

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 10th March, 2021

Assembly Building

The Assembly met at 2.30 p.m

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

PRAYER

MOTION

REGULATION AND MANAGEMENT OF MOTORCYCLE (BODABODA) OPERATIONS WITHIN THE COUNTY

(BY. HON. ISACK FAYO)

Hon. Isack Fayo (Kinna): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I rise to move a Motion on regulation and management of motorcycle (Boda Boda) operations within the County.

THAT Aware that, the use of motorcycle (commonly bodaboda) as a means of transport has registered significant growth over the past few years in our County and Country at large.

Further Aware, bodaboda business has taken root in Kenya in a very notable and significant manner because it is available, affordable, convenient means of transport and also by their nature of being able to navigate in the villages the road networks is not conducive for cars;

Appreciating that the recorded increase in bodaboda was as a result of the waived tax on all imported motorcycles with cc rate of 250 and below by the Government of Kenya in 2008 as a way to create employment for the youth;

Concerned that road traffic crashes, injuries and deaths involving motorcycles boda boda has been on sharp increase besides crimes committed by the boda boda riders

such as theft of motorcycle and motorcycle parts, robbery and robbery with violence, murder, mob justice, fighting, handling stolen property, malicious damage to property, burglary among others;

Worried that failure by the County Governments to put in place measures to regulate this business has resulted into worsening societal ills, this House therefore, Urges the County Executive Committee Member for Land, physical planning, Roads infrastructure, Public works and Urban development in cooperation with relevant stakeholders to :-

- a. Establish a database of all boda boda operators in the County through mandatory regulations.
- b. Formulate relevant by-laws and policies to sustainably govern and regulate operations of the boda boda sector, including designated zones of operation for boda bodas.
- c. Undertake concerned sensitization and awareness education to the boda boda operators and the general public towards road safety and crime free boda boda sub sector in the County and
- d. Encourage boda boda riders associations and SACCO's to undertake voluntary registration of their members and sensitization campaigns on road safety and crime affecting the industry.

Mr. Speaker, what we are saying here touches critical sector and enterprises very intergral to our people, the youth, this is about bodaboda management and regulations. We passed charter for Municipality way back in 2018. It is the mandate of Municipality to see the day to day management, education, sensitization and everything on motorcycle riders, how they are registered, to follow them up if anything happens, the parking for them, the SACCO's, whether they adhere to Municipality rules. But Mr.Speaker, going away from all that we have competition from motorcycle riders all over Kenya who come here at the expense of our youths who do not have except here, people come as far from Nanyuki, Nkubu riding here collecting money from passengers and then they go back in the evening; when this strangers do anything in our County in terms of crime there is nowhere to trace them. Isiolo is the only place where there are no stages, the buses pick passengers along

the streets, the long jam you will see on the street during the evening that takes place is due to failure to adhere to regulations of traffic rules. We had very ugly incident the other day, last week where a person was picked from street here, the motorcycle riders took him to neighbouring County, killed him alive, they posted his video; this brought inconveniences of tribal grievances, tribal confrontations instead of looking into it as individual, it trivialised, it escalates, people who were peacefully doing their business get harmed out of what criminal did. Mr. Speaker, the Municipality were unable to tell who are those motorcyclists, where they come from and they don't hold any registration for those motorcycles, as far as matter is before the court and investigation it is mandate of the County, Municipality to do simple regulations for motorcyclists operates in here, the other you remember we requested our streets be given names we are short of names being given to streets but up to now nothing has happened. So, Mr. Speaker, there is a lot to be done which is not much if people were serious from today henceforth if simple management of motorcycle is not done then there should be arbitrary measures in place so that the future management of the Municipality will have something to refer if don't perform. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I ask Hon. Kunune to second and support the Motion.

Hon. Abdi Kunune (Nominated): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I second the Motion and contribute to the Motion. Mr. Speaker, the Motion raised by Majority leader is very clear and precised, this is what is happening on day to day to our bodaboda riders, as we all know the good number of people depends on bodaboda, most of time we get difficulties because there is no good management, no regulations in place, no stage. Mr. Speaker, we debated in the House that bodaboda to be given designated place, what we are experiencing is that we don't have a stage for Matatu's, bodaboda, we bring to this House concerning designated stages, to identify number of motorcycles in stage but up to now nothing has being done. Mr. Speaker, there bodaboda come from neighbouring Counties, they come during the day and went back in the evening without paying any cess and yet we are talking about our revenue not going upward, this are good things if can be managed we can get revenue. Mr. Speaker, it also raise insecurity all of us know what had happened last week in our County, there was a lot tense in our County, so it is good to have simple regulation

to manage bodaboda operators, it can even help them and it can earn revenue for our County. For this Mr. Speaker, I support the Motion.

(Question Proposed)

Hon. Isack Fayo (Kinna): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, So many things has been said to this House about management revolving around County, Municipality and the CBD management. Mr. Speaker, this Municipality has been unable to keep inventory of land ownership for purposes of rate collections and land rates, plots within Municipality has mutiple ownership is never resolved, its goes on to this year and forever, the streets in the areas outside CBD in to the estates are managed, most of it is not easy to drive on when it is wet, planning is not there, beautification is not there. Mr. Speaker, a lot of things is not happening if you come to our town here there is no management even during COVID time when other Counties were compelling business people to adhere to some guideline it never happen, then come to traffic it is the worst from this time up to night it is very difficult to drive on the highway because the matatus are which picks passengers are everywhere on the same road. So, Mr. Speaker, the last thing we can do is to harm our youths who are bodaboda riders if we don't cushion them from unnecessary competition bodaboda riders from neighbouring Counties, if people come all the way from Nyeri, Embu to do there business here and it is not regulated and if our people venture outside it is impossible to penetrate other markets, this is matter of security it transcend beyond youth issue and people, crime require let down of law of it to thrive and here we have provided a very conducive environment for criminals from all over the Country to come here to do there crime, kill, mayhem, rape, steal and go escort free because there is no regulation in place, there is no where you can append your signature or you asked to produce your ID to do motorcycle business in this County. So, Mr. Speaker, to save our plight to mediocre approach should stop henceforth and let the relevant department the Municipality come in to effect immediately and stop this madness. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I put a question; THAT Aware that, the use of motorcycle (commonly bodaboda) as a means of transport has registered significant growth over the past few years in our County amd Country at large.

Further Aware, bodaboda business has taken root in Kenya in a very notable and significant manner because it is available, affordable, convenient means of transport and also by their nature of being able to navigate in the villages the road networks is not conducive for cars;

Appreciating that the recorded increase in bodaboda was as a result of the waived tax on all imported motorcycles with cc rate of 250 and below by the Government of Kenya in 2008 as a way to create employment for the youth;

Concerned that road traffic crashes, injuries and deaths involving motorcycles boda boda has been on sharp increase besides crimes committed by the boda boda riders such as theft of motorcycle and motorcycle parts, robbery and robbery with violence, murder, mob justice, fighting, handling stolen property, malicious damage to property, burglary among others;

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- d. Encourage boda boda riders associations and SACCO's to undertake voluntary registration of their members and sensitization campaigns on road safety and crime affecting the industry.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker: The House stands adjourned until tomorrow Thursday 11th March 2021 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 3.26 p.m.