Magarini Sub County. During the same period, more than seven thousand five hundred (7,500) farmers received support on seed subsidy. This assisted farmers to put over eleven thousand (11,000) acres of land under cultivation. An additional two hundred and twenty-five (225) new acres of land were put under cassava cultivation.

My administration has plans to support investment in value chain improvement through partnership with the private sector. I commit to provide an enabling environment to transform agriculture into an attractive business venture for majority of our youth to provide much needed employment.

On Social Protection, Culture, and Recreation Sector, Mr. Speaker and hon. Members; owing to the high levels of poverty and subsequent high degree of dependency, there are many elderly people who fall within the bracket of the needy in our communities. For this reason, though the National Government has taken the lead in cushioning the elderly through a social protection support programme, a lot more needs to be done. The resources allocated at the National level cannot match the demand, especially in Kilifi County.

In view of the above, my administration, pursuant to a policy established to provide social security to compliment the support given by the National government to the elderly in need, allocated Kenya Shillings Nine Million (Kshs9, 000, 000), which was given to one thousand and twenty-three (1,023) beneficiaries across the great County of Kilifi.

The County of Kilifi experienced drought during the year under review. The Kenya National Food Security steering group declared twenty-four thousand (24, 000) households,

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

approximately one hundred and seventy-four thousand (174, 000) people at risk of hunger and starvation. Through the Division of Special programmes, my administration distributed thirty-one thousand four hundred and eighty (31, 480) bags of dry maize, six thousand four hundred and seventy-five (6, 475) bags of rice, eleven thousand six hundred and ninety-five (11,695) bags of beans to approximately eighty thousand (80, 000) people affected by hunger arising from persistent drought. The most affected areas were Ganze, Kaloleni, and Magarini Sub Counties.

During the period under review, the county was faced with several disasters witnessed by incidents of poor coordination. To address this challenge, my administration established a 24-hour Emergency Operation Centre at Matsangoni with a toll-free number 1535. The centre will be further strengthened to enhance timely responses to emergencies whenever they occur. The centre will link coordination between the field teams, security, and medical facilities.

To enhance safety and security of our public beaches and the fisher folk, we are further strengthening the beach safety unit. We are targeting full operationalization of the beach patrols at Kilifi, Mtwapa, and Malindi.

Mr. Speaker and hon. Members; we have been very active in supporting our youth through National and local sports events. During the period under review, Kilifi County sponsored a Special Olympics team to Berlin, Germany. I am proud to report that our team performed well and won a gold medal. Locally, we hosted the first edition of the Kenya National Olympic Committee beach games in Malindi, where the Kenyan team was the second best. We also excelled during the Kenya Youth Intersport's Association (KYISA) games held in Tharaka Nithi County. Our boy's football team emerged third overall. We shall continue to promote the growth of our young people talents to open up opportunities for them locally and internationally. Our desire is for as many youths as possible to follow in the footsteps of Ezekiel Nguwa from Kayafungo who was selected to join a football academy in Spain.

On Lands, Physical Planning, Housing and Urban development Sector, Mr. Speaker and hon. Members; Land is a critical factor of production. Sustainable land management and administration are therefore key priorities of my administration. Development partners and investors will put their money where they are guaranteed of a sustainable and attractive enabling environment to operate optimally and maximize profit. My administration has given full commitment to make Kilifi the investment destination of choice.

During the year under review, we worked closely with donors and partners to guarantee security of tenure for land ownership. To this end, 800 title deeds were issued through our collaboration with KISIP (Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Project). These were issued to landowners in Muyeye and Dingwini. We initiated planning and survey of other informal settlements such as Mazeras centre and Kibokoni M27 that targeted 487 residents through issuance of title deeds.

My administration successfully rolled out the stakeholder engaged for planning of Watamu and Mariakani. I am proud to report that as I make my presentation to you today, Mariakani, Watamu and Mtwapa have been conferred Municipality status. I have directed fast tracking of their full operationalization during this financial year.

My administration has partnered with UN (United Nations) Habitat through the Go Blue Project and Tetra Park to improve Mazingira Park. The project will include construction of walkways, an administration block, an ablution block, lighting and benches. Through the Kenya Urban Support programme, we have implemented the Farmers – Kosovo Road, as well as the

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Kenya Power – Sea Horse Road in Kilifi. Through similar partnerships, we have completed the new fire station at Kilifi and the outfall drainage in Malindi that starts from total Petrol station roundabout to the ocean.

Through our partnership with the KISIP-1 Project we have plans to improve four informal settlements including, Mtaani, Kisumu Ndogo in Kilifi, Kalolo and Baya Magonzi. The major works here include road works, foot paths, and drainage systems, supply of water and installation of streetlights. The same project will be replicated for Kisumu Ndogo and Muyeye in Malindi. Additionally, Muyeye will benefit through construction of two hundred and fifty (250) household sanitation, while M17 informal settlement will get 2.7 kilometres of road and kilometres of drainage under this programme.

On Transport and Infrastructure Sector, Mr. Speaker and hon. Members; a robust and well-maintained transport infrastructure is key as an enabler for economic growth and development. For Kilifi County to be able to exploit its full economic potential, it must be supported by a well-connected road network that can facilitate movement of goods and services seamlessly all-round the year.

To achieve this goal, my administration initiated a deliberate strategy to gradually address the gaps in our connectivity by allocating funds to priority roads to improve our connectivity to spur rapid investment for faster growth and development. In the same spirit, my administration commenced the improvement to bitumen standard of the following roads; Sala gate – Goshi Road phase one (1) in Kakuyuni Ward, Fundi Issa-Adu Road (phase 1) in Adu Ward, Kijiwe Tanga – Jacaranda Road cutting across Ganda and Watamu Wards. During the period under review, my administration began works on improvement of several roads to Cabro status. Among them are, former Councilor – Maisha Bora Road and Mwaka Musha Road in Junju ward, Coast Palace Road in Mariakani Ward, Kwa Ndongya – Good Life Road in Mtepeni Ward; Timbo-Taka Road, Mbuyuni Road, Twaha Road and Kambe-land Road all in Watamu Ward. We also commenced laying of Cabro works at Marafa Trading Centre. In Dabaso Ward, we have completed the construction of Dongokundu -Kisiwani Board Walk. This has enhanced movement of goods and people into the island.

We also salvaged two other tarmac roads which had stalled in Malindi Town Ward. These are; Farmers - Kosovo in Kisumu Ndogo area, and Malindi Central Primary – Alaskan grounds.

In summary one thousand and sixty kilometers (1,060 km) were opened during the period under review. One thousand six hundred and sixty kilometers (1,660 km) of roads were graded while two hundred and fifteen kilometers (215 km) were graveled. Maintenance works were carried out on approximately seven hundred kilometres (700 km) of roads. These works were carried out across various wards in the County. My administration will continue to prioritize roads identified as critical through public participation for maintenance, opening up or improvement.

In the same spirit, my administration has prioritized the construction of MESHETA Bridge whose construction is set to begin this financial year.

A significant number of drifts have been constructed to ease movement of goods and services. These include Firini and Dungu Dungu drifts in Junju Ward, Mbudzini drift in Kambe Ribe and Bokini drift in Mwarakaya.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

The department of Transport also purchased four (4) new fire engines. The fire engines have since been deployed to respond to fire emergencies across the County.

On Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives Sector, Mr. Speaker, and hon. Members; Kilifi County economic growth has for a long time depended on a vibrant tourism sector. The persistent poor performance of the tourism sector over the years, has shattered livelihoods and spelled doom to many households. Many employees in this sector have lost their jobs rendering them dependent on a few family members with alternative sources of income.

In order to reverse this trend and revamp tourism, my administration partnered with stake holders and on the 8th day of September 2023 I launched a Kilifi tourism product known as the Kenya Riviera to market and promote Kilifi as a preferred tourist destination.

We have started a deliberate effort to improve roads infrastructure along major tourism areas, such as the tarmacking of Kijiwe Tanga - Jacaranda Road. We have also initiated a process of mapping existing tourism products in order to promote diversification of new products.

To support our people towards a culture of saving and investment, we amended the Mbegu Fund law, and renamed it Wezesha Fund, to make it more responsive to the business needs of our people. We have increased the amount of money available for lending, jointly with our partners, from Kenya Shillings One Hundred and Fifty Million (Kshs150, 000, 000) to Kenya Shillings One Billion (Kshs1, 000, 000, 000).

To date the Fund has disbursed approximately Kenya Shillings Two Hundred Million (Kshs200,000,000) as follows: Kenya Shillings Twenty Million Two Hundred Thousand (Kshs. 20 200 000) to one hundred and four (104) groups; Kenya Shillings Twenty Million Six Hundred Thousand (Kshs20, 600, 000) to thirty-three (33) Small Medium Size Companies (SMEs); Kenya Shillings Seventy-Seven Million Seven Hundred and Forty Thousand (Kshs77, 740 000) to two hundred and twenty-two (222) sole proprietors; and Kenya Shillings Seventy-Four Million Two Hundred Thousand (Kshs74, 200, 000) has been given out to finance local purchase orders (LPOs) issued by the County Government of Kilifi. This is a clear testimony that we are supporting our own people to participate in County Government tenders. My appeal to the beneficiaries is to challenge them to re-pay their loans promptly to provide an opportunity for others to benefit from the revolving Fund. I am satisfied that borrowers are making an effort to pay back money borrowed from Wezesha Fund. However, I wish to call upon those lagging behind to make every effort to pay up.

We have mobilized communities to come together and register cooperative societies. To date we have registered forty (40) new cooperatives among them, ten (10) Boda-Boda cooperatives which include Mtepeni, Mariakani, Town Ward, Masuka, Sunshine, Sabaki and Ganda, etc.; four (4) artisan miners cooperatives which include Kudzacha, Mwanzo Mpya, Dzalamuka and Chungaungao; three (3) BMU's such as Kilifi Central Beach Management Unit (BMU); and four (4) SMES such as Kilifi Women Empowerment Sacco, Mafanikio and Umiliki.

We have also registered the Kilifi County Sacco for the staff of Kilifi, Municipalities, County Assembly and other stakeholders.

I am happy to report that we so far have revived ten (10) dormant cooperatives among them Manyeso Dairy, Kilifi Riders and Goshi Farmers; and are presently in the process of reviving four (4) cooperatives among them Magarini Sand, Magarini Farmers and Kambe-Ribe farmers. My administration has formulated and validated the Kilifi Cooperative Bill and Regulations which are awaiting approval by this House. I urge you to kindly expedite on the

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

same. My administration through the Department of Cooperative Development has audited forty-four (440) cooperatives and conducted seminars for committee members of thirty-two (32) cooperatives.

Mr. Speaker and hon. Members the responsibility of moving our great County of Kilifi to the next level rests with all of us. Each one of us seated here today and those of listening to me on mainstream media and social media platforms has a role to play. Many times, we choose the easier option of passing the buck, and pointing fingers at those we should be applauding for struggling to deliver the services, the many challenges notwithstanding.

I encourage all of us to work diligently together, support each other and allow the agenda we have for the great people of the County Government of Kilifi to come to fruition. God bless this great County of Kilifi. God bless Kenya. Thank you.

(Applause)

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker (Hon. Mwambire): Hon. Members, the House now stands adjourned.

(Hon. Members remained upstanding in their places while His Excellency the Governor and the Speakers' procession left the Chamber)

The House rose at 4:15p.m.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*