

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 24/07/2024

Assembly Building

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The Assembly met at 2.30Pm

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Kamila) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

MOTION

[MITIGATION OF FLOOD MENACE]

Hon. Halima Gole (Cherab): That, aware that The County Government of Isiolo enacted Emergency Fund Act which is fully operational.

Further aware, that the Act gives County Government powers to allocate funds to emergencies within the County including floods.

Appreciating that, the County received heavy rainfalls recently, which resulted to displacement, destruction of properties and loss of lives.

Concerned that, these heavy rainfalls left behind numerous catastrophes to the residents of Merti Sub County an aftermath impact of Ewaso Nyiro river breaking its banks.

Further concerned that, the floods caused several both human and livestock sufferings to the residents of Cherab, Garba Tulla and Sericho wards. These resulted to affected families camping at relatives, Government offices, churches, mosques and social halls. Wide spread of water borne diseases was also experienced, inaccessibility of markets and other facilities due to impassable roads.

Therefore, this House urges the CEC for Finance, Economic Planning and Special Programmes for immediate intervention by;

1. Providing material to set up shelter to the affected families.
2. Providing food stuffs and clothes.
3. Providing nets due to outbreak of malaria and other related diseases
4. Cushioning the affected families on schools, colleges and university fees by providing bursaries.
5. Engaging National Government for lasting solution to curb the menace.

Hon. Meja Golicha (Charri): I stand to second the Motion.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Temporary Speaker: The floor is open for debate.

Hon. Halima Gole (Cherab): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I have few points to emphasize on. Most of Merti residents live in semi-permanent houses of which mud is usually used to build up walls. The roofs are covered with iron sheets. Almost all those houses were destroyed during the flood that resulted from Ewaso Nyiro bursting its bank. The families whom their home were destroyed have not yet resettled. This menace of flooding recurs every rainy season. There was an option of relocating those affected to a higher area, but due to financial restraint, they couldn't make any move and most of them still live there.

Secondly, I appreciate support from the National Government and also a little support of a lorry of food from the County Government. There was dissatisfaction from the residents, that the distribution of foodstuffs was not fairly done. Instead of distributing the food to the flood victims, the Committee used selective and political measures which resulted in non-victims acquiring the foodstuffs. The assistance from the National Government came through the DCC's office. I made a follow-up and found that there was an influence from higher office which dictated the DCC with names.

I have initiated a way that will allow fair distribution of such assistance in future. The Community affected will select among themselves the individuals responsible

for that activity. I urge the Authority concerned to have humanity to ensure that the real victims get assistance. Those affected, from both Merti North and South are numbering over a thousand, and they are still dwelling in anguish.

We need assistance from our County Government, because we have budgeted for disaster. There was also outbreak of diseases. Roads were destroyed. Right now you cannot access MID-P from town; there is a big valley in between. The Department of roads needs to act on this so that the normalcies return to the people of Merti. Thank you and I beg to sit.

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Hon. David Waithaka (Bulapesa): Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker; you look gorgeous in that attire. I rise to support the Motion. We are aware of what had happened in those areas. It is not just those areas but the areas of Burat and Bulapesa were also affected. So, what we need to do is to ensure that our people are assisted. It is wise to state when people do good things and in this regard, I wish to say thank you to our Development Partners. We have seen assistance coming from NDMA. Our people are receiving some dues from NDMA and that is why you will see banks are flooded with people. I suggest that next time more Mpesa Agents be contracted to give out money so as to ease congestion in banks. There was a case whereby a child had suffocated and almost died due to congestion in a certain Mpesa shop.

I support Hon. Gole's Motion because people have suffered; the impact of flood is big. I feel that our Governor should ask for more assistance from the National Government and Development Partners so that our people are well assisted. Roads in Bulapesa are impassable. There was a borehole in Bulapesa that supply impure water that has really caused havoc. We have talked about it severally and seems the department of water is not listening. During public participation our people have complained about that borehole in Bulapesa. People are becoming sick and it seems we can't do anything and look helpless. If IWASCO cannot rectify, they can

as well source for expert from other agencies so that this problem is dealt with. So, I support Hon. Gole so that our people are fully assisted.

Madam Temporary Speaker, allow me to state that most of us have failed this House, but today I'm very happy because we are all here and we are able to address problems that our people are facing. We are paid to attend to this House. To some Members, their time to be in this House is limited... Sorry, I withdraw this. What I wanted to say is that we need to take this House seriously and ensure that whatever we articulate here helps our people. Thank you.

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Hon. Salesio Kiambi (Wabera): Ahsante, Mhesh. Spika wa muda. Nasimama kuunga mkono huu mjadala. Kwanza kabisa, ningependa kusema ya kwamba pesa za Kaunti ni ya kusaidia wanainchi na wala sio ya mtu binafsi. Ni jukumu la Serikali kuhakikisha barabara zinatengenezwa na chakula ifikie wanainchi. Ile mvua ya juzi imeweza kuadhiri Wadi zote wa Kaunti hii. Hata hapa Wabera, barabara kadha zimeharibiwa na maji ya mvua. Tunatarajia zitengenezwe. Ile Million 190 iko kwa bajeti haitoshi kutengeneza barabara katika Wadi zote. Lakini, kuna hii pesa iko kwa *Special Program* sijui hizo pesa zinatumiwa namna gani. Inafaa tuwaite wahusika tuwaulize ya mwaka jana ilitumiwa kwa njia gani na wapi. Kuna barabara moja hapa waliambiwa na Gavana atengeneze mwezi wa tatu na hadi wa leo haujatengenezwa. Pia barabara karibu na Msikiti wa Musa ni mbaya sana. Mvua ikinyesha, maji hujaa kwa barabara. Ni kama laga.

Kwa hivyo Ofisi wa *Special Program* iwajibike na itengeneze zile barabara zimeharibiwa na maji ya mvua. Nasema ahsante kwa Mhesh. Gole kwa kuleta hii ajenda muhimu.

Hon. Temporary Speaker: Mover of the Motion, you can now reply.

Hon. Halima Gole (Cherab): Thank you. Hon. Temporary Speaker for giving me this opportunity. There was a time right after the rain stopped, Members from the

affected Wards were identified to assess the magnitude of effect of the flood, but it had never happened. That is one of the oversight roles we are assigned to by the Constitution. Without knowing the magnitude of the effect of the flood, it tends to be hard to seek for intervention.

Since the affected people are still suffering, they have yet to receive assistance and this begs for a formation of an ADHOC Committee in order to make assessment of the effects of the flood.

I once again appreciate assistance from the National Government, NGO and Religious organizations and also the little input from our County Government although it was below our expectation. I support the sentiment from Hon. Kiambi that we bring on board the C.E.C and the Chief Officer for Special Program to give us the Expenditure report for the Financial Year 2022/2023.

With that, I take this opportunity to appreciate Members of this House for their positive contribution and support to the Motion. Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Speaker: I now put the question; that, aware that The County Government of Isiolo enacted Emergency Fund Act which is fully operational. Further aware, that the Act gives County Government powers to allocate funds to emergencies within the county including floods.

Appreciating that, the County received heavy rainfalls recently, which resulted to displacement, destruction of properties and loss of lives.

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10. Engaging National Government for lasting solution to curb the menace.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Temporary Speaker: The House stands adjourned until Thursday, the 25th of July, 2024 at 2.30pm.