



THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT
THE SENATE
OFFICIAL REPORT



Fifth Session

Tuesday, 24th March, 2026 at 2.30 p.m.

PARLIAMENT OF KENYA

THE SENATE

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 24th March, 2026

*The House met at the Senate Chamber,
Parliament Buildings, at 2.30 p.m.*

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

PRAYER

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM AT COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Clerk, do we have quorum?

(The Clerk-at-the-Table consulted the Speaker)

Serjeant-at-Arms, kindly ring the Quorum Bell for 10 minutes.

(The Quorum Bell was rung)

We now have quorum; therefore, we will go straight to the business of the afternoon.

Clerk, call the first Order.

(Sen. Osotsi and Sen. Cherarkey consulted loudly)

Order, hon. Senators. Kindly take your seats, Sen. Osotsi and the Senator for Nandi.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

SUBSTANTIATION OF REMARKS MADE BY SEN. SEKI

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Hon. Senators, I have a communication to make relating to a Point of Order, pursuant to Standing Order No.105, made by Sen. Jackson Mandago, EGH, MP, Senator for Uasin Gishu County, for Sen. Seki Lenku Ole Kanar, MP, Senator for Kajiado County, to substantiate a statement he made during a debate.

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As you may recall, at the morning Plenary sitting of Wednesday, 25th February, 2026, Sen. Mandago, MP, rose on a Point of Order pursuant to Standing Order No.105, bringing to the attention of the Temporary Speaker, Sen. Catherine Mumma, MP, utterances made by Sen. Seki Lenku Ole Kanar, MP, while Sen. Seki was seeking clarification on a Question by Sen. Joyce Korir, CBS, MP, to the Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of Interior and National Administration. The original Question to the Cabinet Secretary related to the status of investigations into the fatal shooting of Mr. Victor Kipng'eno Mutai.

In the Point of Order, Sen. Mandago, MP, sought the intervention of the Chair, to require Sen. Seki, MP, to substantiate the statement that –

“---is it just because, probably, you had given some instructions some time back that people should be killed? That is what I wanted to know.”

Pursuant to Standing Order No.105 (1), the Chair invited Sen. Seki, MP, to substantiate the claim, whereupon Sen. Seki requested more time in accordance with Standing Order No.105(2), to submit evidence for substantiation of his statement at the next sitting day. Having acceded to the request, the Temporary Speaker, Sen. Catherine Mumma, MP, directed Sen. Seki to substantiate the statement at the next sitting day.

Hon. Senators, as you are aware, Standing Order 105 (1) states that –

“A Senator shall be responsible for the accuracy of any facts that the Senator alleges to be true and may be required to substantiate any such facts instantly.”

Further, Standing Order 105 (2) states that –

“If a Senator has sufficient reason to convince the Speaker that the Senator is unable to substantiate the allegations instantly, the Speaker shall require that such a Senator substantiates the allegations not later than the next sitting day, failure to which the Senator shall be deemed to be disorderly within the meaning of Standing Order No.121 (Disorderly conduct) unless the Senator withdraws the allegations and gives a suitable apology---”

Sen. Montet, you seem to be fighting with the gadgets.

(Laughter)

Hon. Senators, before I decide on a matter such as this one, it is my duty as your Speaker to review the HANSARD of the day and satisfy myself whether, indeed, the statement made by a Senator requires substantiation in accordance with Standing Order No.105. This is done to uphold the rules of debate, to ascertain, if indeed, substantiation is required, and if so, to save the Senate time on the argument as to which statement was required to be substantiated.

Upon review of the HANSARD for the morning sitting of Wednesday, 25th February, 2026, I have noted that Sen. Seki's statement was made in the context of Questions to Cabinet Secretaries, pursuant to Standing Order No.51(c).

The Cabinet Secretary concerned was taking supplementary questions in line with the provisions of Standing Order No.51(c) (7). From the HANSARD, I have also noted that the utterances by Sen. Seki, MP formed part of a question posed to the Cabinet

Secretary, Ministry of Interior and National Administration, rather than framed as a statement of fact.

Further reading of the HANSARD indicated that the Point of Order by Sen. Mandago, MP, notwithstanding, the Cabinet Secretary responded to the question posed to him by the Senator for Kajiado County. There is no indication from the HANSARD that Sen. Seki or, indeed, any other Senator was dissatisfied with the answer given by the Cabinet Secretary.

Hon. Senators, the framing of Standing Order No.105 places the burden of proof on a matter that a Senator alleges to be true on the Senator making the statement. Throughout the proceedings, there is no indication that Sen. Seki, MP asserted, as a matter of fact, that the Cabinet Secretary had given instructions that people should be killed. My understanding of the HANSARD is that Sen. Seki, MP framed the statement in the context of a question to the Cabinet Secretary by seeking clarification from the Cabinet Secretary on whether he had given instructions that people should be killed.

Arising from the totality of the proceedings and in the context in which the statement was made, I hereby determine that the Point of Order requiring Sen. Seki to substantiate the same pursuant to Standing Order No.105 becomes redundant. Accordingly, the matter is concluded and no further action will be required from Sen. Seki Lenku Ole Kanar, MP, in respect of the direction issued earlier.

Thank you.

(Applause)

(Several hon. Senators walked into the Chamber)

Settle down, Hon. Senators who have just walked in. I have a further Communication to make. Sen. Boni, you may reserve greetings after the session.

DEMISE OF HON. DICKSON DANIEL KARABA,
FORMER SENATOR OF KIRINYAGA COUNTY

Hon. Senators, I have another communication to make on the demise of Hon. Dickson Daniel Karaba, former Senator for Kirinyaga County. It is with deep sorrow that I notify you of the untimely demise of former Senator for Kirinyaga County, the late Sen. Dickson Daniel Karaba, who passed away on the morning of Monday, 23rd March, 2026 after a short illness.

The late Hon. Dickson Daniel Karaba was born on 22nd June, 1948, in Kirinyaga County. He attended Kiamaina Primary School and later proceeded to Kamuiru High School for his O-Levels, before joining Kagumo High School for his A-Levels. He subsequently obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Education from the University of Nairobi in 1974.

The late Senator, popularly known as Mwalimu Karaba, built a distinguished career in the education sector, rising through the ranks from teacher to deputy principal and later principal of various schools, including Kagumo High School, Highway

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Secondary School, Kianyaga High School, Kirimara High School and Njegas Secondary School. He also served as the Chairperson of the Kenya Secondary School Heads Association between 1984 and 1998.

Hon. Senators, the late Hon. Dickson Daniel Karaba served as Senator for Kirinyaga County from 2013 to 2017, having previously represented Kirinyaga Central Constituency as a Member of the National Assembly from 2002 to 2007.

In the National Assembly, he served as the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Education in the Ninth and Eleventh parliaments. He was again entrusted with the same role as Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Education. The late Hon. Karaba also served as a Member of the Committee on Delegated Legislation and the Joint Committee on Parliamentary Broadcasting and Library in the Eleventh Parliament.

On behalf of Senators, the entire staff of the Senate, and my own behalf, I take this opportunity to convey our heartfelt condolences to the family of the late Hon. Dickson Daniel Karaba, the people of Kirinyaga County and all his friends during this very difficult moment. The Parliament of Kenya and the nation at large has, indeed, lost a diligent and selfless leader who consistently championed the interests of the people of Kirinyaga County and the welfare of teachers in Kenya.

Hon. Senators, in honour of a departed colleague, I now request that in the usual tradition, we all stand and observe a minute of silence.

(Hon. Senators stood and observed a minute of silence)

Thank you. May the soul of the late Dickson Daniel Karaba rest in eternal peace. Now, I will allow Senators wishing to say a word or two in memory of a departed brother. If you get a moment to speak, kindly do so in not more than three minutes.

Proceed, Sen. Wamatinga.

Sen. Wamatinga: Thank you so much, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to pass my message of condolences to the family and the people of Kirinyaga at large for losing the gallant soul of Hon. Karaba.

I had an opportunity to interact with the late during the time of the late Governor Nderitu Gachagua. He made an impression of somebody who had a deep understanding of devolution and deep commitment of where devolution needed to take us. He was one of those who advocated for formation of regional economic blocs, so that it makes economic sense for the counties around Mt. Kenya.

It is during such sad moments that we are forced to ask ourselves what will be said about us when our times comes because it will reach for every one of us. It gives me a lot of inspiration to know that there are leaders who come to this House fully committed to serve and leave a huge footprint of what devolution should do to us as a country, counties and most importantly, communities.

It is in the same spirit that I stand up to pass my message of condolences to the family. May God grant them peace of mind and solitude to overcome this difficult moment. To the people of Kirinyaga, it is, indeed, a sad moment because we have lost

one of our great sons. To us who have the responsibility of leadership, it is time we did a deeper soul-searching on the impact that we want to leave when our days come.

I, therefore, pass my message of condolences on my behalf and on behalf of residents of Nyeri County, and the whole “murima” region.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Next is Sen. Kinyua.

Sen. Kinyua: Asante, Bw. Spika, kwa kunipa fursa hii. Kuanzia mwanzo, ningependa kusema kwamba kwa niaba ya watu wa Laikipia na kwa niaba yangu, natoa risala za rambirambi kwa familia ya mwendazake, Mheshimiwa Karaba, na vilevile watu wa Kirinyaga kwa kumpoteza kiongozi ambaye nilimfahamu kama kiongozi wa walimu. Mwendazake ni kiongozi aliyejulikana. Kwanza, alikuwa mnyenyekevu. Ni mtu aliyetilia maanani mambo ya elimu na vile vile, alijitolea mhanga kufanya elimu kuendelea vizuri katika Kaunti ya Kirinyaga. Si huko tu pekee bali sehemu zote alizotembelea.

Tumempoteza kiongozi ambaye alikuwa mnyenyekevu. Kwa maisha yake yote, Mheshimiwa Karaba alikuwa mtumishi wa wananchi wa Kirinyaga na Kenya kwa jumla. Ikumbukwe kwamba alikuwa mstari wa mbele si tu kwa mambo ya elimu, bali pia kufanya Kaunti ya Kirinyaga kujulikana kila mahali.

Nakumbuka akiwa katika Seneti hii, alikuwa Mwenyekiti wa Kamati ya Elimu kwa sababu alijitolea kwa mambo ya elimu. Sisi watu wa Laikipia tutamkumbuka kwa sababu akitutembelea katika Kaunti yetu kuangalia mambo ya masomo mara si moja.

Mungu ailaze roho yake anakolaza wema.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Proceed, Sen. Joe Nyutu.

Sen. Joe Nyutu: Bw. Spika, leo nikubalie nitumie Kiswahili. Natuma risala ya rambirambi kwa familia ya mwendazake---

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Risala za.

Sen. Joe Nyutu: Naam. Asante Bw. Spika. Nilikuwa mwalimu wa Kiswahili lakini nimekaa miaka kadhaa kabla ya kukizungumza.

Ningependa kusema kuwa tumempoteza kiongozi wa maana sana. Kaunti ya Kirinyaga ni jirani ya Kaunti ya Murang'a na kwa hivyo tumepoteza jirani.

Mheshimiwa Karaba alikuwa mwalimu kama mimi. Kwa hivyo, kuna jinsi tunavyoshabihiana. Vile vile alikuwa Mwenyekiti wa Kamati ya Elimu katika Seneti, jukumu nililokuwa nimechukua kabla ya kutimuliwa bila sababu. Hata hivyo, nashukuru kwamba niliweza kuhudumu katika Kamati hiyo kwa miaka miwili.

Tumempoteza kiongozi wa maana. Hata hivyo, lazima tumshukuru kwa miaka 78 ambayo Mwenyezi Mungu alimpatia Mheshimiwa Karaba. Nimeshangaa kusikia kwamba alikuwa amefikisha umri huo. Hata jamii yake inapoomboleza, wana sababu ya kumshukuru Mwenyezi Mungu kwa miaka hiyo 78 aliyoshi katika ulimwengu huu.

Mwisho, ningependa kusema kuwa Mheshimiwa Karaba alifanya mambo ambayo si walimu wengi wanaweza kufanya. Alianza kama mwalimu kabla ya kuwa mwalimu mkuu. Baadaye alikuwa mbunge katika Bunge la Taifa na hatimaye akawa Seneta.

Kama wengine walivyosema, Mwenyezi Mungu ailaze roho yake mahali pema peponi.

Asante, Bw. Spika, kwa kunipa fursa hii.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Kisang, you have the Floor.

Sen. Kisang: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the great people of Elgeyo-Marakwet County, I take this opportunity to convey condolences regarding the passing on of the former Senator for Kirinyaga, Hon. Karaba. He was elected in 2002 as a Member of Parliament (MP) in the National Assembly, then in 2013, he came to this House and served for five years. I knew him because I was in the National Assembly, at the same time with him, between 2013 and 2017.

We knew him as a diligent and hard-working person, who rose from a classroom teacher to deputy principal, then principal of Kakuma Secondary School, which we all knew in those olden days as a serious school that ensured several students went to the university to do professional courses.

Hon. Speaker, this is a man who rose from very low, until what we can call self-actualization. This is a great achievement; for one to rise from a classroom teacher, deputy principal, senior principal and eventually a Member of Parliament for 10 years.

We condole with the family and pray for them that the Almighty God gives them peace, strength during this difficult time, and eventually also accept that it is God's will that he has lived up to 78 years. The Bible says that the years granted to a person are 70. If you are strong, God may add you another 10 or 20. He was lucky to get an additional eight years.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Sen. Munyi Mundigi: Asante Bwana Spika kwa kunipa nafasi kuleta pole zangu na za watu wa Kaunti ya Embu kwa Seneta wa zamani wa Kaunti ya Kirinyaga.

Mheshimiwa Karaba alifahamika na watu wengi alipokuwa mwalimu na pia mwalimu mkuu na kazi aliyofanya katika Kaunti ya Kirinyaga iliyomwezesha kuwa mbunge na pia Seneta wa Kirinyaga.

Ni vizuri kila mara unapochaguliwa uwe ukifanya kazi kulingana kwa njia inayofaa. Kazi ya Mheshimiwa Karaba ilifanya ajulikane katika maeneo ya Mlima Kenya. Sisi katika Kaunti ya Embu tulijuwa aliyokuwa anatenda akiwa Seneta.

Maseneta wengine hawakuwa wakiongea lakini yeye alikuwa akifanya kazi iliyofaa. Ni pole kwa watu wa Kirinyaga. Wacha aende salama. Sisi ndiyo tutamfuata, si yeye atarudi.

Ningetaka kuongea kidogo tu kuhusu Seneta wa Murang'a ambaye amesema hajui kwani nini alitimuliwa kama Mwenyekiti wa Kamati ya Elimu. Naomba nimkumbushe kuwa aliletwa hapa na chama cha Kenya Kwanza ama United Democratic Alliance (UDA). Baadaye alikataa mambo ya UDA akaenda kuungana na chama kingine cha DCP, na hiyo ndiyo ilifanya aweze kutimuliwa.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Mundigi, withdraw your last statements.

Seneta Mundigi ama unataka nizungumze Kiswahili?

Sen. Munyi Mundigi: Zungumza Kiswahili, Bwana Spika ili nielewe.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Seneta Mundigi umekosa nidhamu katika matamshi yako ya mwisho. Kwa hivyo, nakushurutisha uondoe matamshi yale na umwombe msamaha Seneta Nyutu.

Sen. Munyi Mundigi: Asante Bwana Spika. Nimesema pole kwa Seneta wa Murang'a, lakini amesikia.

(Loud consultations)

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Order, hon. Senators. Seneta wa Embu hivyo sivyo msamaha unavyoombwa. Tafadhali simama tena na uombe msamaha bila kuweka kibwagizo.

Sen. Munyi Mundigi: Asante Bwana Spika naomba msamaha kwa Seneta wa Murang'a, lakini ajue alitolewa.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Mundigi, I will refer you to Standing Order No.122 and read it to you. Should the consequences follow you, you should not blame the Chair.

Standing Order 122 on Gross Disorderly Conduct, reads as follows-

“A Senator commits an act of gross disorderly conduct if the Senator defies a ruling or direction of the Speaker or Chairperson of the committee.”

Seneta wa Embu, nikitafsiri Kanuni hiyo ya Kudumu kwa Kiswahili ni kwamba-Seneta akipatiwa agizo na Spika na asipotilia maanani lile agizo, basi atakuwa na ukiuka---

Senator of Nandi, the Chair is speaking. Be attentive.

Seneta wa Embu, nitakupa muda mwingine wa kuomba msamaha bila kuendeleza mambo yasiyoingiana na msamaha. Bila hivyo, itabidi nikuamuru utoke nje ya Bunge. Endelea.

Sen. Munyi Mundigi: Nimeomba msamaha kwa Seneta wa Murang'a.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Asante.

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I stand to mourn the former Senator of Kirinyaga, my brother, friend and colleague in the National Assembly and this Senate for many years.

Sen. Karaba joined Parliament in the year of change, 2002, with me on the same day, and we served diligently. He was a great Member of Parliament, but unfortunately after five years, he lost his seat. He went on and petitioned against hon. John Ngata and won the petition.

When he went back to Kirinyaga Central Constituency to seek a re-election, I had the honour---

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Nyutu, you are out of order. I caution you.

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale): Mr. Speaker, I had the honour of joining him in his by-election campaign.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Boni, just take your seat. Sen. Nyutu, I will refer you to Standing Order No.117 which reads as follows –

“No Senator shall pass between the Chair and any Senator who is speaking or between the Chair and the Table except in so far as it is necessary for the purpose of the administration of Oath or Affirmation of Office.”

That is exactly what you have done today. You are out of order and I give you your first caution for the day.

Conclude, Sen. Boni.

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I had the honour, in 2011, to join him when he was seeking his re-election in the by-election together with the Hon. Martha Karua. I discovered that Kirinyaga Central is very beautiful.

I found that the late Senator, indeed, had his feet on the ground. He was seriously respected. He had made his contribution and even when he came on later to the Senate, after losing that by-election, he also discharged very well.

I assure the family that they are in my mind and in our prayers. We wish the departed Senator a peaceful rest for eternity.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Consolata Wakwabubi, Sen. Joyce Korir, Senator Hillary Sigei.

Sen. Korir: Hon. Speaker, are all of us speaking?

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): You are not speaking. Your time is long gone. Proceed, Sen. Sigei.

Sen. Korir: How?

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Korir, do not push it. I ought to be asking you to leave the Chamber. You were on the phone when I was calling your name.

Sen. Wakili Sigei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could you please protect me, so that I can speak without interruption by Sen. Joyce Korir?

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Proceed.

Sen. Wakili Sigei: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for this opportunity to also pass my message of condolence to the family and the people of Kirinyaga County following the loss of their former Senator, on my own behalf and the people of Bomet County.

I never had an opportunity to work with Sen. Karaba. I, however, had a moment to interact with him in an informal session and he was such a great leader. It was at a moment when I was representing clans in a legal matter, where I happened to interact with the late Senator. We have, indeed, lost a great man and a great leader.

From the people he represented for many years, both in this House and in the National Assembly, and from the testimonies of colleagues with whom he worked in both Houses, it is clear that the late Senator was a leader we would all like to emulate.

We thank him for the time he had in his life to represent the people and serve this nation. We ask that his soul rests in eternal peace. May his family and the people of Kirinyaga County have sufficient grace to mourn their departed leader.

I thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Wambua.

Sen. Wambua: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I also want to join my colleagues in passing my condolences to the family of the late Sen. Daniel Karaba Mwalimu and to the people of Kirinyaga for losing a leader.

I may not have had an opportunity to personally interact with Sen. Daniel Karaba. However, going by history and the literature I had the opportunity to read about him. The fact that he was elected by the people of Kirinyaga Central for two terms as a Member of the National Assembly and then later as a Member of the Senate for one term speaks volumes.

(Sen. Cherarkey applauded)

I am not sure why Sen. Cherarkey is so excited about the terms ‘one term’ and ‘two terms.’ I have no idea.

We condole with the family and the people of Kirinyaga County. For us, in Mt. Kenya South, we have lost a cousin and we shall stand with the people of Kirinyaga in mourning our cousin. We will lead the people of Kitui in supporting that family and community to lay the remains of the late Karaba to rest.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

I thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Veronica Maina.

Sen. Veronica Maina: Hon. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to join my colleagues in sending my deepest condolences to the family of the former Senator, Hon. Daniel Karaba, from Kirinyaga County. I had the great opportunity of interacting with him, though mainly on social matters. One of his relatives is married in the same home I am married. I, therefore, met him on different occasions. His smile and spirit brightened up a whole room when he walked in.

Even after he had completed his leadership journey in Parliament, he never failed to give serious views on issues of leadership in the country. I remember that any time we met, he would be quick to point out issues that I needed to pay keen attention to, often beginning his sentence with, “*Seneta, hayo mambo, tafadhali angalia sana. Yanaumiza hapa na pale.*”

He was a respected leader; a leader of note and a dedicated teacher. A teacher so distinctive that he rose to become a principal in one of the good schools in Kenya. He served with humility and touched many lives.

Even after retiring from Parliament, he continued to serve the people of Kirinyaga. On many occasions in Murang’a and Kirinyaga County, I had the opportunity to meet the former Senator, Hon. Daniel Karaba, supporting people holding functions.

To his family and friends, I offer my deepest condolences, both from my family and I. I pray that the God of comfort will grant them peace and fortitude during this difficult time. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and He saves those who are crushed in spirit.

I wish the people of Kirinyaga strength as they mourn the great son of Kirinyaga County. I pray that his soul will rest in eternal peace and may his legacy live on.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Mandago.

Sen. Mandago: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I join my colleagues in sending my deepest condolences to the family of the late Senator, Hon. Karaba, the former Senator for Kirinyaga County.

Sen. Karaba was a very diligent leader. I met him when he was still a teacher. He served with us in the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) and later as the Senator for Kirinyaga County during the first term of devolution.

What I remember most about Sen. Karaba is his distinguished knowledge of cooperative management. We all recall that the Moi University Savings and Credit Cooperative Society (MUSCO) was facing challenges for many years. Sen. Karaba was among the very first Senators to understand the problems that MUSCO was facing. He

invited us to a meeting and even visited us in the county to try and address and resolve the matters that were bedevilling MUSCO.

I, therefore, on behalf of the people of Uasin Gishu County, wish to send our deepest condolences to the family and the people of Kirinyaga for the loss of such a great leader.

Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Thank you. Before I ask the Clerk to call the next Order, allow me to pass this Communication.

(Sen. Madzayo stood in his place)

Senator for Kilifi County, kindly be settled.

SUBSTANTIATION OF STATEMENT BY SEN. CHUTE
FOLLOWING A POINT OF ORDER BY SEN. MANDAGO

Hon. Senators, as you may recall, during the Morning Sitting of the Senate held on Wednesday, 18th March, 2026, the Senator for Uasin Gishu County, Sen. Jackson Mandago, EGH, MP, rose on a point of order pursuant to Standing Order No.105, bringing to the attention of the Speaker a statement made by the Senator for Marsabit County, Sen. Mohamed Chute, CBS, MP, while asking a supplementary question to the Cabinet Secretary Ministry for Roads and Transport.

In the point of order, Sen. Mandago, MP, sought the intervention of the Speaker to require that Sen. Mohamed Chute, MP, do substantiate the following statement and I quote-

“The Rironi-Mau Summit, which is 175 kilometres, is costing Kshs200 billion. There is the Ouagadougou Boko Road in Burkina Faso, which is 332 kilometres, costing Kshs46 billion.”

Now, Hon. Senators, as you are aware, Standing Order No.105 states as follows-

“(1) A Senator shall be responsible for the accuracy of any facts that the Senator alleges to be true and may be required to substantiate any such facts instantly.

(2) If a Senator has sufficient reason to convince the Speaker that the Senator is unable to substantiate the allegations instantly, the Speaker shall require that such Senator substantiates the allegations not later than the next sitting day, failure to which the Senator shall be deemed to be disorderly within the meaning of Standing Order 121 (Disorderly conduct) unless the Senator withdraws the allegations and gives a suitable apology, if the Speaker so requires.”

Hon. Senators, upon being challenged by Sen. Mandago, MP, Sen. Chute, MP, was not able to substantiate this statement as required, pursuant to Standing Order No.105 (1). He subsequently requested the Speaker to provide the evidence for substantiation at the next sitting, in accordance with Standing Order No.105(2). Having

acceded to the request, the Speaker directed Sen. Chute, MP, to substantiate the statement at the next sitting.

Accordingly, and pursuant to Standing Order No.105(2), I now invite Sen. Mohammed Chute CBS, MP, to forthwith substantiate the statement, failure to which the Senator shall be deemed to be disorderly within the meaning of Standing Order No.121.

In the absence of such substantiation, Sen. Chute, MP, will be required to withdraw the statement and apologise to the Senate.

Sen. Chute, you may proceed, please.

Sen. Chute: Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for the opportunity. According to Standing Order No.105 (2), I was supposed to substantiate in the next sitting, which was on Wednesday afternoon. Today is Tuesday afternoon. So, the issue has been overtaken by events.

So, I do not think---

(Loud consultations)

Please, protect me. I was armed with my documents on Wednesday and Thursday afternoon. So, if I am supposed to substantiate again, I will need more time.

(Laughter)

I am being told that I did not come with my documents. So, I need more time.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Chute, I will take it that you are not in a position to substantiate. I will give you the option to withdraw and apologise. If you are unable to do that, then you may sit and leave the Chair to make a further direction.

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. (Dr.) Boni Khalwale, I will come to you once I am done with Sen. Chute.

Sen. Chute: Mr. Speaker, Sir, allow me to table these documents. As you are aware, during Wednesday's Question time, I posed a Question based on the information that I have. The Cabinet Secretary answered my question that day. So, let me table these documents.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want you to look at the documents.

(Sen. Chute laid the documents on the Table)

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Very well. I will review the documents tabled and make a ruling on the same.

Let us proceed.

Next Order.

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Yes, Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale.

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter, currently before the House, is unprecedented in two aspects. I would require that with your indulgence, you guide the House.

One, the matter on which the Member has been challenged arose after he raised a valid question to the Cabinet Secretary. Before the Cabinet Secretary could be given a chance to respond, the Senator for Uasin Gishu shot up with this point of order. The Cabinet Secretary had not been given an opportunity to demonstrate whether he had an answer or whether he needed more time to get the answer.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, guide the House because it is marks of an attempt by a Member of the Senate to shield a Cabinet Secretary from responding to a valid question in the House.

What is more is whether, under the rules of procedure, a Member can attempt to answer a question on behalf of the Cabinet Secretary. What he said, the Cabinet Secretary could have said in his answer that, "I do not have those details and I need time for the Government of Kenya to consult with the Government of Burkina Faso to bring a copy of the budget." That is the first aspect.

The second and last aspect is on our Standing Orders. You need to guide the House on how to read Standing Order No.105, which if read as it is written, demands that the Senator for Marsabit should have substantiated on the first sitting day, which was on Wednesday, not Thursday or today. So, unless we have changed the Standing Orders, then you should guide the House on how to proceed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): On the first limb of your intervention, if you remember when this matter was live on the Floor of the House, I gave you an opportunity and you said exactly what you have said now. I directed on how to handle that matter. So, the matter was rested on that particular day.

On the second limb, as to whether you were to substantiate, that must have been on the next sitting day. Indeed, you are supposed to substantiate the next sitting day. However, if the Chair does not require you to do it then, you can be called upon to substantiate thereafter. In which case, the Senator for Marsabit was supposed to substantiate the next sitting day, but he was not given the opportunity. It does not mean that, that particular burden to substantiate was waived on his part. That is why he was called upon today to substantiate.

Indeed, he has tabled some documents in an attempt to substantiate. I am going to review those documents and make a ruling as to whether I am satisfied that they respond to the point of order that was raised by the Senator for Uasin Gishu.

Next Order.

Sen. Faki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, looking at Standing Order No.105(2), it states that-

"If a Senator has sufficient reason to convince the Speaker that the Senator is unable to substantiate allegations instantly, the Speaker shall require that such a Senator substantiate the allegations not later than the next sitting day, failure to which the Senator shall be deemed to be disorderly within the meaning of Standing Order 121(*Disorderly conduct*) unless the Senator withdraws the allegations and gives a suitable apology, if the Speaker requires".

This Standing Order is quite clear. With profound respect, we think the next sitting day was Thursday, 19th March, 2026, upon which Sen. Chute should have substantiated.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): The Chair has pronounced himself on that matter. We move to the next Order.

(Applause)

PAPERS LAID

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): The Chairperson, Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare or any Member of that Committee.
Yes, Sen. Madzayo, you may proceed.

REPORT ON CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE INTERNSHIP BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO.63 OF 2022)

The Senate Minority Leader (Sen. Madzayo): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.
Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare, I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the Senate today, Tuesday, 24th March, 2026 -

Report of the Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare on its consideration of the Public Service Internship Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 63 of 2022).

(Sen. Madzayo laid the document on the Table)

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Sen. Wafula.

REPORT ON CONSIDERATION OF THE SEEDS AND PLANT VARIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL (SENATE BILLS NO.4 OF 2025)

Sen. Wafula: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the Senate today, Tuesday, 24th March, 2026 -

Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on its consideration of the Seeds and Plant Varieties (Amendment) Bill (Senate Bills No. 4 of 2025).

(Sen. Wafula laid the document on the Table)

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Next Order, Clerk.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Veronica Maina, you may proceed.

MAINSTREAMING GENDER PERSPECTIVES IN
LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY PROCESSES

Sen. Veronica Maina: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give Notice of the following Motion

—

THAT AWARE THAT, Article 27 of the Constitution of Kenya guarantees the right to equality and freedom from discrimination, with Article 27(3) providing that women and men have the right to equal treatment, including the right to equal opportunities in political, economic, cultural and social spheres;

FURTHER AWARE that Article 27(8) obligates the State to take legislative and other measures to redress any disadvantage suffered by individuals or groups as a result of past discrimination, and to ensure that not more than two-thirds of members of elective or appointive bodies shall be of the same gender;

COGNIZANT THAT mainstreaming gender perspectives in all aspects of governance is essential to achieving inclusive development and safeguarding the rights and welfare of all citizens, particularly women, girls and other marginalised groups;

CONCERNED THAT the integration of gender considerations remains inconsistent across the two levels of government and that legislative processes have often resulted in policies that do not adequately address gender-specific needs and realities;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate –

i) Urges Parliament, County Assemblies and their respective legislative committees to incorporate a gender analysis in the scrutiny of legislation, policies, programmes and budgets before them, including through the use of gender impact assessments and consultation with gender-focused stakeholders to ensure gender-responsive governance;

ii) Recommends that the National Gender and Equality Commission and the State Department for Gender develop clear guidelines and tools to support the integration of gender perspectives in legislative, policy and budgetary analysis, and ensure these are disseminated and adopted by relevant government and legislative bodies;

iii) Further urges the National Gender and Equality Commission and State Department for Gender to collaborate with the Kenya Law Reform Commission and County Assembly Service Boards to build capacity for gender analysis among technical and legislative staff;

iv) Urges the State Department for Gender to submit to Parliament a comprehensive biannual report detailing actions taken by Ministries, Departments and Agencies to promote gender mainstreaming, key achievements, emerging challenges and proposed interventions; and

v) Resolves that the Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare continuously monitor the implementation of these resolutions and tables biannual reports on the status of implementation.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, while I was giving this Notice of Motion, the House was very noisy and this is a very important Notice on gender matters. I hope the noise was not because of the gender---

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): We have heard you, Sen. Veronica Maina. Your colleagues have heard you, I saw them nodding.

Sen. Karungo Thang'wa, you may proceed. Sen. Thang'wa is not in the House; therefore, the Notice of Motion is deferred.

PROMOTION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND INNOVATION POLICY IN KENYA

THAT AWARE THAT, the Fourth Industrial Revolution is redefining economies globally through emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), blockchain, and financial technology (Fintech);

FURTHER AWARE THAT Kenya has made commendable strides in digital infrastructure and mobile innovation, positioning itself as a potential leader in Africa's tech-driven future;

NOTING THAT in a landmark decision, the African Union Executive Council endorsed the Continental AI Strategy during its 45th Ordinary Session in Accra, Ghana, on July 18-19, 2024 to underscore Africa's commitment to an Africa-centric, development-focused approach to AI, promoting ethical, responsible, and equitable practices;

COGNIZANT THAT the Continental AI Strategy calls for unified national approaches among AU Member States to navigate the opportunities of AI-driven change, aiming to strengthen regional and global cooperation and position Africa as a leader in inclusive and responsible AI development;

APPRECIATING THAT the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Digital Economy recently formulated and launched the Kenya National Artificial Intelligence (AI) Strategy 2025-2030;

RECOGNIZING the need to align Kenya's development with global standards in AI adoption while also safeguarding national values, inclusivity, and employment;

CONCERNED THAT the absence of a comprehensive framework may hinder innovation among local start-ups and youth-led tech enterprises and slow down Kenya's ability to harness AI for inclusive growth;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate resolves that the Ministry of Information, Communication and Digital Economy develops a Policy to promote Artificial Intelligence and emerging technologies with particular emphasis on:

- i) promoting research and development of locally relevant AI solutions;
- ii) facilitating ethical guidelines to ensure responsible and beneficial application of AI;
- iii) creating innovation-friendly ‘Sandboxes’ for supervised testing of AI and emerging technologies;
- iv) strengthening public-private partnerships to build digital skills and innovation ecosystems; and
- v) integrating AI and coding into the education curriculum to prepare the next generation for the digital economy.

(Notice of Motion deferred)

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Miraj Abdullahi, you have the Floor.

KUMBUKUMBU YA KUDUMU YA WAATHIRIWA
WA AJALI YA FERİ YA LIKONI YA 1994

Sen. Miraj: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion –

IKIBAINISHA KWAMBA, mnamo tarehe 29 Aprili 1994, janga la ajali ya feri ya Likoni lilisababisha vifo na majeraha kwa wananchi wasio na hatia, wengi wao wakiwa wakaazi wa Likoni na Kaunti ya Mombasa, na hivyo kuleta majonzi makubwa kitaifa pamoja na madhara ya muda mrefu ya kimwili, kisaikolojia, kijamii na kiuchumi kwa familia zilizopoteza wapendwa wao na manusura;

IKIWA NA WASIWASI KWAMBA, licha ya hakikisho na ahadi zilizotolewa na mamlaka mbalimbali kufuatia janga hilo, bado kuna mashaka na maswali kuhusu iwapo fidia ilitolewa kikamilifu na kwa haki kwa familia zote zilizoathirika;

IKIKIRI KWAMBA, kuanzishwa kwa kumbukumbu ya kitaifa ni hatua muhimu ya kuheshimu na kuenzi waliyopoteza maisha, na pia ni chombo cha kuendeleza uponyaji wa pamoja wa kijamii na kuimarisha uwajibikaji wa Taifa kwa raia wake;

SASA BASI, Seneti inaamua kwamba –

i. Kamati ya Kudumu ya Seneti ya Barabara, Uchukuzi na Makazi ifanye uchunguzi wa kina ili kubaini idadi ya familia zilizoathirika, fidia iliyolipwa hadi sasa, madai yoyote ambayo hayajalipwa, pamoja na kubainisha familia zipi bado hazijapata fidia na sababu za kutolipwa fidia hiyo;

ii. Serikali ya Kaunti ya Mombasa kwa ushirikiano na Wizara ya Barabara na Uchukuzi, ianzishe kumbukumbu ya kudumu kwa heshima ya

wahanga wa ajali ya feri ya Likoni, 1994 kwa mashauriano na familia zilizoathirika.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

STATEMENTS

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Statement Pursuant to Standing Order 52(1), Senator for Baringo County, the hon. Sen. Kiprono Chemitei, you have the Floor.

MITIGATION MEASURES TO DEAL WITH RECURRING DROUGHT-FLOODS CYCLE IN BARINGO COUNTY

Sen. Kiprono Chemitei: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the opportunity that you have given me to make a statement.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 52(1) to make a statement on a matter of countywide concern, regarding the recurring drought – flood cycle in Baringo County and the entire country.

Over the past few months, Baringo County has experienced a moderate drought, particularly in the pastoral livelihood zones that make up the greater part of the county. Main water sources have dried up, forcing communities to travel long distance, in search of water, agriculture yields have declined significantly, with many residents reporting poor milk production and overall deterioration of livestock body health owing diminished pasture.

Consequently, food commodity prices have risen, which has placed an even greater strain on commodities already struggling with economic hardship. The loss of livelihood, coupled with the rise of food prices, has plunked up many households in the county into acute food insecurity, with pregnant women, lactating mothers, children and elderly facing a latent risk of malnutrition.

The drought has also had profound impact on school-going children. Many schools have reportedly increased absenteeism, which has been attributed to migration of families in search of water and pasture. Growing demand for children to help their families and herding livestock and fetching water from distant source and extend hunger and illness linked to malnutrition.

While return of rain has provided a much-needed relief and marked an end of the drought, residents of Baringo County have another looming crisis. The rains, which are supposed to usher in a season of recovery, are likely to trigger flooding linked to rising water levels in Lake Baringo and Lake Bogoria. The water levels in both lakes have been rising steadily in recent years, displacing thousands of residents and damaging critical infrastructure.

I call upon the Ministries of East Africa Community Affairs and Arid and Semi-Arid (ASAL) Regional Development, Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Interior and National Administration, to develop and implement coordinated strategies for a lasting solution to this humanitarian crisis.

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I thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Hamida Kibwana, please proceed.

THIRTEENTH GLOBAL BAKU FORUM HELD IN BAKU, AZERBAIJAN

Sen. Kibwana: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise pursuant to Standing Order No.52 (1) to make a Statement on a matter of international concern, namely the 13th Global Baku Forum, held from 11th to 14th March, 2026 in Baku, Azerbaijan, an event in which I was honoured to participate.

The forum brought together former and current Heads of State and government, senior United Nations officials, diplomats, ministers, legislators, scholars and global policy actors to deliberate on pressing international issues, including global security, multilateralism, climate action, digital governance, sustainable connectivity, Africa's future, housing, health, preparedness and youth inclusion.

The forum provided a high-level platform for engagement on a wide range of strategic themes relevant to Kenya's national interests and foreign policy priorities. This included discussions of the changing balance of power and the international system, the crisis of multilateralism and the future of global cooperation, the reform and the relevance of the United Nations at 80 years, the need to sustain momentum in global climate negotiations beyond formal COP processes, Africa's current development trajectory, and future prospects, among other critical discussions.

From these engagements, Kenya stands to leverage important comparative examples and strategize lessons in the following areas---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly protect me from my colleagues here. I am unable to concentrate.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Senator for Kitui County, kindly allow your colleague to make a Statement in silence, please.

Sen. Kibwana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From this engagement, Kenya stands to leverage important comparative examples and strategic lessons in the following areas-

(1) Multilateral diplomacy and reform of global governance. The engagements underscored the importance of middle power diplomacy, coalition building and strategic participation in international institutions, all of which are relevant to Kenya's growing profile in regional and global affairs.

(2) Climate diplomacy and sustaining influence beyond conference of parties' negotiations. The dedicated engagement on keeping the COP processes alive beyond formal negotiations offers usual lessons for Kenya as a leading African voice on climate action. Kenya can leverage comparative experience from countries that have used climate diplomacy to shape global agendas, attract green investment and position themselves as conveners of climate solutions;

(3) African strategic position in a changing world order. The forum's focus on Africa reaffirmed the continents centrally in future global economic, demographic and

geopolitical shifts. Kenya can draw comparative lessons on how to position itself not merely as a participant but as a regional anchor state for diplomacy, innovation, trade, peace building and climate leadership.

(4) Sustainable connectivity, trade corridors and economic integration. Discussions on the Middle Corridor, Eurasian gateways and sustainable connectivity offer a relevant comparative example for Kenya's own transport, logistics and trade ambitions, including the strengthening of regional corridors, port competitiveness, rail and road integration and the wider operationalisation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AFCFTA), Kenya can particularly reflect on how infrastructure can be aligned with long-term economic strategy, resilience and regional influence.

(5) Inclusive growth and implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The deliberations on accelerating the 2030 Agenda demonstrated the need for countries to connect growth strategies with social inclusion, sustainability and territorial equity. Kenya can leverage these lessons in strengthening policy coherence between national planning, county development, infrastructure expansion and social protection.

(6) Digital governance, artificial intelligence and ethical innovation. The session on digital features, AI, governance and ethics of innovation is of particular relevance to Kenya's expanding digital economy.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Order, Sen. Chute and your colleagues.

Sen. Kibwana: Kenya can draw comparative examples on the governance of artificial intelligence, regulation of emerging technologies, digital inclusion, protection of rights in digital spaces and the building of ethical frameworks that support innovation without compromising public accountability.

(7) Urban planning, housing and future cities. The engagement on global cooperation for housing and perspectives towards future urban forums provides useful comparative insight for Kenya's urbanization agenda. Kenya can draw lessons on integrated urban planning, affordable housing delivery, city governance, density management, climate resilience, settlements and the institutional coordination required to address rapid urban growth in cities such as Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu and Nakuru; and

(8) Global health preparedness and resilience of public systems. The discussions on next generation health and global preparedness reinforces the need for Kenya to strengthen national and county level health resilience, particularly in relation to surveillance systems, emergency preparedness, supply chain integrity, health financing and coordinated responses to future public health threats.

(9) Youth engagement in governance and policy design. The inclusion of a dedicated youth focus session reflects the increasing recognition that intergenerational leadership is essential to sustainable governance. Kenya can draw lessons on how to institutionalise the youth voice, not merely as a symbolic matter, but as a substantive part of public policy, innovation, peace-building and democratic participation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the 13th Global Baku Forum, therefore, offered not only a platform for dialogue, but also a valuable repository of comparative experiences that Kenya can adapt to strengthen its foreign policy, legislative oversight development, planning and international partnership.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Statement pursuant to Standing Order No.53(1). Sen. Hamida Kibwana, you have a statement. You may proceed.

Sen. Kibwana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

GOVERNANCE, REGULATORY AND SERVICE DELIVERY
CONCERNS AT THE NAIROBI HOSPITAL

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise pursuant to Standing Order No.53(1) to seek a statement from the Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare, regarding the governance, regulatory and service delivery concerns arising from the ongoing dispute affecting the Nairobi Hospital and its parent body, the Kenya Hospital Association (KHA).

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Nairobi Hospital has been affected by sustainable institutional disputes touching on the conduct of board elections, the legitimacy of office holders, the exercise of trustee powers and major financial decisions, including proposed borrowing and capital expenditure.

In the statement, the Committee should address the following-

(1) The status of governance and administrative arrangements currently in place at the Nairobi Hospital and the Kenya Hospital Association, strictly to the extent necessary to establish whether there are institutional stability and continuity in the management of the hospital.

(2) Whether the ongoing dispute has in any way affected the delivery of health services, patient care, staffing and other aspects of the hospital's operations and if so, the measures taken to mitigate such effects.

(3) The oversight role of the Ministry of Health, the Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council (KMPDC) and other relevant regulatory bodies in ensuring that private hospitals of significant public importance continue to meet standards on patient safety, quality of care, ethical practice and institutional accountability during periods of internal disputes.

(4) The measures in place to safeguard the interests of patients, members of staff and the public from any adverse effects that may arise from governance instability or leadership wrangles at the institution.

(5) Whether the existing legal and regulatory framework governing major private health institutions is sufficient to assure transparency, fiduciary accountability, continuity of care and protection of public interest where such institutions experience governance disputes.

(6) The policy, administrative or legislative measures that may be necessary to strengthen governance and public interest oversight of private health institutions whose operations have a sustainable bearing on health care delivery in the country.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Before I call Sen. Osotsi, allow me to address the matter by Sen. Chute.

(Sen. Cherarkey stood in his place)

Senator for Nandi County, take your seat.

(Interruption of Statements)

CONSIDERED RULING

SUBSTANTIATION OF FACTS BY SEN. CHUTE FOLLOWING TABLING OF DOCUMENT

Hon. Senators, having considered the documents laid on the Table of the Senate by Sen. Chute, pursuant to the directions from the Chair, for him to substantiate the statements he had, I now rule as follows-

The document tabled by the Senator is essentially a reiteration of the same statements he made. They are in no way a substantiation of the statements in the manner required by Standing Order No.105. In the document, the Senator claims to have used certain sources of references, but gives no specific verifiable citations. Importantly, the Senator has not tabled any of the alleged references.

Having found that the Senator has failed to substantiate his statement, I now direct the Senator to withdraw the statement he made, failure to which this will constitute disorderly conduct under Standing Order No.105(2) and will invite the consequences for such conduct.

(Applause)

Now, Senator for Nandi County, when you get overly excited over procedural matters like this, it concerns the Chair. Of course, your colleagues get concerned too.

Sen. Chute, you may proceed. Let us settle this first before we touch on constitutional issues.

Sen. Chute: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am not going to withdraw because these are facts which are out there. I am not going to withdraw.

(Applause)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): I will now ask you to leave the Chamber for the remainder of the day.

(Sen. Chute withdrew from the Chamber)

(Applause)

(Resumption of Statements)

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Osotsi, please proceed.

Sen. Osotsi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
I wish to make two Statements.

SKEWED RECRUITMENT OF STAFF BY
SOCIAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise pursuant to Standing Order No.53(1) to seek a statement from the Standing Committee on Health on a matter of national concern regarding the ongoing recruitment of staff by the Social Health Authority (SHA).

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as SHA assumes central role in Kenya's transition towards universal health coverage, concerns have emerged over the integrity, transparency and inclusivity of its recruitment process. Reports of irregularity, ethnic bias and uncertainty surrounding the absorption of former NHIF staff risk undermining public confidence in this critical reform.

It is in this regard, that the Committee should address the following-

(1) Staffing plans by the Ministry of Health through the Social Health Authority (SHA), specifically how it intends to balance reduced staffing requirements with the absorption of the workforce inherited from the defunct National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF).

(2) Inordinate delay in deploying the 200 former NHIF employees seconded to the Public Service Commission (PSC) and outline measures to resolve their status.

(3) Whether there were consultations with the county governments in recruitment of the county operation managers given their role within the devolved units.

(4) An audit of the recent appointments within SHA, particularly senior positions, to ensure compliance with the constitutional principles of inclusivity, equity and regional balance provided for in Articles 10 and 232 of the Constitution.

(5) Institute a formal enquiry into the recruitment process undertaken by the Social Health Authority (SHA) and recommend corrective measures, including possible nullification of irregular appointments where necessary.

RISING INSECURITY IN VIHIGA COUNTY

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the second statement is on the rising cases of insecurity in Vihiga County. I rise, pursuant to Standing Order No.53(1) to seek a statement from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations on a matter of county-wide concern regarding the alarming rise in insecurity in Vihiga County, particularly, in Luanda and Emuhaya sub-counties, with the West Bunyore Ward being among the most affected.

The surge in killings, violent robberies and organised criminal activities has instilled fear among traders, *boda boda* operators and households, undermining livelihoods and public confidence in security institutions.

Despite prior intervention, including the 37th Jukwaa la Usalama Forum held in Vihiga County on 14th September, 2025, and consultations between elected leaders and the Ministry of Interior and National Administration, the situation continues to

deteriorate. The gruesome murders of Mr. Zablou Ambuka, Ms. Charity Beva and Mr. Henry Tiira, among others, underscore the urgent need for decisive and coordinated action to restore peace and security in the county.

In this regard, I request the Committee to address the following-

(1) A comprehensive report on recent killings, violent robberies and organised criminal activities in Vihiga County, including the number of incidents reported in the past one year.

(2) Progress on investigation into the recent cases of violence targeting traders, *boda boda* operators and residents, including the number of suspects arrested and prosecuted.

(3) Steps taken by the Ministry to implement resolutions from the 37th Jukwaa la Usalama Forum held in Vihiga County on 14th September, 2025

(4) Collaborative framework between the national Government and the County Government of Vihiga to enforce intelligence sharing, community policing and coordinated responses to criminal activities.

(5) Long-term measures to strengthen intelligence gathering to address possible collusion between criminal elements and security officers and rebuild public trust in security operations in Vihiga County.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is very important. I am losing people every day because of insecurity, and the Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration is busy buying watches.

(Laughter)

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Tabitha Mutinda, proceed.

PLACEMENT OF TRIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY, KUSCCO,
MUTUAL ASSURANCE LIMITED AND CORPORATE INSURANCE
COMPANY UNDER STATUTORY MANAGEMENT

Sen. Tabitha Mutinda: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Pursuant to Standing Order No.53(1), I seek a statement from the Standing Committee of Finance and Budget on a matter of national concern regarding the recent placement of Trident Insurance Company, Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Co-operatives (KUSCCO), Mutual Assurance Limited and Corporate Insurance Company under statutory management by the Insurance Regulatory Authority (IRA).

This regulatory action taken without prior notice has left thousands of innocent policyholders stranded. Their paid-up policies abruptly cancelled, with many compelled to purchase alternative covers at short notice, amounting to an urgent unjust double financial burden. Equally disturbing are reports of harassment and extortion by traffic police officers targeting motorists insured by their affected companies. This situation has exposed policyholders to unfair treatment, financial loss and insecurity, raising serious questions about transparency, accountability and consumer protection.

In the statement, the Committee should address the following-

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(1) The specific factors that informed IRA to place Trident Insurance Company, KUSCCO, Mutual Assurance Limited and Corporate Insurance Company under statutory management and whether these firms were given adequate opportunity to remedy the concerns that had been raised, if any.

(2) Why IRA failed to make public concerns regarding the company's administration and operations at the time they first arose, thereby denying the public the ability to make informed choices when purchasing insurance policies.

(3) The measures IRA has put in place to protect policyholders following the regulatory action, including whether the National Police Service (NPS) has been instructed to allow for a grace period for the affected motorists to insure alternative covers.

(4) The reforms being considered to ensure future regulatory actions are transparent, timely and not prejudicial to policyholders, including whether IRA will publish concerns about any insurance company in future that may arise with similar issues.

Thank you.

[The Speaker (Hon. Kingi) left the Chair]

[The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji) in the Chair]

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Seki of Kajiado County, proceed.

POOR WORKING CONDITIONS AT THE BOMAS
OF KENYA CONSTRUCTION SITE

Sen. Seki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise pursuant to Standing Order No.53(1) to seek a statement from the Standing Committee of Labour and Social Welfare on a matter of national concern regarding the working conditions of labourers at the ongoing construction site of the Bomas of Kenya. Concerns have been raised by workers and members of the public regarding safety standards, welfare of worker and possible non-compliance with Occupation, Safety and Health Act (OSHA) regulations at the site.

In the statement, the Committee should address the following-

(1) The levels of compliance with occupation, safety and health standards at the construction site, including adherence to the provisions of OSHA.

(2) The inadequacy of workers' protection, including provisions of personal protection equipment and effective of safety measures, including fast and emergency responses mechanisms.

(3) Whether any workplace incidents have been reported since commencement of the construction works, outlining the measures taken in response.

(4) The levels of oversight and compliance monitoring, including inspections and audits conducted by the contractor and relevant Government agencies and provide report thereof.

(5) Employment terms and enforcements, including construction status, compliance on wages and social protections and measures taken by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to ensure compliance and safeguarding workers' welfare.

Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker.

ESCALATING HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT
IN LARIAK FOREST, LAIKIPIA COUNTY

Sen. Kinyua: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir. This is a request for a statement on human-wildlife conflict and failed interventions at Lariak Forest in Laikipia County. I rise to Standing Order No.53(1) to seek a statement from the Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources on a matter of countywide concern regarding the escalating human wildlife conflict in Lariak Forest in Laikipia County.

Lariak Forest, which covers approximately 7,500 hectares, serves as a breeding ground and habitat for about 57 elephants. However, the limited water supply within the forest especially during dry seasons has forced these animals to invade surrounding villages in search of water and food, resulting in devastating losses to farmers and posing risks to human life. The affected areas include Gatitu, Manjani, Karabaa, Kenyungo, Kabage, Mwireri, Leleshwa, Naibrom, Njorwa, Kapsigirio, Kinamba and Karandi villages with over 30,000 homesteads.

Horticulture farmers in particular have suffered repeated destruction of crops despite government intervention in 2022, including the proposal to fence the forest at a cost Kshs155,760,740. The measures undertaken have proven ineffective due to substandard fencing and failure to install water sources within the forest.

In the statement, the Committee should address the following-

(1) The plans in place to provide adequate water sources within Lariak Forest to reduce elephant migration into human settlements.

(2) Whether compensation will be provided to affected farmers and homesteads for the losses incurred.

(3) The reason for the ineffectiveness of the completed sections of the fence, including weak energisers, improperly installed earth rods and lack of striking triggers at posts.

(4) The reasons why the fencing project initiated in 2022 was left incomplete and why one section was handed over to Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) without community involvement, including the measures being taken to repair or reinforce the damaged section of the fence currently estimated at 45 per cent.

(5) Whether there are plans for convening a joint meeting between contractors, KWS, stakeholders and the community to agree on sustainable solutions to this conflict.

I thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Thank you, Senator. Sen. Joyce Korir, proceed.

DISCOVERY OF 14 BODIES AT MAKABURINI
CEMETERY, KERICHO COUNTY

Sen. Korir: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I rise to seek a statement on the discovery of 14 bodies buried without authorisation at Makaburini Cemetery in Kericho County.

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No.52(1), I rise to seek a statement from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations regarding the deeply disturbing discovery of 14 bodies buried without requisite permits at Makaburini Cemetery in Kericho County.

This matter raises grave concerns touching on public health, adherence to the rule of law and the dignity of human life as enshrined under Article 28 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. Reports indicate that the said bodies were interred under unclear and unlawful circumstances without proper documentation, burial permits or adherence to the procedures stipulated under the Public Health Act, Cap.242 and the other relevant statutes governing the handling and disposal of human remains.

The incident further points to the possible systemic failures and lapse in oversight among the relevant national and county government agencies, including law enforcement, health institutions and county authorities charged with management of public cemeteries. Of particular concern are allegations that some of the bodies may have been transported from undisclosed locations and appear signs of suggesting possible criminal activity, thereby necessitating thorough forensic investigation.

In light of the foresaid, I request the Chairperson to apprise this House on the following-

(1) The circumstances under which the 14 bodies were buried at Makaburini Cemetery without the requisite legal authorisation and documentation.

(2) The status and progress of investigation by the relevant authorities, including the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) and whether any individuals have been identified, apprehended or charged in connection with this incident.

(3) Whether the due process was followed in handling, transporting and disposal of the said bodies, including confirmation of their origin, identification and notification of the next of kin.

(4) The role, if any, played by the Kericho County Government and relevant health facilities in authorising or overseeing the said burials and whether any public officers have been implicated.

(5) The measures taken to conduct the forensic examination, establish the identities and cause of death of the deceased persons and ensure lawful exhumation and dignified reburial, where necessary.

(6) The steps being taken by the Government to safeguard compliance with the existing laws and regulations governing the management of human remains, including disposal of unclaimed bodies.

(7) The policy, administrative and legislative interventions being put in place to prevent recurrence of such incidents in any part of this country.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, this House and, indeed, the nation at large expects accountability, transparency and the upholding of human dignity even in death. It is, therefore, imperative that this matter be investigated comprehensively and expeditiously and those found culpable should be brought to justice.

I thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Hon. Senators, I have---

(Sen. Hamida and Sen. Korir stood in their places)

Sen. Hamida and Sen. Joyce Korir, take your seats.

(Interruption of Statements)

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATIONS FROM SINENDET AND MURRAY SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN BARINGO AND TAITA-TAVETA COUNTIES

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Hon. Senators, I have Communication from the Chair on visiting delegations. I would like to acknowledge the presence in the public gallery this afternoon, of visiting students and teachers from Sinendet Secondary School in Baringo County and Murray Girls Secondary School in Taita-Taveta County. The delegation comprises 133 students and 11 teachers from the two schools, who are undertaking an academic exposition.

On behalf of the Senate and my own behalf, I extend a warm welcome to the delegation and wish them a fruitful and enriching visit.

VISITING DELEGATION FROM THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KWALE

Hon. Senators, I would also like to acknowledge the presence in the Speaker's Gallery this afternoon, of a visiting delegation from the County Assembly of Kwale. The delegation comprises five procedural clerks, who are in the Senate for a benchmarking visit.

On behalf of the Senate and my own behalf, I extend a warm welcome to the delegation and wish them a fruitful and enriching visit.

Sen. Cherarkey, I will give you an opportunity to welcome the students from Baringo County.

(Hon. Senator spoke off record)

Is he here? Oh, my apologies.

Senator for Baringo County, you have one minute to welcome the school.

Sen. Kiprono Chemitei: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker for the opportunity you have given me to join you in welcoming the new learners and their teachers in the House, and also to welcome the delegation from Kwale. You are most highly welcome in this House. I wish you all the best.

The students from Sinendet are my neighbouring school. I know them very well. They have travelled from far. They are the neighbouring school of Kisanana Boys High School, where I went for my secondary school education. Therefore, I know where they come from.

I take this opportunity to welcome them in the House and encourage them to work hard in their studies. In the near future, they might be hon. Members just like us here.

I wish them safe travels when they go back home. Say hello to your parents and fellow students.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Thank you, Senator.

Sen. Maanzo, you can welcome the students from Taita-Taveta because they are your neighbours.

Sen. Maanzo: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Senator for Taita-Taveta, Sen. Mwaruma, I welcome students from Taita-Taveta. I hope you are going to learn from the Senate. Definitely, in your examinations, there could be a question to do with Parliament. It is good that you do your level best to learn something in Nairobi. I wish you safe travels back home.

I thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Senator for Mombasa, I want to give you the opportunity to welcome the delegation from Kwale.

Sen. Faki: Asante, Bw. Spika wa Muda kwa kunipa fursa hii kukaribisha *delegation* kutoka Kwale katika Seneti.

Kwale, ambayo ni Kaunti 002, ni kaunti muhimu sana katika nchi yetu. Hivi karibuni kumekuwa na mjadala mkubwa kuhusiana na mambo ya madini katika eneo la Kwale. Ni katika Seneti hii ambapo tutahakikisha kwamba rasilimali za Kwale zinatumika kikamilifu.

Vile vile, watu wa Kwale wana madai mengi kwa Wizara ya Madini, Uchumi wa Bahari na Maswala ya Maji kuhusiana na ruzuku ambazo zilifaa kutoka wakati Tiomin Kenya Limited ilikuwa inachimba madini ya *titanium* katika kaunti hiyo.

Karibuni watu wa Kwale na mujihisi nyumbani. Ni masikitiko kwamba Seneta wenu ameondoka kwa sababu hahisi vizuri kwa kuwa ametoka safarini.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Hon. Senators, considering that we have a lot of statements that have been read and I am sure Senators want to make comments on them, I would like to rearrange the Order Paper just for one Order, so that we move to Order No.8, conclude with it, then go back to comments on Statements.

Clerk, please call the Order.

MOTION**ADOPTION OF REPORT ON PETITION ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
TO THE COUNTY GOVERNMENTS ACT (CAP.265)**

THAT, the Senate adopts the, Report of the Standing Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights on a Petition to the Senate by Hon. Isaiah Maina, a Member of the County Assembly (MCA) of Nandi County representing Ol'lessos Ward on proposed amendments to the County Governments Act (CAP.265), laid on the Table of the Senate on Wednesday, 11th March, 2026.

(Sen. Wakili Sigei on 19.03.2026)

(Resumption of debate interrupted on 19.03.2026)

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Hon. Senators, I will now put the question.

(Question put and agreed to)

Hon. Senators, we shall now resume making comments on the statements. Let us start with Sen. Sifuna.

(Resumption of Statements)

Sen. Sifuna: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, the statements that have been requested by Sen. Korir, Sen. Osotsi and Sen. Hamida are the clearest indication of how lost we are as a country. There is a big problem in this country and we need to address it.

Yesterday, there was a report that four people at a place called Manyatta Ginda in Saku Constituency in Marsabit were killed by bandits. Sen. Osotsi has told us that there are marauding gangs running around Vihiga and killing people.

We have had incidents of bodies being dumped in a mass grave in Kericho, but nobody can tell us what is going on in that particular area. At the same time, the Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration is telling us that he knows where everyone of us sleeps and who we sleep with. He said that he has focused his surveillance on us in the political class and that he can tell where Sifuna has slept and who he has slept with, but he cannot tell you, as the Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration, how somebody can sneak into a ward at Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH) and stab and murder a patient in bed. At the same time, I am asking myself; how can somebody who is supposed to be the patron of our public health facilities with all the attendant problems---

For instance, KNH, a national referral facility, has had cases of shortage of blood test reagents, medicines and patients' food at times. There are also recurrent problems of

failures of critical equipment, including Computed Tomography (CT) scan and dialysis machines. As I speak, the radiotherapy machine has been out of service for three months.

The person who is supposed to be the patron of KNH has run away and is now using the police to take over the Nairobi Hospital. He is telling us that he is the patron of a private hospital, and that leaves me asking myself many questions. How is it possible for a head of state or national Government to take over a private facility? The questions that have been raised by Sen. Hamida require serious answers. If you are telling us that you are the patron of all these important private businesses--- There were businesses like Nakumatt supermarkets that collapsed, but we never saw the police being sent to take over the affairs of Nakumatt.

In fact, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, with all these problems that we have listed, when is the last time you heard about the board of KNH being arrested and taken to court? The most annoying thing is that if you look at the membership of that board, those are old men, people with proper professional records and senior doctors in this country, who are arrested over the weekend. The President himself confirmed that he is the one who sent the police.

When President Ruto was campaigning, he told us that the era of use of state security agencies to intimidate and harass people would be a thing of the past. When he stands up and confirms that the *mambo ni matatu* philosophy in handling private disputes, we have a reason to worry, which is why we continue to urge that this country can never be about shiny things.

You are building us a railway line, which is ours any way, because it is our money; but you are arresting 80-year old doctors to take over a private facility *na yako imekushinda*. National referral hospitals such KNH and Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH) in Eldoret are in dire condition. When will the board of KNH ever be arrested for critical failures?

We have queues at KNH and people are sleeping on the floors because there are no wards, then you go and tell us that you are the patron of a private facility and, therefore, you are going to take over it. These are issues that point us to misplaced priorities and the fact that this Government has totally lost its way as bandits run around Marsabit and other counties.

Do you know that there are two police Land Cruisers that were sent to Narok Town to disrupt a political rally by elected Members of this House, including myself and Sen. Osotsi? As bandits run around the areas that I have mentioned, would you believe that if you pass outside Dari, which is Hon. Tuju's restaurant along Ngong Road, there are four police Land Cruisers permanently stationed there for the past one week? Hon. Murkomen, as a former Member of this House, we expect especially from the younger leadership, that we will demonstrate that we can run a country.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, what is happening in this country is unacceptable. We want all Kenyans to know that they should not be deceived by shiny things like railways and stadiums. We need to put in place a government that will put the safety and wellbeing of all individual Kenyans ahead of everything else.

I thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Hon. Senators, we are going to spend 20 minutes only on comments on the statements. I can see many names on the dashboard. I request Senators who will get a chance to speak to do so for not more than three minutes.

Proceed, Sen. Boni Khalwale.

Sen. (Dr.) Khwalwale: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir. The matter has been raised by Sen. Hamida, that Dr. Obwaka was arrested because of the good work that he is doing at Nairobi Hospital. We are very unhappy. He is our senior colleague. He was our consultant when we were interns and our lecturer.

Dr. Obwaka at 80 years plus has absolutely no reason to want to wish the collapse of Nairobi Hospital. When I heard about it, I went to Muliro Gardens in Kakamega, at 7.00 p.m. that evening. The place was deserted. I looked in the sky, looked at the sun and asked myself: "Is this the same garden where I stood and asked the people that we want to vote change?" It cannot be right that we arrest professionals. In fact, Dr. Obwaka, for your information, has no interest in the small money you see around. The guy succeeded financially a long time ago.

(Applause)

The Senator of Vihiga has raised an issue about the conduct of police. Under the police code of conduct, a police officer is supposed to act with integrity, honour and fairness. The same police officers, who are now doing collaboration with gangs and goons in Vihiga, because we border with Vihiga longest, are the same ones who come to Kakamega in the night using police Land Cruisers to collect soil of gold to go and do business.

They are the same ones who come and raid our villages when our elders and others are enjoying traditional beer. They harass them and take the alcohol to go and sell at their own joints, which they have done with some unscrupulous people. There must be order in the Police Service. Otherwise, I see them harassing my kid brother, Sen. Edwin Sifuna, who cannot even hurt a fly. He is very fluent in English, speaks very good Kiswahili, not to mention Kiluhya. Let him do his thing.

He is enjoying the freedom of choice, freedom of association, freedom of speech, for which his grandfather fought. His grandfather, Hon. Henry Pius Masinde Muliro, is among the ones who fought for this nation. You cannot deny his great-grandchild from enjoying the fruits of that struggle.

I am calling these people out.

Sen. Maanzo: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir. I would like to comment on Sen. Osotsi's Statement on the security situation in the country. At the top of that, where Meru borders with other counties, there has been cattle rustling and quite a number of people from that region have been attacked, killed and their animals driven away.

We know that cattle rustling is being prevented in some parts of this country and should be a thing of the past now. Some people do it as a matter of culture, but in the real sense, it is robbery with violence. We should see police action in those areas and make sure in the Senate, through this statement, that people in Kenya live safely. The most

important thing for the Government is to prevent and make sure that people's lives are not lost carelessly and that people are not injured by the system.

It is very annoying to see that happen while we purport to build roads. If quite a number of young people are kidnapped and killed, who are you building the railway for? If you are doing the housing project and people are dying very carelessly across the country, massively who are you doing those things for?

We expected floods, the weather forecast was there, and we know the drainage system is bad. As you drive innocently in Nairobi streets, you find yourself in a river, alone in a small car, and you end up being swept away. What are you building the houses for?

I think the sanctity of life must be given priority. Police should be retrained and called to order. The Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Security should get serious now. From Sen. Osotsi's County, Meru County, Makueni and many other places, people are being killed by gangs, who closely work with the police.

The most unfortunate thing is that any murder case you are investigating in the country, and I have two three cases in Makueni, sometimes the police work with the criminals. They arrest the wrong person and keep the murderer safe. Even when you give information where he is hiding, police go there and they report that he has escaped or they did not see anybody. So, then who will you prosecute?

The moment you leave a murderer loose, he is going to kill more and more people while the police collude and work with the criminals.

I support.

Sen. Abass: Thank you, hon. Temporary Speaker. I want to contribute on the Statement by the Senator of Baringo, on the flood situation of Lake Baringo and the neighbouring lakes.

What is happening in Baringo of late is that lakes Baringo, Bogoria and Turkana are now rising. Most of the land that was grazing land for the communities has now been replaced by water. If this water is not attended to, it may move towards Nakuru and all these places. There is a major concern that the water levels in the lakes are rising. I think we need to divert this kind of water for irrigation and fodder production, so that the communities living in these places are able to use it.

Equally, I want to contribute to issues raised by Sen. Osotsi to do with security. The country of late is getting out of hand, and I think insecurity is increasing by the day. You hardly pass a day without somebody killed or people dying. Of course, death is normal, but the insecurity issue is now rising. It is high time that this country made its security issues of concern.

Sen. Omogeni: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, I rise to comment on the statement that was raised by Sen. Tabitha Mutinda on the placement of three insurance companies on statutory management. These are corporate insurance, Trident, and Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Co-operatives (KUSCCO).

The way we know it, it is the Government that licenses insurance companies to do business in this country. The same Government is supposed to monitor and ensure that insurance companies are solvent. It is the same Government that is supposed to ensure that the financial status of those companies is healthy, so that when Kenyans pay money

to get insurance covers, they should not lose their money. Who is going to refund money to all the Kenyans who paid money to those companies to get their covers? We are told that a statutory manager has been appointed to take over the running of those companies.

I did Insurance Law at university when I was a student, and the first obligation of a statutory manager is to protect policyholders. What I have heard from Sen. Tabitha Mutinda this afternoon is that the harassment of Kenyans has extended to innocent Kenyans who have purchased insurance policies from insurance companies that have been placed under statutory management by the Government.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, if you have suspended the board and management of an insurance company and have taken over the financial operations of that company, why should a policy cover issued by that company be declared invalid? Why then are police officers harassing innocent Kenyans who already have those policy documents on their vehicles? I wonder if the Government cannot protect innocent citizens, then who will?

I hope that the head of the Insurance Regulatory Authority (IRA) will appear before this House and tell Kenyans, when we buy insurance policies, what guarantee do we have that tomorrow they will not place other insurance companies under statutory management? Should we not be told which companies should not be allowed to run insurance business in this country?

I support this Statement. I hope that the Government will, in the interim, protect Kenyans who are taking out policies from these three insurance companies.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Cherarkey.

Sen. Cherarkey: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir. I will comment on a number of issues that colleagues have raised. One is the issue of bodies that have been buried. We do not know the number; it is either 13 or 14. We must be told.

I have seen documentation that disposal of unclaimed bodies is based on a legal procedure. We want to know what happened in Kericho. There are cemeteries in Nyamira. Why would they transport--- I hope, as Dr. Johansen Oduor does the post-mortem, we will be told what killed those Kenyans.

The Kenyatta National Hospital (KHN) has put a notice that there are 480 unclaimed bodies. Half of them are children. I believe Kenyans who die should be given dignity. I hope these unclaimed bodies will be accounted for and filed with the relevant court of law.

I have heard my colleague insinuate that the President appointed himself patron of Nairobi Hospital. This era of convenient lies before the House is unfortunate. What Sen. Sifuna is not telling the country is that past patrons of Nairobi Hospital were President Jomo Kenyatta, President Moi, President Uhuru Kenyatta, President Mwai Kibaki and now His Excellency William Ruto.

Those are statements you make in *Linda Tumbo* or *Linda Mwananchi* somewhere in the village. We should raise the debate. We cannot allow Sen. Sifuna to attack the President for convenience since he is not here. I saw Sen. Orengo has left - Governor Orengo is now following the President. We are aware that members of *Linda Mwananchi* have been calling us day and night, wanting to move to the Government.

Finally, on the issue of security, I want to assist Sen. Osotsi on the matter of security.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Cherarkey, we have a point of order. What is your point of order, Sen. Osotsi?

Sen. Cherarkey: Reserve my time.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Yes, stop his time. Yes, Sen. Osotsi. Give him the microphone.

Sen. Osotsi: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, I rise on Standing Order No.105 on statement of fact. Sen. Cherarkey happens to be my friend and neighbour. I know he is going to support my statement on insecurity in Vihiga County. Is he in order to imply that *Linda Mwananchi* are talking to them, when he knows very well that people like Sen. Edwin Sifuna, Hon. James Orengo and I, have no time for this Government because it has failed Kenyans?

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Osotsi, I did not quite understand your Standing Order.

Sen. Cherarkey: Can you allow me---

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Were you asking---

(Sen. Osotsi spoke off record)

Sen. Cherarkey: Mr. Temporary Speaker, that is a political statement. You can make it in Mbale or Luanda in a market. It does not meet the threshold of this House.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Proceed, Sen. Cherarkey.

Sen. Cherarkey: Mr. Temporary Speaker, finally, on the issue of security--- I am disappointed that these matters will be sorted out on Friday at the National Delegates Conference (NDC) of the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) party. I can see the party leader is here.

On the issue of security, I agree with Sen. Osotsi that the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) has become toothless. You remember my boys were beaten up in Nandi Hills Town. No one has been arrested to date. No investigations have been done. In Kimwani, my people were killed and no one has been arrested. The police have been the perpetrators.

Jukwaa la Usalama turned into *jukwaa la siasa*. We must audit *Jukwaa la Usalama*. They spent over Kshs600 million. We must be told the purpose of *Jukwaa la Usalama*, if we cannot address such issues as *boda boda* attacks.

Insecurity issues in Vihiga transcend many other counties, including Garissa County. I saw a video where a woman was attacked in Garissa Town because of lawlessness. Even here in Nairobi and in the coastal region, where Sen. Faki comes from, there was a big problem. In Meru County, the issue of banditry must be addressed once and for all. The Cabinet Secretary in charge must be taken to task, to tell the country what he is doing to improve security.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, with those many comments, I beg to support all the statements by my colleagues.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Hon. Senators, I am giving an opportunity to Sen. Agnes Kavindu. She has requested the Chair since she is not feeling too well and wanted to comment.

Proceed, Sen. Agnes.

Sen. Kavindu Muthama: Asante Bwana Spika wa Muda. Kwanza kabla sijatoa maoni yangu kuhusu taarifa zote zilizoletwa, nashukuru Seneti, kuanzia Spika na Maseneta wote. Wakati nilipoteza mtoto wangu, mlikuja kwa wingi kunifariji na hadi leo mnaendelea kunifariji na kunishikilia. Asanteni sana. Mungu wa uzima awabariki nyote.

Kuhusu taarifa zilizoletwa hapa, napenda kujadili taarifa ya Sen. Joyce Korir. Watu waliozikwa Baringo, hatujui walitoka wapi na walipelekwa na nani. Pengine ni ule mchezo ulikuwa unachezwa na Mackenzie ambapo watu walikuwa wanazikwa kwa *mass graves*.

Ni lazima jambo hili lichunguzwe kwa undani. Isiwe watu wanauliwa na kupelekwa mahali watazika kwa urahisi. Ni lazima Wizara ya Mambo ya Ndani na Utawala wa Kitaifa ichunguze ni kina nani wanauwa watu na kuwazika kwa *mass graves*. Watu wetu lazima watunzwe na kulindwa,

Pili, suala la ukosefu wa usalama liko kila mahali Kenya. Ukienda Machakos, utapata kuna ukosefu wa usalama. Kaunti zote 47 zina ukosefu wa usalama. Ni lazima Waziri wa Mambo ya Ndani na Utawala wa Kitaifa afanye kazi inavyostahili kulinda wananchi wa Kenya. Serikali ya Kenya lazima ilinde mwananchi wa Kenya.

Kwa suala la *insurance*, wale watu walipochukua *insurance* hiyo, hawakujua kama watapata matatizo na kufunga biashara. Wao walichukua *insurance*. Kwa hivyo, ilimradi walichukua *insurance*, hawastahili kuulizwa na polisi. Wanafaa kungoja mpaka malipo waliyolipia *insurance* yaishe ili waulizwe.

Asante sana Spika wa Muda kwa kunipa nafasi hii.

Sen. Kinyua: Asante Bw. Spika wa Muda kwa kunipa fursa hii. Nataka kuchangia kauli iliyoletwa na Sen. Tabitha Mutinda kuhusu kampuni za bima. Inawezekana kuwekwa katika usimamizi kisheria. Lakini, kinachovunja moyo ni mtu ambaye tayari alikuwa amelipa bima yake na hakuwa na uhusiano wowote kwa sababu Serikali ilipaswa kulinda mwananchi.

Sasa imekuwa ni njia ya polisi kupata hongo. Wanasimamisha watu wakiwa kwa barabara na kuwaambia hawana bima ilhali walikuwa wamekata na kulipa bima. Kazi ya Serikali ni kulinda wananchi. Kwa hivyo, wale wanaohusika wanapaswa kualikwa na Kamati husika waweze kujibu maswali kwa niaba ya Wakenya.

Nimepigiwa na wananchi wengi wakiwa wamesimamishwa barabarani wakiambiwa hawana bima ilhali wako nayo, haswa watu waliokuwa wamelipa bima kwa Kampuni ya Trident kwa bei nafuu. Mimi ninakisia pengine kuna hali ya kutaka kuwadhulumu wafanyibiashara.

Vile vile, tumekuwa tukiambiwa mambo ya Jukwaa la Usalama. Lakini, katika hilo jukwaa, mambo yanaongewa na inakuwa ni jukwaa tu. Hakuna mambo yanatendeka pale, kama vile Sen. Osotsi alisema. Ukitembea Laikipia, watu wanaishi katika hali ya sintofahamu. Wanashambuliwa, wanyama wao kuibiwa na vile vile watu kuuawa.

Kila wakati, unaskia Waziri wa Usalama ako katika gatuzi hili au lile kwa Jukwaa la Usalama, ilhali Wakenya wanaendelea kupoteza maisha yao. Ukienda Meru, wanauawa kama kuku na tuko na Serikali ambayo kazi kubwa ni kulinda mali na maisha ya mwananchi.

Juzi, nilitembea mahali panaitwa Mutanga. Wakati kunanyesha, unapata wezi wameingia katika boma la mtu na kuchukua mifugo wake na kuwachinja kando ya nyumba. Ukiuliza Waziri wa Usalama anakuambia anajua unalala wapi, vipi, kitanda kiko namna gani na utaamka saa ngapi. Anajua hata unavyoota.

Kwa hivyo, tunataka Waziri awache mambo ya vile watu wanaota na vile wanalala na ashughulikie mambo ya usalama, kwa sababu hilo ndilo jukumu lake kubwa, sio kuwa kwa jukwaa za usalama na hakuna matokeo yote yote inapatikana. Alivalie njuga swala la usalama.

Vile vile, nimemsikia Sen. Cherarkey akisema kwamba marais wamekuwa walinzi wa Hospitali ya Nairobi. Lakini, hakuna hata mmoja alitaka kuwashika watu wa bodi. Lakini Rais wa Kenya amesema peupe kimasomaso yeye ndiye alitoa amri madaktari washikwe na kutiwa ndani. Baada ya kuskia cheche za moto, amesema ya kwamba hizo kesi zao ziondolewe. Hatutachoka kuweka cheche za moto---

Sen. Sifuna: On a point of information.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Go ahead, Sen. Sifuna.

Sen. Sifuna: Nilikuwa nataka nimjulishe Seneta wa Laikipia kwamba mbali na kuwa Rais wa kwanza kuingilia utendakazi wa bodi ya Nairobi Hospital na kujaribu kuinyakua, hii ni mara ya kwanza kwamba kesi hizo zilipoondolewa umemskia akisema hivyo. Hiyo pia ni kuhujumu uhuru wa taasisi zingine haswa Mkuregenzi wa Mashtaka. Tulikuwa tumeambiwa wakati wa *campaign* kwamba hizi ofisi za Mkurugenzi wa Mashtaka na wakuu wa polisi hawatatumiwa kuhujumu watu ambao hawana maono sawa na yule ambaye yuko mamlakani.

Kwa hivyo, mbali na kujaribu kunyakua hospitali hii, kwa mara ya kwanza akiwa kama *patron*, pia anahujumu uhuru wa asasi ambazo zimewekwa pale, ili kuweza kuendeleza mashtaka. Seneta alikuwa amesahau hiyo.

Sen. Kinyua: Asante Bw. Spika wa Muda, huyo ni mwanasheria na lazima askizwe kwa sababu ako katika kiwango cha juu cha sheria. Ninakubaliana naye mia kwa mia.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Proceed, Sen. Osotsi.

An. Hon. Senator: Sen. Osotsi has spoken.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): We are supposed to remove him from the dashboard.

Proceed, Sen. Faki.

Sen. Faki: Asante Bw. Spika wa Muda kwa kunipa fursa hii niweze kuchangia maombi ya kauli kutoka kwa Sen. Kibwana na Sen. Tabitha Mutinda.

Nikianza na Sen. Tabitha Mutinda, ni masikitiko kwamba kwa sasa, zaidi ya kampuni nane za bima zimeweza kusimamisha kazi, hizi ni, United Insurance, Blueshield, Xplico, Concord, Resolution, Corporate, KUSCCO na Trident.

Tano kati ya hizi zimekufa kabisa. Mpaka sasa baadhi ya watu waliokuwa na bima zao wanaendelea kulipa madeni---

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Senators, if you are going to speak, come to the Dispatch.

Sen. Omogeni: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, I am rising on a point of order. There is a Senator on the Floor of the House, barefoot, contrary to our Standing Orders. Rules are very clear.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Which Senator?

Sen. Omogeni: Sen. Karen Nyamu.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Karen, if that is the case, you are out of order. I just saw her go back to the chair.

Sen. Korir: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir. The House looks so disorderly; everyone is speaking, yet there is a Senator on the Floor. Can they stick to the rules of this House and be orderly?

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Joyce Korir, can I remind you that I am the Chair and in charge of keeping this House in order? I do not see that disorder---

(Loud consultations)

Sen. Karen Nyamu, let this be the last reminder that you are not to be walking around the Chambers bare foot.

Sen. Faki, please proceed.

Sen. Faki: Bw. Spika wa Muda, hapo awali nilikuwa nasema kwamba kampuni zote za bima ambazo zinawekwa katika usimamizi wa sheria hakuna hata moja ambayo imeweza kurudi na kuanza biashara ya kawaida.

Kwa hivyo, Kamati inapoangalia swala hili, lazima iulize maswali taasisi ya Insurance Regulatory Authority (IRA), ni kwa nini kampuni ambazo zinawekwa katika uangelizi wake zinakufa moja kwa moja?

Mara nyingi, wanaopata shida ni wale ambao walikuwa wamechukuwa bima kampuni hizi. Hii ni kwa sababu tayari mali yao inashikwa na kuuzwa. Pia, mawakili wanapoteza pesa nyingi kutokana na usimamizi huo wa makampuni.

Ripoti ya pili ni ile ya ukosefu wa usalama nchini. Kwa muda sasa wa wiki moja, tumepoteza watu wawili katika Kaunti ya Mombasa. Kuna bibi mmoja aliuwawa juzi katika maeneo ya Likoni na wiki iliyopita, kuna msichana wa Grade 10, wa miaka kumi, ambaye alibakwa na akauwawa katika eneo la Kisauni.

Huu ukosefu wa usalama unaendelea kusambaratisha familia nyingi katika nchi yetu. Kule St. Luke's, mwanamke mwenye mimba aliuwawa baada ya kunajisiwa na genge la majambazi. Huyu msichana wa miaka kumi pia alinajisiwa na akauwawa na genge la majambazi.

Ukosefu wa usalama ni tatizo kubwa katika nchi yetu ya Kenya. Fedha zinazotolewa kwa maswala ya usalama ni karibu asilmia 25 ya bageti ya serikali hii, lakini hatuoni usalama ukiimarika kutokana na serikali hii iliyo mamlakani.

(Sen. Cherarkey spoke off the record.)

Maswala ya Broad-Based yako katika upande wa Kenya Kwanza peke yake. Wale wataalam ambao waliletwa katika Serikali Jumuishi, wako katika nyancha nyingine kama

vile nyancha ya fedha. Ukiangalia, masoko ya fedha yameimarika hivi sasa; ukiangalia uchumi samawati pia unaendelea kuimarika. Ukiangalia umeme umepelekwa mashinani. Kwa hivyo, tatizo hili la ukosefu wa usalama liko katika upande wa Kenya kwanza.

Sen. Cherarkey: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir.

Sen. Faki: Asante Bw. Spika wa Muda.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Esther Okenyuri, you have the Floor.

Sen. Okenyuri: Asante sana, Bw. Spika wa Muda kwa nafasi hii. Ningependa kuunga mkono kauli ya Seneta wa Baringo nikisema kuwa, swala hili--- Hata ningependa kumuomba ya kwamba, pengine lingekuja katika Kanuni za Kudumu Nambari 53(1) kwa sababu ni swala kubwa mno.

Jambo la mafuriko na watu kufa njaa katika Kaunti ya Baringo sio jambo ambalo limekuja katika jumba hili mara ya kwanza. Kwa kipindi kirefu, mambo haya yamekuwa yakijadiliwa lakini juhudi ambazo zinawekwa pale ni juhudi za muda mfupi.

Ninadhani kuwa kamati ambayo inashughulikia jambo hili ingeiweka kwa mjibu wa Kanuni za Kudumu Nambari 53(1). Ingewasaidia wakaazi wa Baringo sana lakini kwa sababu iko kwa mujibu wa Kanuni za Kudumu Nambari 52(1), inatuzuia kuzungumza zaidi. Hata hivyo ninamuunga mkono Seneta huyo wa Baringo kama viongozi shupavu, viongozi wachanga ambao wanazidi kuwakilisha wananchi wa sehemu mbalimbali hapa Bungeni.

Nikimalizia, nizungumzie kauli ya Commissioner, Sen. Joyce Korir ambaye anazungumzia miili ambayo imepatikana pale Kericho. Ninaomba kuwa kamati ambayo itaangalia swala hili iweze kuangalia kwa makini, kwa sababu ikumbukukwe kuwa tulikuwa tena na swala hili sehemu za Shakahola. Hadi sasa sijaweza kujua kama tulitambua miili ile ilikuwa na akina nani. Imebaki tu kuwa hadithi.

Ni ombi langu kuwa swala la Kericho lisiwe kama lile la Shakahola lilivyomalizika ili tujue ukweli wa mambo na isiwe kupoteza maisha ni rahisi tu hapa Kenya. Hili ni swala kubwa kabisa na lisizungumziwe tu hapa na iwe eti kamati itaundwa na swala hilo limalizike.

Kwa hayo machache, asante sana, Bw. Spika wa Muda.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Andrew Okiya Omtatah.

Sen. Okiya Omtatah: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir. I would like to contribute to the statement by the PSC Commissioner, Sen. Joyce Korir, on the question of these bodies, which were dumped in Kericho.

The other day I visited my hospital next to my home in Busia, called Kocholia Level 4 Hospital. I visited the morgue. I was shocked to find that they have over 20 bodies that are unknown and have been lying there for years; they are not in the fridge. They have been taken out and stuck in a room like dried fish. So, they just keep on pouring on formalin and whatever because the fridges are not working and the morgue works in what they call manual mode. So, the question of undisposed bodies and all disposal of bodies in this country requires serious attention.

As regards the Statement on the Nairobi Hospital, I would like to inform the House that I am the one who stopped the AGM, which had been engineered to stage a coup in the hospital. I went to court and I obtained orders stopping it.

The Nairobi Hospital is not a private hospital *per se*. Nairobi Hospital, in its Articles and Memorandum of Association has the President as the patron. If you go to Section 5 of its Memorandum of Association, you cannot alter the articles of that hospital without the input of the Attorney-General.

Number three, the Nairobi Hospital is not a private hospital; it is not owned by anybody. It is something almost like a trusteeship through the association. The issues in the Nairobi Hospital need a lot of attention because the public has invested a lot in that hospital.

If you look at the letters of grant that were given in 1952, the Nairobi Hospital sits on trust land. It does not own that land; it only nominally occupies it. If it were to move out and if the Government wanted to take back that land, it would only be compensated for the buildings.

Number two, Nairobi Hospital gets a lot of grants from philanthropic bodies. Even Kenya's United Nations office here in Gigiri is there courtesy of Nairobi Hospital because that is a treatment centre. The VVIP medical facility in this country is at the Nairobi Hospital, where the President is treated, where President Moi died, President Kibaki died and even when Hon. Tundu Lissu was---

Sen. Cherarkey: On a point of information, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir.

Sen. Okiya Omtatah: May I just have a minute, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir?

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Senator, I will give you a minute. Do you want to be informed by Sen. Cherarkey? He is making a lot of requests. Would you like to be informed, or should I tell him---

Sen. Okiya Omtatah: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, then stop the clock from running.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Stop the clock.

Sen. Okiya Omtatah: Sen. Cherarkey can come and take all my time.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Okay, stop the clock, but Senator, you only have one minute remaining.

Sen. Cherarkey: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, just on a point of information. I want to thank Sen. Okiya Omtatah for that honesty and truthfulness. That is the integrity we need from leaders, not conveniently misleading us.

I wanted to inform him that the public has invested so much that even the medical cover under the Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC), the Nairobi Hospital, is listed as providing medical cover for these Members of Parliament. Therefore, we have a lot of interest in the Nairobi Hospital not as a country, but even the entire leadership who are served by the Nairobi Hospital and others that have been listed by the PSC. Nairobi Hospital is not only listed as the hospital to serve Members of Parliament, but also the staff of Parliament.

So, thank you, Sen. Okiyah Omtatah. I can see your journey is getting very interesting by the day.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Okiya Omtatah, you may proceed.

Sen. Okiya Omtata: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, having underscored the public character of the Nairobi Hospital, it is in the interest of all of us to make sure it is given

the attention it requires, but that is not an excuse for cowboys to begin raiding the hospital under all manner of pretexts.

The reason I went to court and got court orders was that cowboys were hovering. In fact, they were not cowboys; they were vultures hovering to go for the carcass. So, I got those court orders and they are in force and we are fighting the issue out.

I would request that whichever committee is going to consider that matter to consult me. I am an authority when it comes to the Nairobi Hospital, and by the way, I would like to encourage you to become a member; you only pay Kshs15,000; Kshs10,000 for membership, then Kshs5,000 annual fee. Let us put our heads together and make sure we save this hospital, which is a centre of excellence in this country, so that it can continue serving us. Even right now, if you are going to a---

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Veronica Maina, you may proceed.

Sen. Veronica Maina: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, for this opportunity. I rise to join my colleagues to support the Statement brought to the Floor of this House by Sen. Hamida Kibwana on Nairobi Hospital. I want to support what Sen. Okiya Omtatah has just described right now.

First of all, Nairobi Hospital is registered as a non-profit organization. It is owned by Kenya Hospital Association and when he is encouraging colleagues to become members of Kenya Hospital Association, the subscription would be to that organization known as Kenya Hospital Association.

We must guard this House by ensuring that our colleagues do not display any form of ignorance to the public, especially regarding a critical institution like Nairobi Hospital, which treats close to 290,000 patients annually; a center of excellence that supports not only Kenya, but also East and Central Africa. You will find a lot of citizens from within this region are consulting Nairobi Hospital for healthcare and medical services.

It is, therefore, very sad to watch this board having infractions and internal disputes, which have been so protracted that they have even gone to court. Indeed, and to the commendation of doctors - for a very long time doctors who serve as missionaries, because being a doctor is like a calling from above - we have not seen doctors being too politicized. This is the season when we have seen the medical profession changing.

The President is the patron of Nairobi Hospital, and as a patron, he has different responsibilities. First of all, he has the responsibility of a neutral arbiter. He can intervene when there are wrangles and cause the people who are not listening to one another to sit down and agree. It is a big shame and I want to call the boards that have been serving at Nairobi Hospital to order, because the wrangles we have experienced had reached a point where some patients could not have hot showers or even healthcare in Nairobi Hospital. It is an embarrassment to the whole nation and I would be sad if the patron would watch Nairobi Hospital going down.

The opposite of the President not getting interested in that healthcare would be bad. This is because this is the healthcare taking care of even the Members of this House. I want to remind this House of the Omnicare, this clinic which is body by design, the one

where Lucy Wambui died undertaking a plastic surgery. That clinic was unknown and it was illegal, yet the Government was called to order. The ministry was called to---

*(Sen. Veronica Maina's microphone was switched off
and she continued to speak off record)*

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Senator, we are running out of time. Just conclude.

Sen. Veronica Maina: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. It means that in healthcare sector, even an individual who pretends or who assumes the role of a doctor, the ministry and the government is called to order. How much more should we not call the Ministry of Health to order on the question of Nairobi Hospital? We do not expect Aga Khan Hospital or Nairobi Hospital to collapse, and if something is going off in any of the health institutions which is licensed by Ministry of Health, the Cabinet Secretary and ultimately the President will answer, even on illegal clinics.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Thank you. Sen. Madzayo, please proceed.

The Senate Minority Leader (Sen. Madzayo): Bw. Spika wa Muda, kwanza, nampa kongole Seneta chipukizi kutoka eneo la Baringo, ndugu yangu Sen. Kiprono, kwa taarifa ambayo amelea ndani ya Bunge la Seneti kuhusu vile mvua inafanya madhara ambayo hayafai kuweko ama yanakuja kwa mipangilio hiyo ya mwenyezi Mungu.

Tunaelewa ni siku gani siku za mvua ndani ya hii nchi na siku ambazo sio za mvua. Utaona kwamba ni jambo la aibu ikiwa kila mwaka nenda, mwaka rudi, mvua ikinyesha, ni lazima nambari kubwa ya Wakenya watapotea ama watapoteza mali yao na maisha kwa sababu ya mvua. Hili ni jambo la aibu na la kusikitisha.

Ni lazima Serikali yetu iwe na mipangilio mwafaka kuona kwamba ikiwa mvua itakuja, basi haitaleti madhara ya kuua binadamu ama kuharibu mali ama mifugo yao. Ni kama hatujajitayarisha kwa mambo kama haya na ni mwaka nenda mwaka rudi tokea tupate uhuru mpaka leo. Ikifika wakati wa mvua, tunapoteza. Hili ni jukumu ambalo Serikali ni lazima izingatie kuona kwamba watu hawapotezi maisha yao.

Pili ni upande wa usalama katika ile Statement ya Sen. Osotsi. Ni jambo la kusikitisha kwamba boda boda wanaweza kupoteza maisha yao. Wafanyibiashara wanapoteza maisha yao kwa sababu biashara inaanza kutoka asubuhi hadi jioni ama usiku. Watu wanakufa kwa sababu hakuna usalama. Usalama ni kwamba maisha yako juu ya kila mwananchi. Serikali lazima iangalie maisha ya kila Mkenya. Hilo ni jukumu ambalo Serikali lazima lifuate katika hizi kamati ambazo zitapewa hizi kazi.

Mwisho, vile watu ambao saa ingine wakiwa wamekufa wengi namna hiyo wanazikwa katika *mass grave*. Sisi kama watu wa Kaunti ya Kilifi---

(The light turned red)

The Senate Minority Leader (Sen. Madzayo): Bw. Spika wa Muda, ningomba muda wa dakika moja.

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The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Seneta, wakati wako umeisha.

(Sen. Madzayo spoke off record)

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Nikiongezea kila mtu muda hatutamaliza hizi *Statements*. Muongezee dakika moja.

The Senate Minority Leader (Sen. Madzayo): Asante. Kwa kumalizia, nilikuwa nasema donda sugu la watu kuzikwa limekuwa kama sasa mtego katika Kenya. Watu wanazikwa katika kaburi wakiwa kwa vikundi. Haifai kuwa namna hivyo. Katika Shakahola, watu walikuwa wanafukuliwa, miili yao inatolewa. Hivi sasa imewekwa mbele ya hospitali. Mpaka lini tumemwambia Waziri wa mambo ya ndani ya usalama anayehusika? Anajigamba akijipiga kifua akisema anajua pahali watu wamelala, wanaishi namna gani wakiwa na mabibi zao kwa *bedroom* kwa kuwa ako na *intelligence*. Lakini tunamwambia kuwa ukijua kitu kama hicho, wale watu ambao wamelala pale Malindi Hospital watolewe ndani ya ile *container* waende wakazikwe. Ni jukumu lake kuchukua hatua kama hiyo.

Asante.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Senator for Baringo County, please proceed.

Sen. Kiprono Chemitei: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to make a comment on the Statement made by the distinguished Senator from Laikipia, who is my immediate neighbour, about human and wildlife conflicts. It is not a matter of Laikipia alone; it should be a matter of concern for the neighboring counties such as Samburu, Baringo, and Nakuru.

Laikipia County is among the counties we depend on as Baringo in production of food security and they have been disturbed by the wild conflicts for a long time. It is high time the departments of Tourism take action. We demand answers from the Tourism Fund and management for their wildlife to stop destructing our farms. We have lost a lot of lives through the destruction by the animals.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Wambua, please proceed.

Sen. Wambua: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, two quick comments. First is on the Statement by Sen. Kibwana on the matter of Nairobi Hospital. I have listened to my colleagues and I must say this and say it as plainly as it can get. It is true that the President of the Republic of Kenya, by virtue of the office that he holds, is a patron of Nairobi Hospital and that has been the tradition since the hospital was established. I have never heard of another President involved in the manner that the current President has gotten involved on the issues of Nairobi Hospital.

I thought the patron for a facility as important as Nairobi Hospital would arbitrate in cases of disputes, such that if there is a problem with the board, the patron is expected, in good order, to call members of the board, arbitrate and find a way out of the crisis, not to take sides and order the arrest of a section of the board members.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, when I hear Sen. Cherarkey talk about the interest at Nairobi Hospital and the cover that we have as Members of Parliament at Nairobi

Hospital, I wonder, what is in Nairobi Hospital that is of greater public interest than what is happening at the Kenyatta National Hospital?

Kenyatta National Hospital is a fully public-funded facility. We saw the other day, cancer patients demonstrating, crying out to the President and the Cabinet Secretary for Health, saying that the only machine that is used for oncology has broken down for the last three weeks. This has nothing to do with whatever side any one of us belongs to. This is about the country. We have had presidents before President Ruto, we shall have others after him and all of them, as has been the case---

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Wambua, we will stop your time. Allow for a point of order to be raised.

What is your point of order, Sen. Cherarkey?

Sen. Cherarkey: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, I rise under Standing Order 105 and Articles 94 and 96 of the Constitution to inquire whether it is in order for the distinguished Senator of Kitui County to want the President to do oversight of Kenyatta National Hospital, yet it is this Parliament which appropriates budget? So, if there are problems in Kenyatta National Hospital, it is Parliament which appropriates, not the President. Similarly, if there are problems of oversight and running of governance of Kenyatta National Hospital and other public institutions, it is this House which does, not the President.

Finally, if Sen. Wambua wants to discuss the President, he should bring a substantive Motion. We will deal with him. He should stop throwing snippets at the President. We will not allow him to create such a picture. I know he wants to score political *bonga points* in Kitui County for the gubernatorial position, but this is not the forum.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Wambua, and please conclude.

Sen. Wambua: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, I thought you would start by protecting me from the serious allegations made against me by Sen. Cherarkey, that I am scoring *bonga points*. I do not know what that means.

In this House, under Article 117, we are assured of freedom to debate freely and express opinion and ideas. However, I will let that rest. If the decision of the House is that the President can remain blind to what is happening at the Kenyatta National Hospital, that is fine. However, the truth of the matter is there is a serious problem with the biggest referral facility in East and Central Africa called Kenyatta National Hospital--

(Loud consultations)

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Veronica, what is your point of order?

Sen. Veronica Maina: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, is it in order for Sen. Wambua to introduce the issue of Kenyatta Hospital while in actual fact the Statement is on Nairobi Hospital? Kenyatta National Hospital is as equally important as Nairobi Hospital, but the Statement on the Floor of this House is in regard to the management and

the conflict in Nairobi Hospital. Is it in order for him to politicize and bring other aspects, just to shield away and shadow out Nairobi Hospital?

Sen. Wambua: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, Sen. Veronica had the Floor. If she thought Kenyatta National Hospital was important, she would have said as much, but she did not. Instead, she spoke about Nairobi Hospital. I use my time as I please. It is my time.

So, it is okay that Members of the Senate, on the Government side have decided that the President can be blind to the problems at Kenyatta National Hospital---

(Sen. Wambua's microphone was switched off)

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Mo Fire, please proceed.

Sen. Gataya Mo Fire: Asante Mstahiki Spika wa Muda. Ningependa kuchangia Taarifa ya mwenzangu ambaye amedhihirisha kwamba ako na mtirirko na ufasaha wa mawazo kuhusu janga ambalo linakumba Gatuzi la Baringo, na kusababisha vifo na upotevu wa mifugo.

Haya ni mambo yanayoshuhudiwa katika nchi yetu. Hivi juzi, tumepoteza watu wengi sana hapa Mjini Nairobi kutokana na mafuriko. Serikali ina wataalamu ambao wanaweza kuangalia hali ya anga ilhali, mambo kama haya yamekuwa na sisi kwa muda mrefu sana.

Mhe. Spika wa Muda, mafuriko au ukame hapa nchini si mambo mageni. Kwa hivyo, ni vizuri ikiwa sisi viongozi au serikali tutaweka mikakati ya kutosha ili kuzuia majanga kama haya.

Vile vile, Mhe. Spika wa Muda, kuna pesa nyingi sana zinazotolewa kukabiliana na majanga kama haya, ila zinaishia kwa mifuko ya watu. Kwa hivyo, ni lazima tuwe waangalifu tuone kana kwamba hizo pesa zinazotolewa na Serikali na wengine kupambana na haya majanga zimetumika zinavyohitajika.

Kwa hivyo, hii Taarifa si tu ya Kaunti ya Baringo, ila ni ya Kitaifa kwa sababu kila mwaka tumekuwa na mashambulizi ya kila aina wakati wa mvua na wakati wa kiangazi. Itakuwa ni vizuri kama Serikali tihakikishe kuwa tumekumbana na haya majanga ili tumalize maswala ya matatizo tunapopata janga la mvua na kiangazi.

Nachangia na kuunga mkono Taarifa hii.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Olekina, please proceed.

Sen. Olekina: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir. I rise to make some brief comment on the Statement raised by Sen. John Kinyua in regards to the issue of Lariak Forest, which is approximately 7,500 hectares and a breeding ground for elephants.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, this is a very important Statement and all of us must pay attention to it. I am quite familiar with Lariak Forest, which is an indigenous forest that spans all the way from east of Maili Saba to Tandere.

The issues that the Senator is raising have to do with these elephants not being able to get water. So, they are encroaching into farmlands. This is a simple issue. There has been a lot of increase in terms of elephant populations. However, there is a lot of increase in human population. There is a big problem where we do not have a migration

corridor between Lariak and the nearby Rumuruti and Marmanet Forest. Those are the things that must be addressed.

The Senator has raised concern about Kenya Forest Service (KFS) not having done a good job in terms of fencing the forest. However, it becomes impossible when you fence a forest, but the human population is also increasing, reducing the size of the forest. In fact, this forest has reduced to nearly 50 per cent of its original size. So, we have to deal with the issues to figure out whether we relocate the elephants and allow human population to continue encroaching into the forest.

There is a lot of deforestation in this forest. KFS has done a fantastic work in trying to control. The big issue is not that the elephants are lacking water. The issue is that human population has fully encroached. When we deal with this issue of human-wildlife conflict, we have to be alive to the fact that without a corridor where elephants can easily migrate from the Lariat Forest to Marmanet Forest, it is going to be virtually impossible for Kenya Forest Service (KFS) to manage this situation.

The Committee should try and explore how the elephants can be moved from that forest to another area, or how a wildlife corridor can be created to ensure that these elephants easily migrate from Lariat to Marmanet---

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Olekina, would you like one more minute to conclude on your statement?

Sen. Olekina: Yes, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir. Thank you for being very generous.

In conclusion, that forest has shrunk tremendously because of human encroachment; there are a lot of human beings moving into the wildlife area. The Committee must see whether there is a possibility of creating a wildlife corridor. In this Nairobi Forest for example, the late John Keen surrendered almost 700 acres of his land to create a wildlife corridor for wildlife that migrates from part of Kitengela into this Nairobi forest. So, it is important that we balance that issue.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, those are the big issues and I think I have made my point clear: That, one, the issue is not lack of water for the elephants; it is lack of a migratory corridor and two, the forest has shrunk.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Sen. Joyce Korir---very well.

Sen. Eddie Gicheru, proceed.

Sen. Oketch Gicheru: I thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

I seek your attention to the Statement on the rising cases of insecurity in Vihiga County that is not dissimilar to many counties now. As you know, security is not devolved under the Fourth Schedule, and since security is not devolved, our counties are struggling with figuring out the security architecture. This is a serious crisis to the extent that I hope, the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations will actually look at this Statement in a larger perspective.

Today, I was with the Principal Secretary (PS), Raymond Omolo. He was visiting me in Migori County together with the President and I thought that this is not an issue that you raise in political forums, Sen. Cherarkey. This is an issue that I think, we can

handle as a Parliament because what is happening in Migori County is exactly what is happening in Vihiga County.

People have illegal crude weapons and illegal guns to the extent that they threaten *mama mbogas*, local traders and steal *boda bodas*. We have also had incidences where M-Pesa agents have been shot dead, such as the case that we saw in a place called Macalder and Osiri Matanda.

When the money was gone, the people in Macalder went to the police to demonstrate and ask whether the police can help trace these people. If the police were so used to these thugs around Migori County, then they wanted them all transferred. Unfortunately, we had a very bad exchange between the police and the population to the extent that the police station was burned.

I know my people in Macalder, Kanyarwanda and Osiri Matanda are not bad people and they want the police institution there. However, when the police cannot respond to their plight of people being killed by these illegal gun owners, it brings bad confrontation.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, it is even worse now because, after this confrontation where the police station was burnt, some more police officers were sent there. The police are now harassing the entire community, even those who were not involved in this---

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Add him one more minute.

Sen. Oketch Gicheru: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, they are harassing everybody in Mikei and down in Nyakweri, even those who had nothing to do with the problem that was in Nyatike. Therefore, I request the Committee to also look into the problem of insecurity in Migori.

Most importantly, harmonise the problem in Migori between the people and the police right now, so that the policemen can tone down on harassing innocent people. They should instead deal with the crooked people who might have illegal guns or crude weapons and are doing bad things. The burning of the police station was not in bad faith; it was a confrontation that happened because of lack of insecurity in that area. It is important that the General Service Unit (GSU) in Macalder tones down.

I hope that the Committee will critically look into the issue of Vihiga County as well as the issue of Migori County.

I thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): Thank you, Hon. Senators. We have come to the conclusion of making comments on the Statements.

Hon. Senators, I am going to take this opportunity to slightly arrange the Order Paper. We are going to defer Order Nos.9 all the way to Order No.21, and then we move to Order No. 22.

BILL*Second Reading*THE CULTURE BILL (NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY BILLS NO.12 OF 2024)*(Sen. Cheruiyot on 11.2.2026)**(Resumption of debate interrupted on 10.3.2026)**(Bill deferred)***BILL***Second Reading*THE PUBLIC AUDIT (AMENDMENT) BILL
(NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO.4 OF 2024)*(Sen. Cheruiyot on 10.3.2026)**(Resumption of debate interrupted on 18.3.2026 – Afternoon Sitting)**(Bill deferred)***BILL***Second Reading*THE HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.12 OF 2025)*(Sen. Omogeni on 17.3.2026)**(Resumption of debate interrupted on 18.3.2026 – Afternoon Sitting)**(Bill deferred)***COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**THE NUTS AND OIL CROPS DEVELOPMENT BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.47 OF 2023)

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(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE HERITAGE AND MUSEUMS BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.8 OF 2023)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.10 OF 2024)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE COUNTY HALL OF FAME BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.18 OF 2023)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE PUBLIC FUNDRAISING APPEALS BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.36 OF 2024)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE ENVIRONMENT LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.23 OF 2024)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE SPORTS (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.45 OF 2024)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE KENYA NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT BILL
(NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO.72 OF 2023)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE SEEDS AND PLANT VARIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.4 OF 2025)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE COUNTY OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.3 OF 2024)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

Clerk, call the next Order.

MOTION

INCLUSION OF TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE
STUDENTS IN HELB FUNDING MODEL

AWARE THAT, the Constitution of Kenya under Article 43(1) (f) guarantees every citizen the right to education, and Article 53 (1) (b) provides that basic education is free and compulsory;

FURTHER AWARE THAT, the government of Kenya launched the New Education Funding (NHEF) model in 2023, primarily targeting University and Tertiary and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) students, leaving a significant gap in the financial support for students in Diploma and Certificate Teacher Training Colleges (TTCs);

CONCERNED THAT, students enrolled in Public Teacher Training Colleges are discriminated against and not expressly and fully provided for under the prevailing higher education financing framework, thereby limiting or excluding their access to structured government support for tuition and accommodation;

COGNIZANT THAT, the transition to the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) requires a highly skilled teaching workforce, and that the financial burden on teacher trainees, many of whom come from

marginalized backgrounds, threatens the sustainability of the teacher supply chain;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate urges the Ministry of Education, in conjunction with the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) and the Universities Fund (UF) to:-

i) Formally integrate Teacher Training College students into the New Funding Model to ensure equity, quality and inclusivity in the education sector; and

ii) Develops regulations and guidelines to define the eligibility criteria for Teacher Training College students covering tuition and reasonable accommodation and upkeep costs.

(Sen. Joe Nyutu on 19.3.2026)

(Resumption of debate interrupted on 19.3.2026)

Hon. Senators, we are going to resume debate on this matter. Sen. Joe Nyutu had some time left, but he is not in the House. I will go straight to Sen. Eddie Oketch.

(Sen. Oketch Gicheru spoke off record)

You are the only one on the screen and I have to follow the screen.

(Sen. Cherarkey spoke off record)

Sen. Cherarkey, proceed.

Sen. Cherarkey: Mr. Temporary Speaker, sir, as I rise to support this Motion, these gadgets are yet to be functional. It is almost two months and they are not interfaced.

(An hon. Senator spoke off record)

Yes, that is why I am saying this. In fact, there was an issue of interface.

(Sen. Oketch Gicheru spoke off record)

Thank you, Sen. Eddy.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, is there a problem?

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji): No, you can proceed. Just know that you have 15 minutes; every other Speaker will have 15 minutes too.

Sen. Cherarkey: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just for the convenience of the House, we need the Secretariat and also Commissioner Joyce to note that the gadgets that were put in this Senate are yet to be functional. They are inconveniencing Members of the Senate

in its functionality. It is hard to access some of the documentation. In fact, the initial iPads should be brought back.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, can I have your attention?

Our iPads should be brought back; they were better than this. I hope the Commission and the Secretariat are noting the inconvenience that is placed before the House. I do not know what Sen. Eddy is telling you that he did not say in Migori a few hours ago.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of inclusion of teacher-training college students in the HEFM. This was an outright discrimination because under Higher Education Loan Act, CAP 213 and the Technical Vocational and Training Act, CAP 220; Laws of Kenya 220A, it is provided for funding of students in universities and the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA) colleges.

Even if the model of funding has shifted, now we use what we call Means-Testing Instrument (MTI) or MITI, it is MTI - This continues to discriminate our students who are in teacher training, especially diploma in primary teacher education and diploma in secondary teacher education. They cannot have access to government loans and grants as provided by because they were excluded.

I agree with the mover of this Motion, that under Article 27(1), on equality and freedom from discrimination every person is equal before the law and has a right to equal protection and equal benefit of the law.

Article 27(2) states that equality includes the full and equal enjoyment of all rights and fundamental freedoms.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, the fact that the Higher Education Loan Board Act was passed to only finance students in universities, was okay. That is CAP 213, Laws of Kenya. The TIVET Act, CAP 210A of the Laws of Kenya, funded technical students in our TIVETS excluding our teachers who are undertaking diploma courses in our teacher colleges. I have received a lot of complaints. It means we are violating Article 27 because it provides benefits that any Kenyan should not be discriminated against.

I hope, when we will resolve as a House to pass this Motion, we will ensure we put in place the necessary measures so that our teachers in diploma in primary teacher education and diploma in secondary teacher education training are protected. This is very important. I appeal to colleagues I cannot see a number of colleagues who have been teachers but I know they are following this discussion online.

As you are aware we, we have over 32 public teacher training centres. Apart from Mosoriot Teachers Training College, Asumbi, Bondo, Murang'a and others. They are 32 in total. We used to have one in Garissa. I do not know whether we still have Garissa Teachers Training College. I was happy when we visited Mandera, there is already an established Mandera Teachers Training School.

In 2025, we have 27,000 students in teacher training centres. These are teachers that will teach our children in primary school and they are very critical because they form the formative basis. The drafters of the law lack the wisdom to ensure all students access government loans and grants, not only university students, but also technical students and

teachers who are undertaking diploma courses in science and primary and secondary education.

We are aware that of the 27,000 students under diploma, both in teacher training and other aspects, some do not access loans and grants. I hope we will amend the law, and I believe that it is unfair and unconstitutional as I have read in Article 27, on discrimination on the basis of lack of full access to benefits of teachers training in diplomas. I know that we have Bondo TTC in the neighbourhood of Sen. Eddy who understands the pain and knows that our teachers who are training to be teachers, to teach our children, will be very taken care of.

[The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji) left the Chair]

[The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei) in the Chair]

There are 33 public teachers training colleges. I thank His Excellency the President because he has done what no one in the history of this country has. That is why you find the opponents of the President just say bad things. They do not want to say the truth. Out of 300,000 teachers who are unemployed, in the history of this country, from Mzee Kenyatta, Moi, Kibaki and Uhuru, no President has hired, in a single bullet, 100,000 teachers, the way President William Ruto has done. That is the work of the broad-based government.

When I see Sen. Ledama, I see the face of broad-based government in this country. I see the face of broad-based government in this, through Sen. Ledama. If today, he is the biggest champion of President William Ruto and broad-based government, who are you?

We also have the incoming Deputy Minority Whip. I know that on Friday, 27th after the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) National Delegates Convention (NDC), ODM will put itself in order and de-whip the Deputy Minority Whip and give it to Sen. Eddy Gicheru---

An Hon. Senator: *Kijana barubaru.*

Sen. Cherarkey: He is known by the ladies in this House as *kijana barubaru* - to be the Deputy of Sen. Ledama Olekina. That will be a very lethal powerful force that will sell the broad-based agenda across this country, including matters education.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, Article 43 talks about basic rights. I am happy that you are one of the senior lawyers in this country. You competed against one of the former senior officials of KNUT, your brother, comrade, Hon. Wilson Sossion in the last general election.

Article 43(1)(f) says that every person has a right to education. So, we must ensure that Article 43, which is economic and social rights, are entrenched in the Constitution. The only way is not to discriminate against teachers who are training to be teachers in our colleges. We must rectify the law. We must regularise the law.

I wish Wilson Sossion all the best. I have been told he wants to make a comeback as the Secretary General of Kenya National Union of Teachers. I was looking at the social media and people were saying that it is only Sossion who used to give us long

holidays. You know when Sossion said, “I have been directed to call for the strike,” you knew we would have a holiday of one week.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei): Sen. Cherarkey, do you want to be informed by the Hon. Joyce Korir?

Sen. Cherarkey: Yes, please, of course, the Commissioner can always do that.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei): Commissioner, please proceed.

Sen. Korir: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir. I just wanted to inform Sen. Cherarkey that Sossion is no longer interested with the teachers’ politics, but he is interested in working in the Government, and he knows why he is interested. I do not want to say more about this.

Thank you.

Sen. Cherarkey: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, you are aware of a matter where hon. Sossion was cleared by the court. He received his status as a teacher, but since Sen. Joyce comes from Bomet and maybe they are compatriots with the hon. Wilson Sossion, she has better information than me. Looking at the way she is smiling shyly, she knows more than I do, but I wish him all the best. I am aware that he wants to work with the Government and I know, of course, where he will work from, but on teachers, if he wants to go back to KNUT politics, we wish him well in that aspect.

On a lighter note, when there was social media buzz that Sossion will go back to KNUT politics, people were very excited that he used to give us long holidays, especially he used to declare a strike and we knew that for one or two weeks we would be off the school, and it was very enjoyable at that moment. I appeal to Commissioner Joyce to lobby hard for hon. Sossion to get an opportunity to serve in this Government. When we give him an opportunity, he should not come back and disturb you. He should go and serve government and allow you to serve the people of Bomet.

In 2021, there were 10,000 students that were training in diploma teachers training. This rose to 27,000. So, there was a growth of 17,000 students undertaking diploma courses. That is why we need to finance this. Most of them come from poor backgrounds. I know you have funded a harambee for a number of them in many occasions.

(The Clerk-at-the-Table consulted the Temporary Speaker)

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, I have seen the Clerk is trying to show you the Standing Order, but that is well noted.

I have seen teacher training college students being formally integrated into new funding model that is called Means Testing Instrument (MTI), which is very important.

The second prayer is to develop regulations and guidelines of teachers. Even as we train, and we thank the President for employing 100,000 teachers who have trained in these teacher training colleges, we must be aware that we need also TSC to come up with regulations. How do we absorb teachers? I was shocked to find teachers who are approaching retirement age and they are yet to be employed by the Teachers Service Commission (TSC), yet they graduated in 2013 or 2014. You will find somebody who

graduated in 2018, 2022 or 2023 having been employed, but teachers who graduated 10 years ago are yet to be employed. We need a policy by the TSC.

Something should also be done by our county governments regarding our Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) centres. That includes Bomet, Narok and Migori. I am told there is a 'chiwawa' in Migori. We also have Murang'a and Nairobi, but Nairobi is no longer a concern. We must have a scheme of service. That is why when we invite governors to appear before the County Public Accounts Committee (CPAC), they must appear.

Today, when the Governor of Kakamega was at *Radio Jambo* on *Giddy na Ghost Asubuhi*, he was asked about ECDE teachers and scheme of service, but he was not able to answer. He accused the Senate for doing average through the CPAC and the County Public Investments and Special Funds Committee (CPISFC).

They say he who comes to equity must come with clean hands. How can a governor with a Kshs19 billion Kenya Electricity Transmission Company (KETRACO) Limited scandal lecture the Senate? He should not.

He went ahead to say that Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Oparanya, never appeared before the CPAC. I would like to inform him that Hon. Oparanya appeared religiously before the CPAC. That is the question we will ask regarding ECDE centres. There must be a scheme of service. Our teachers are suffering even in my county because they are paid Kshs10,000, yet they pay a lot of money for training.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, in the interest of time and since my colleagues also want to contribute, I would like to listen to comments by Sen. Eddy Gicheru. I know he was with the President in the Nyanza tour. He could be having brilliant ideas on how we can fund our students in teacher training colleges. I want to thank the people of Siaya for ensuring that Governor Orendo did not speak because he has not been supporting the broad-based Government.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, with those many remarks, allow me to support this Motion. I hope I will listen to Sen. Eddy.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei): Thank you, Sen. Cherarkey, for your contribution. Maybe for your information and for future reference as a practicing lawyer, I believe the matter you made reference to of hon. Wilson Sossion versus TSC, is Civil Appeal No.476 of 2019, where the commission was told that their action of removing him from the register was illegal and unfair. Now he is back in the teachers' register. Yours truly was involved in the matter. Justice Tuiyott, Justice Karanja and Justice Nyamweya made that landmark decision. For purposes of future references, those are serious precedents.

I call upon Sen. Olekina to make his contribution.

Sen. Olekina: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, I rise to make some brief comments on this important Motion, which I fully support. That has to go on record. The Motion is inclusion of teacher training college students in the HELB funding model.

This Motion calls for a policy shift in terms of funding education in this country. If you look at the level of education for teachers, it is mostly diploma or degree at higher education. That has got to be the clear distinction.

There are quite a lot of pros and cons on this matter. I will focus a little bit on some advantages. Firstly, when you include diploma students in higher education funding model, despite causing a policy confusion, you are allowing those who cannot afford to go to university to also participate in nation building. There is an indirect nation building because they will achieve their goals and contribute particularly to the Competency Based Education (CBE). The question is not whether to include teacher training students into the higher education funding model but how we ensure that we do not strain the system. You will need money.

We will have to think critically on how to come up with funding; either we reduce the cost and the government supplement TVET training, reduce the cost of these colleges so that these needy students can get access to this university funding or come up with another fund.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, I have seen the President being very creative. He came up the Infrastructure Development Fund, which is funded by the public by privatizing government entities. Is it not time for us to think critically on how not to confuse the policy, but to come up with a dedicated funding model to fund these TVETs?

If you go my village, a walking distance from my house, there is a TVET. I would be very happy to see many of our local needy students getting their college education fully funded.

We must ask ourselves how we ensure that when we agree to this Motion of inclusion of teacher training students into the higher education funding model, we prioritize the needy ones. We have to be clear. First the Ministry of Education and even the sponsor of this Bill Sen. Nyutu, has to be cognizant of the fact that there will be need for us to develop a policy specifically to differentiate between a degree funding and diploma funding.

We have had this debate on bursaries for second day school students and scholarships that are being offered by country government versus those offered by the Ministry of Education and also bursaries being offered by the National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF). We have to be clear so that we do not confuse the entire system because I see that coming in.

One of the things that I like in terms of introducing this new funding model is that the students who end up getting a diploma will be aligned with their peers who are in the universities who are also getting their degree. It is a welcome proposal but what is the reality of it?

Are we going to strain the system thoroughly or could we find a gap so that at least when a student is enrolled in these TVETs they have to meet certain requirements before they can be funded? We have to ensure that we fund them based on merit but not just having a blanket fund. Otherwise, it is going to be very confusing.

I do not want to waste so much time because I see you still have four of my colleagues who wish to contribute. I wish to summarise with the following-

If the House agrees to promote this Motion, let it not be one of those which we pass in this House, but it becomes impossible to implement. We have passed so many Motions in this House and I know the Senate pronounces itself through Motions and Bills, but some Motions can become very difficult to implement if we do not come up

with a dedicated funding way to ensure we do not strain the system. This will boost TVET education because those students who could not afford to go to TVET can be given that opportunity.

This Motion makes sense but will only be practical if we have a dedicated fund. You can divide it among the 47 counties, so that there is equality, equity and fairness in the distribution of money. Otherwise, I support.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei): Sen. Eddy Oketch.

Sen. Oketch Gicheru: Mr. Temporary Speaker, I was listening to my senior, Sen. Ledama Olekina. I like borrowing wisdom from him because he is my senior and also my Whip in the House. I wanted to encourage him that this is a good proposal.

The challenge in education, whether you are in the university or diploma category, is access. Access to higher education, whether at university or diploma level like the Teachers Training Collages (TTC), depends on household background. That is why I supported the new higher education funding model. It had three critical elements.

Number one, it was student-focused. It assessed accessibility based on student need, scientifically proven. Number two, it was equity-based. It assessed family capability and how that was distributed across society.

Even distribution stopped universities from receiving block loans or grants without accountability. Instead, it introduced structured scientific measurement through the banding system. The five bands created by the fund assessed students' needs from the extremely needy, to the needy, to the low-income, to the middle-income and to the higher-income categories.

If we think about education from that perspective, it must extend to all facilities that give students education beyond secondary level. It should not stop at university. It should include colleges and diploma levels.

Counties are struggling with technical institutes. I do audits for funds in the counties in the County Public Investment and Special Funds Committee (CPIC). I have seen that sometimes counties struggle with raising Kshs400 million for bursaries to give students access to Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) or diploma education. Sometimes the students need Kshs60,000 a year and end up receiving only Kshs5000 or Kshs10,000. Even after visiting governors repeatedly, many students fail to access higher education. This is a strong Motion. It will help many young people access education.

Coming to our critical infrastructure which is around education, as we speak, there is the struggle of conceptualizing the Competency Based Curriculum (CBC). It is so difficult. Leave alone that, we should think about how to facilitate the Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) in this country.

It is critical to facilitate teachers who start off our children in this country through proper training. Therefore, if there is a way that we can get an excuse of morality on Article 43 of the Constitution that says that basic education is actually compulsory to everyone and Article 53 of the Constitution that further guarantees the supplementary of any kind of support to access to education, then our teachers will be the critical lot that we must fight for to be able to enter into this funding model.

I say so because if you look at the funding model, it has seriously targeted support which looks at students' needs in the areas of tuition and accommodation.

If you look at the 33 colleges that we have today; if you go to Chuka, Kaimosi TTC or Migori TTC, one of the biggest challenges for those who go to these institutions is accommodation and tuition. That challenge is not only outstanding to people in the universities; it is to everybody else who goes to these tertiary institutions of diploma and certificate level. They need that facility. That is why one of the things I really appreciate about the broad-based Government, is the support of President Ruto's vision around using the housing levy to build institutional funding for students who are going to these kind of institutions.

If you figure out proper institutional funding that guarantees students' accommodation then, you do not only help them access proper education like teachers would, but you also bring dignity in study

Can you imagine that there are TTCs in this country where a trainee goes for training, and in the evening, they live in an iron sheet housing somewhere because they cannot afford accommodation? They live in some shanty kind of facility that they can only pay Kshs2,000 or Kshs1,000. Apart from just killing their morale and exposing them to diseases and other things, you also expose them to other problems, including risks such as crime and sometimes sexual harassment for female students. So, there is opportunity for this new funding model to be able to bring about dignity to teachers.

I had an opportunity sometimes last year to visit my brother, Sen. Ali Roba in Mandera. Since time immemorial, before 2013, when devolution came, a county like Mandera had never had a semblance of national Government whatsoever. If you look at the feature of local administration, none was existing. If you look at features like simple colleges built to the standard that is needed by the national Government, none was existing. It was when the governor of Mandera, our own Captain Ali Roba, took the bold decision to build a college right from scratch. Then for the first time Mandera had a teacher's college that now has about 1,000 students. You can imagine what that looks like in the budget for counties. He just built the college and the county is still struggling to build hostels for those students.

Worst of all is that the county is even struggling to guarantee a full package of tuition to these students in Mandera. You can imagine the weight on an institution like a county. That is why with this Higher Education Funding Model and the framework that has been put around, that is, the student-centered and equity-based and with the idea that the government has provided; the idea of funding splits, where you can guarantee scholarships on one side and structure loans on the other and we allow for parents to contribute according to their weight and their capabilities, this is the biggest opportunity we have to open this funding to serious institutions of learning that are a basic learning institution in our country.

We cannot have a country where we are not figuring out how best our teachers can be trained. The overemphasis on higher education as university only misses the point because the foundation, the substratum of our society, must be schooling at the local level when you start with ECD, must be schooling at the primary school level and must be schooling at the secondary school level.

The calibre of teachers that you produce is more important than thinking about just the universities, because there will be no engineers in the universities if they do not start from the local level. There will be no lawyers like you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, who is a very shrewd lawyer, practices well and is one of the best legislators that we have in this Assembly. None of you would be critical lawyers the way I am seeing if we did not have a proper foundation at the primary school level and a proper foundation at the secondary school level.

Lastly, we know that the current funding model, is a funding model that has also brought about this university fund. The University Fund and the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), which some of us must have benefited from is that the University Fund and is a pure scholarship model on this funding model, unlike the HELB, which is a pure loaning system.

Why can we then not rethink the entire higher education model, so that we also have the TCC fund, and allow it to inject a scholarship model for the most deserving teachers who can join the right diploma certificate that they need to go through?

The only eligibility for this fund, is that students are placed by Kenyan Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service (KUCCPS), which is, if you think about it, discriminatory. It should be opened up to meet the tenets of Article 43 and Article 53 of the Constitution. When you only admit students based on what KUCCPS has prescribed, that only the students who are eligible to public universities can access the new Higher Education Funding Model, what you lose is a swath of those who are many.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, if you think about it, the transition of about 900,000 students in the country who go to universities is only a third. So, a swath of them remain to only go to this TCC, diplomas, certificate education and TVETs. It means that the critical mass of support, actually, that we should focus on, should be on this base because there is already a University Fund in this Higher Education Loaning Fund, so it will be very important that we are able to incorporate the diploma levels to take the swath of several teachers---

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei): Sen. Eddy, did I hear Sen. Olekina?

Sen. Olekina, do you want to inform or to clarify?

Sen. Olekina: Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, to be clarified upon because I am very confused.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei): Sen. Eddy, would you allow Sen. Olekina to make a clarification from your comments?

Sen. Oketch Gicheru: Anytime. He is my senior and we are having a very good debate here.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei): So, take note of the remainder of the time available to Sen. Eddy Oketch.

Sen. Olekina, you may proceed.

Sen. Olekina: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to seek this clarification. I am just a bit confused in the sense that the good Senator has alluded to the fact that there are so many students who qualify to go to the university.

What I am not getting clear is whether it is because we do not have a lot of universities in Kenya that all these students end up going to Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) or is it because of lack of resources? I would assume that if the challenge is lack of universities, then we should be calling for investments in more universities. The government should be investing in more universities because getting a degree is much better than getting a diploma. That is the point that I want him to clarify.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei): Very well. Sen. Eddy, could you make that clarification.

Sen. Oketch Gicheru: I think my senior got me wrong. I said, after we have done our Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE), the highest number of students do not go to university. The minimum qualification for university currently is C plus and above. Therefore, Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service (KUCCPS) is--- I do not know whether the system is down. I do not know whether I am on HANSARD because this is very important. Can I continue? I am not so sure if the system is down. I think this one is on.

I was saying that the highest number of students who are after finishing KCSE, about a third of all students who do KCSE are the ones who make it to university or even qualify to go to university. The majority of them do not end up going to universities. They end up going to these diploma courses, including teachers training colleges.

Therefore, it will be important and of interest for the country to be able to look at those teachers training colleges as also opportunities of higher learning---

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei): Give him 30 seconds, considering the other Members definitely would want to contribute.

Sen. Oketch Gicheru: I was just saying that the more who are remaining at the lower part of the pyramid need to be considered, just as much as those who have gone to the university and there is opportunity for this fund to be able to engage them. Those who are going to universities are guaranteed support with the fund already, because that is the purpose of the fund. However, it can be expanded to take in a swath of the many of them who are remaining into these diploma courses. With that, I support and I thank you for giving me the opportunity.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei): Sen. Veronica Maina, please proceed.

Sen. Veronica Maina: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for this opportunity. I support the Motion that is on the Floor of the House, seeking to have inclusion of the teachers training colleges as part of the higher education funding model. We cannot overstate the importance of teachers training. Teachers training is central to learning. Teachers must be prepared for and be ready to handle the hard task of taking care of learners.

Indeed, education is one of the most effective tools of changing societies. Without proper education, we cannot speak of a society that is steady, strong or ready to take off for development. It is in the education sector where the word mediocrity should not be entertained, or uncertainties, or ambiguities. That should not be entertained, because, the quality of our students is as good as the quality of the teacher.

If we take the teachers training for granted, it means that education that is being pushed down to the learners will not be adequate or fully baked to meet the challenges that are out there in the market. If teachers suffer in training, and where training is not a top priority, there will be a trickle down on the students.

An excellent teacher helps us become very decent and very dignified members of the society. It also helps to generate good students. I am assuming that the teachers are also aware that the future of our nation rests in their hands.

Every morning, when we send our children to school, the future of that nation rests in the hands of the teachers. When they receive the students, I hope they do also remember the scripture in Psalms 127: 4 which talks about children. It says-

“Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children of one's youth.”

The children are our blessing, heritage and future. They are our source of strength to be trained, shaped and dispatched to make global impact and compete at different levels, and to drive change.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, I want to first of all commend the Kenya Kwanza Government for the work that it has done in the last three years. The education budget has been increased by Kenya Kwanza Government from Kshs540 billion to Kshs702 billion, which is the largest increment in our history. However, even as the budget is being increased, there are many concerns. We know that the model is student-centered, but even as it is student-centered, could we talk of a quality student without talking of a quality teacher? That is why it is important to streamline the colleges to partake of the resource that is available within the Kshs702 billion. The teachers training colleges for diploma and certificates must definitely be part of this resource or must be allowed to enjoy part allocation of this resource.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, right now we are in a transition into Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) and there are concerns that need to be addressed for smoother transition and clarity on how the competency-based curriculum is being rolled out, so that when we are talking of workforce being prepared within the Republic of Kenya we have much more clarity on the certifications, skills competencies, skill sets that are being generated even to meet a national, regional and international market in terms of giving human resource capital.

It is important that we get the teachers training colleges streamlined to take advantage of whatever is available. The funding model should, therefore, be teacher sensitive. While it is student-centered, it should be the teacher sensitive. If we were to leave the teachers out, indeed we would be accused that we have breached Article 27 because we will not have done equity to the teachers in their training. We will not have allowed teachers to become part of what the Government is doing fully, or to lift the burden that the teachers have, especially when you look at the kind of the economic support that these teachers have at the point when they are going through training.

So, as I rise to support this Motion, I would like to first say that the Motion is timely and it comes at a moment when the system is changing and the issues of CBC are being taken care of or being focused into. It is, therefore, important that the public teachers training colleges (TTCs) are not discriminated against. Article 27 by itself looked into and juxtaposed against Article 53 that provides for basic education is free and

compulsory. We must ensure that every aspect of that education is not challenged in any way.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, most of the students who normally apply to go to the teachers' training colleges come from very poor families. They come from the same homes that are not doing very well economically. So, to leave that burden to the student or parents who are sending their young or mature student for training as teachers to train as teachers, would actually be to leave education sector in a moment of chance or in a moment of ambiguity or to cost them not to be able to access or afford that training.

So, my plea is that the Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), works out a model that includes the public teachers training colleges into the funding model.

I also commend the Government for the number of classes that have been built in the last three years. I know there are some people who do not like to hear this, but in the last short while, 23,000 classrooms have been added into the education infrastructure. That speaks into a better future for our country.

I hope that someday, in our culture of acknowledging what is done, what is not done and what needs to be improved, we will reach a point where, even if you do not agree with the Government politically and the ideologies do not agree with the Government, we can commend the good that is being done and say what needs to be improved in an objective manner so that we can help our sectors to grow.

Imagine, because of all the noise that is happening right now, people do not even know that this Government has cut away the history of having increased funding in education sector from Kshs540 billion to Kshs702 billion. This is the largest increase in our history. If we can work out the rough edges of the issues that are still not streamlined enough to benefit from this budgetary allocation, I believe we will be moving to the right positioning.

As we speak about how we take care of our teachers, they are the highest contributors of the housing levy. Even as the houses are being built by Government, we want to see teachers also benefit from the houses that are being built in different counties. Instead of somebody shouting from counties saying "*hizi manyumba zinaenda wapi,*" I advise them that as a teacher, they should go to *Boma Yangu* website and apply for their own house.

Stop complaining and move with the times because as you are complaining, houses are being built and when houses are allocated, the next complaint will be "*nyumba zilizengwa na sikupata*". I did not get a house and the houses were built. As a teacher, you come from the sector that is contributing heavily to the affordable housing scheme. I urge you to go to *Boma Yangu* and apply for your houses. The same amount of budget that you are allocating to your rent or your home, will be enough for you to pay for your unit every month. We want to see our teachers dignified and doing the right thing. We want to see a situation where teachers can feel, know they belong and can actually live dignified lives.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, sir, I know there must be a day where you have been invited to celebrate one of the teachers who made you be a Speaker of this House today. For people like you and me; you come from Bomet, how do you think you would

have accessed that seat without having to go to school and passing through the hands of many teachers? How would I, from Kangema, a small village in Kanyanyaine, have come to the City of Nairobi?

It was a dream that was too far for me to reach, but the teachers made it possible for us to come and argue with Ledama Olekina today, who lived in the high streets of New York and another state in the United States. For us, who did not even have a ticket to come to Nairobi, the teachers made it possible. So, I celebrate the teachers from Kangema and from Kanyanyaine.

Mrs. Kamau, who taught me English and made sure that I could understand the grammar. Never mind that, that English was, you know, taught to me in Kikuyu. They had to describe what a cat is in Kikuyu first before I could understand it in English. Mrs. Kamau, Mr. Kanyi, Mr. Mwishige, Mrs. Njeri Tidiemba or Kahuhia, the principal from Kahuhia Girls, my university lecturers; Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, Prof. Githu Mwigai and all those constitutional law teachers. So many of those teachers combined are the ones who have set me up for what I am today.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir, they have also set you up for who you are today. Every morning, we are entrusting them with our greatest and best resource; our children. That is why, we can talk about teachers today in this Senate and say that your teachers' training colleges must be funded for this programme. The financing model that is available in the education sector must be inclusive enough to take care of your training.

With those many remarks, I wish our teachers all the best. We are not on the Teachers' Day; I know there is a day when teachers are celebrated, but I know most of us have, in one way or the other, celebrated our teachers, helped them pay their medical bills or helped them handle their issues.

Thank you, Mr. Temporary Speaker, Sir. I support.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei): Hon. Members, we may rise now. Senator Veronica, you actually still had three minutes to go, but you have concluded your contribution.

(Sen. Olekina spoke off record)

That is taken note of by the Chair, Sen. Olekina.

Sen. Veronica, you forgot to mention that Sen. Eddy was also in the streets of Yale doing his studies as you tried your best. We are all here today celebrating the stories of what we are, as we talk about the Motion today.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Sigei): Hon. Senators, it is now 6.30 p.m., time to adjourn the Senate. The Senate, therefore, stands adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, 25th March, 2026, at 9.30 a.m.

The Senate rose at 6.30 p.m.