

# REPUBLIC OF KENYA

## NYANDARUA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

### 2<sup>ND</sup> ASSEMBLY- 1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

#### OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017

*The Assembly met at the Assembly Chamber at 2.30 p.m.*

*[Temporary Speaker (Hon. Kenn Mukira) in the Chair]*

Prayer

#### QUORUM CALL AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SITTING

*(The clerk-at-the-table confirms that there is no quorum)*

**Speaker:** Pursuant to Standing Order No. 35 (2), I direct that the bell be rung for at least ten minutes to see whether we will get the quorum.

*(The bell rings for four minutes and quorum is achieved  
as confirmed by the clerk-at-the-table.)*

**Speaker:** Quorum having been achieved, I order that the bell be disengaged.  
First order.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

##### STUDENTS AND TEACHERS FROM ST. PETERS ACK OL' KALOU

Hon. Members, I wish to notify you that today, that is, Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> day of September 2017, we have the honour of welcoming teachers and class eight pupils from St. Peters ACK Ol'Kalou.

There are a total 38 pupils and four (4) teachers, who are leading the delegation. The teachers are:

1. Mr Simon Njuguna
2. Ms Monicah Mugo
3. Ms Esther Waikwa
4. Mr Henry Chege

I also wish to recognize, the leadership of the school led by;

1. Trevor Njoroge - Head boy
2. Sharon Wanjiku - Head girl

As an assembly, we have a standing tradition of warmly welcoming our visitors, more so students, as we deliberate on important matters touching on the County. I therefore ask you Hon. Members to join me in applauding the teachers and the students of St. Peters ACK Ol'kalou, as aforesaid.

*(Applause)*

I wish to acknowledge the Member of the County Assembly for the area, that is, Kaimbaga Ward namely, Hon. Gabriel Gathure, Wambui for ensuring that the school is accommodated appropriately in the Assembly during today's plenary.

I also had time to interact with them. I was surprised and honoured to realize that Ian Mbugua wishes to be the MCA of Kaimbaga at one time. He is preparing to replace Hon. Gabriel Gathure. I also met Linus Kiboi, who wants to replace Hon. Kiaraho as the Member of Parliament for Ol'Kalou constituency. Joyce Wanjiku who is also known as Laboso wishes to become the Women Representative of Nyandarua County at some time. Eric Ndung'u also wants to replace, at one time, our Senator, Hon. Githiomi. Rueben Gikonyo wants to be the Governor of Nyandarua County while Tony King'ori wishes to become the Deputy Governor. In a special way, we have Trevor Njoroge wants to be the president of Kenya.

I wish also to notify you that St. Peter ACK was the fourth best performing school in our county and the best in Ol'kalou constituency and we wish them the best in the forthcoming exams. They have promised to be will be number one in our county. I am hopeful that their prayers will be answered. Thank you our visitors and may God bless you.

Next order.

## MOTION

### RESUMPTION OF DEBATE

THANKS OF THE ASSEMBLY BE RECORDED FOR THE EXPOSITION OF PUBLIC POLICY CONTAINED IN THE ADDRESS OF THE GOVERNOR.

The Member for Leshau Pondo and Leader of the Majority Party in the House, Hon. Peter Gathungu Kamau.

**Hon. Gathungu Kamau:** Thank you Mr Speaker, Sir. I beg to move the following motion:

THAT the thanks of the assembly be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in the address of the Governor delivered on Thursday, the 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 2017.

I now urge the Hon. Members to continue debating the motion.

**Speaker:** Very well. As you all know, it is a continuation of our debate and I know that every member would like to contribute. I want to open the floor for members to continue with their contributions.

Yes, Hon. Kariuki Muchiri, Member for Murungaru.

**Hon. Kariuki Muchiri:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I rise to support the address by the Governor. The speech that was read in this House touched on important issues of this County. I might not be in a position to highlight everything that is in the speech.

One of the areas that he touched is infrastructure, which is a key component of development, and I want to zero in on roads. Nyandarua being an agricultural county, we require roads to take our produce to the market. Since I was there during the defunct local authorities' days, the roads were so bad. I would therefore commend the former regime because of the exemplary work that they did in improving the roads network. Though the regime is gone, we need to commend them for the work they did. Many in-roads were impassable but now that has changed. I am happy that the Governor talked about the issues of roads in his speech. There were some roads that were done in a standard way and there are those that were done but were too narrow. Some of them are four metres wide and it was not a creation of the last regime. When you go out there, you will find that *wanjiku* has encroached on those roads. Some of them are nine metres wide but the people have encroached on them such that they have only left about six metres of the road. When you grade the roads, you will obviously have to leave about one metre on both sides for service lanes like water and electricity. You therefore find that only four metres what is available for grading and gravelling.

So, I think the CEC Member for Roads will have a lot of work to do to remove the fences that have been erected so that they can create sufficient space to do about six metres wide road. I urge the members to look at that last motion that was moved in this House when we were doing the adjournment of the First Assembly and the recommendations that were made. In that report, there are roads that were not even completed and, it is up to the members to bring those issues to this Assembly so that they can be addressed.

Secondly, he talked about health services and in fact, we can say that we are a proud county because we have two main hospitals. We have J.M. Memorial Hospital and Engineer District Hospital. These hospitals need to be improved continuously. Earlier on, we did not have a mortuary at Engineer Hospital and I am sure that the Hon. Member for Engineer can attest to that, but it needs to be improved. We have been having the issue of nurses' strike and you know you cannot know the extent of the damage that has resulted from it unless you have a sick person in your family and you are not able to take that person to a private hospital. The agony out there is huge. In his address, the Governor talked about expanding that range of health services. This is very important. Any bill or motion that will address the improvement of health service delivery will have the full support of this House.

I want to talk about an issue that is driving investors away from this county. This is the issue of land. About double and even, triple allocation of land. We need to support government policy that will unlock this problem that we have in this county especially in Ol'kalou. We want to support policies that will deal with issues such as spatial planning because it is important. These issues need to be addressed because they have been captured in the Governor's press. I am sure the Committee on Lands, Housing, and Physical Planning will be working hand in hand with the Executive to make sure that those issues are addressed so that we start having investors. Ol'kalou town is not growing at a rate that is envisioned by many because we have the problem of land allocation. It is envisaged that in the next ten years to come, there will be development.

Mr Speaker, I also want to touch on education because we have the ECDs and the polytechnics, which are devolved functions. The primary and the secondary schools are not a function of the County Government. We need to increase the number of nurseries and number of teachers in this county. We also need to improve the standard of education because these nursery schools form the foundation in this county. I remember that the government talked about the days this county used to lead this country in academic performance. You are aware that today we are not competing with other good performing counties like Kirinyaga. We used to beat them. I want to support the speech and I am urging this Assembly to support those policies that will be emanating from the Executive to improve on education. This is critical. We want to improve on polytechnics also because it is a function of the County Government.

We would want a situation whereby we have a polytechnic in every ward. I can say of Murungaru ward, which I represent, that we do not have a polytechnic. I want to believe that in the coming five years, we shall have a polytechnic in Murungaru and those other wards that do not have polytechnics. Other wards do not even have land where they can build the polytechnics. I will therefore be urging members of this House that when a member is able to propose, in the budget, for purchase of polytechnic land, we should support them.

I want to highlight the issue of staffing because building polytechnics is one thing and the issue of equipping them is another. Bringing human resources to those polytechnics is another issue all together. When these issues come to this House, we should support each other. Let there be no two polytechnic in the same ward while there is none in another ward.

Mr Speaker, I will not be in a position to comment on every issue that the Governor talked about and therefore, I want to rest my case there by saying that I support all issues that were raised in the speech. I support. Thank you.

*(Hon. Gabriel Gathure rises on a point of order)*

**Hon. Gabriel Gathure:** Mr Speaker, I stood in this august House yesterday and made my position known concerning the speech he made when he visited this House. I already made my contribution and that is the reason rise on a point of order because as you are aware...

**Speaker:** Order, Member for Kaimbaga! You are not supposed to contribute without the permission of the Speaker but I will allow you to continue for today.

**Hon. Gabriel Gathure:** Thank you Mr Speaker for allowing me to continue. I want to say that we have pupils from my ward, from St. Joseph who are visiting this Assembly and they are in the public gallery with the intention of following the proceedings of this House and may be to know what normally happens here. In addition, maybe they want to see whether this Assembly is looking into their affairs. I would therefore wish to touch on two issues on Education, ICT, and Public Administration because those are the issues that would touch on the affairs of my younger brothers and sisters in the public gallery...

**Speaker:** For your information, it is St. Peter's ACK Primary School in the public gallery.

**Hon. Gabriel Gathure:** Thank you Mr Speaker.

*(Hon. Isaac Kung'u rises on a point of order)*

**Speaker:** What is it Member for Wanjohi, Hon. Isaac Kung'u?

**Hon. Isaac Kung'u:** Is the Member for Kaimbaga in order in trying to contribute twice by sneaking in through a point of order? He is not clarifying which Standing Order either. I think it is unfair for this House because we have members who have not contributed.

**Speaker:** Thank you member for Wanjohi. I gave the member a chance to contribute only because he has some visitors from his ward in the public gallery. Proceed Member for Kaimbaga.

**Hon. Gabriel Gathure:** Thank you. Mr Speaker for protecting and taking care of the people from Kaimbaga seated in the public gallery. I had done the contributions but for the sake of my ward and my constituents, I will mention some issues. I may not be in a position to make a comprehensive contribution like the one I made yesterday, but I am only going to do a summary of it.

During the address, the Governor made it clear that he in support of the education sector. The governor understands that we, as a county, need to have a university. We are lagging behind other counties such as Nyeri, Kiambu and Nakuru. In Kiambu, there is Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology while in Nyeri, there is Dedan Kimathi University and Karatina University. Here we have none. The Governor therefore said that the university will be built at Captain and it is very exciting because it will be in my ward. It is encouraging that the pupils in the public gallery might not have to travel outside the county for higher education and in pursuit of knowledge.

The other issue is about the case of polytechnics. My friend, Hon. Maguna has said that there is a need to increase the number of polytechnics...

*(Hon. Kariuki Muchiri rises on a point of order)*

**Speaker:** What is it Member for Murungaru?

**Hon. Kariuki Muchiri:** Is it in order for Hon. Member for Kaimbaga to address me by nickname. Mr Speaker, he called Maguna which is my nickname. It is apparent that the Hon. Member does not know my official name.

**Speaker:** Hon. Gathure, please withdraw the remarks and address the member in the right way.

**Hon. Gabriel Gathure:** You know Hon. Kariuki Muchiri confuses us sometimes because he has many nicknames, Mr Mugabe, Mr Maguna but now I understand they belong outside this august House. I withdraw.

What I was saying is that the Hon. Member articulated that there is need to have a polytechnic in every ward. I will not repeat everything but I would like our polytechnics to be upgraded. The former Kenya Polytechnic changed its name to Technical University of Kenya. Mombasa Polytechnic was upgraded to Pwani University. If you do good research, you will find that those polytechnics were offering technical courses and diplomas. For instance, we have a polytechnic in my ward that is located just next to ACK St. Peter Academy. They only train mechanics and tailors and only offer certificate courses. They should be upgraded to start offering diplomas and higher diplomas.

The Governor said that he is going to increase bursaries. Many young people cannot currently join academic institutions because their parents are financially crippled. I believe this House will prioritise legislating on matters relating to bursaries for the benefit of our children.

A fund should be set aside for scholarship programmes through which students can fly overseas to study in countries like Australia, which has universities that offer good health courses.

Students have diverse ambitions such as becoming doctors, members of county assemblies, judicial officers, et cetera.

ECDE is a devolved function. Parents pay tutors of ECDE. When the county government devised a plan to hire and remunerate ECDE tutors, a circular came from TSC and related authorities advising that it is not the role of county governments to hire and remunerate these tutors. The Senate of Kenya should issue guidelines allowing county governments to hire and remunerate ECDE tutors. This will reduce parents' burden of paying the tutors.

ICT centres should be established in the wards where form four leavers, for example, could join computer proficiency courses before joining colleges or universities.

The fibre optic cable should be installed in our town centres and institutions. This will help learners expand their research base since in this age of globalisation the Internet is an integral resource of research.

I commend the Governor for establishing the department of public administration. It will help articulate and address matters of civil servants in the county. The department will also facilitate public policy formulation and address issues related to public personnel.

Lastly, Mr Speaker, I sincerely welcome the students in the public gallery to this Assembly and guarantee them that they will be highly welcome in this Assembly any other time of their convenience. I hope this session will be of great benefit to them. Thank you Mr Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Hon. Gathure. I would like to inform you that one of the students seated in the public gallery, Ian Mbugua, has ambitions of vying for the position of MCA in your ward.

Yes Hon. Sambigi Mukuria.

**Hon. Sambigi Mukuria:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I rise to support the motion on the address of the Governor to this House. I will limit myself to a few areas since my colleagues have dwelt on many of them.

The Governor promised to improve education services in the county. Unfortunately, the only sector of education that has been devolved is ECDE, and it has not been fully devolved. Only the infrastructure of the said sector has been devolved. Various authorities, including this House's Committee on Education, Culture and Social Services, should petition the Senate of Kenya to pass a policy on fully devolving the ECDE sector. In addition, the county governments can only equip polytechnics.

The Governor should address issues of human capital at the health institutions in the county. We have two major hospitals and many health centres in our county. Instead of building new health infrastructure, we should consider upgrading the existing ones. We have few qualified doctors working in our county. In fact, someone joked that it is easier to find a veterinary doctor attending to a cow than a medical doctor attending to a patient in our county.

The Governor should take a step of sacking the participants in the ongoing nurses' strike as it has been done in other counties. The industrial court declared the strike illegal. In their bid to agitate for higher salaries, the officers on strike are making patients suffer in hospitals for not being attended to. You cannot talk of health services without mentioning ambulances. Many health facilities in our county have no ambulances deployed to them. This makes it terribly difficult for these health facilities to transfer patients when need arises. The department of Health services should address this challenge.

Industrialisation, world over, has been a key drive of economies. Our Governor should earmark parcels of land where industries should be built. Establishing industries in our county is a

good idea. This will not only create jobs for our youths but also improve the lives of our people. Construction of industries will be under flagship projects. In view of this, the Governor should implement projects related to roads, water among others since these contribute to the big picture of industrialisation.

We should empower our youths through civic education. This will enable them understand the opportunities that are available for them. Many of them do not know that there is existence of Youth Enterprise Fund. They cannot even form a group to benefit from this facility. The Executive should create a platform for the youth and disadvantaged groups to get the thirty percent awards of county government tenders. The county government should act as a link between youth groups and financial institutions so that the latter could advance loans to the former and facilitate repayment of the loans through the groups' bank accounts.

Road infrastructure in our county is poor. In fact, some wards have no passable access roads. A good example is Githioro Ward. Nevertheless, the Governor talked of a bridge that is being constructed that will enable easy access into the ward. He also specifically mentioned *Gachuga* Bridge, which is in my ward. Lack of good road infrastructure has led to some villagers suffering socio-psycho problems including inbreeding. The Governor should fulfil his pledge of building bridges.

Hon. Kariuki Muchiri said that the first assembly is not to blame for the problems that occurred especially those related to water. I must state that many water-related challenges in the county are self-made. A lot of resources were wasted and many projects were not completed despite the financial year having ended in June. There should be conducted serious audit. This will depict the progress that has been made as far as water projects are concerned.

I beg to support.

**Speaker:** Yes Hon. Suleiman Kimani.

**Hon. Suleiman Kimani:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I rise to support the motion. I commend the Governor for reviewing the ministries of the county government. We now have ten ministries and fifteen departments. Some ministries have a lot of work like the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, which was split into two: the Department of Finance and the Department of Economic Planning and Development. Other ministries that have a lot of work include Transport, Energy and Public Works; Agriculture, Livestock Development and Fisheries; Water, Environment, Tourism and Natural Resources and Industrialisation, Trade and Cooperatives.

In the previous regime, the CEC Member in charge of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Fisheries, for example, could not sufficiently handle all the sectors under the ministry because it was so wide. Remember our county is one of the counties whose farm produces are consumed in Nairobi. Splitting the ministry will now make the work of the two Chief Officers who will be in charge of it easier.

Hon. Kariuki Muchiri has intimated that our county has no enough land for building public utilities such as polytechnics. In view of this, the county government should repossess grabbed public land.

Many natural springs and wells in our county have been encroached. This has made it difficult for many households to access water. I will bring a statement to this House requesting the establishment of a bill on natural springs and wells.

We aspire to build at least one polytechnic in every ward. However, in most cases, a good number of the youth who join the existing polytechnics in our county hail from other counties. For instance, only about ten percent of students at Mirangine Polytechnic come from Nyandarua

County; the other percentage comes from other counties. Therefore, we have a lot of work as MCAs to ensure that school leavers join polytechnics.

I acknowledge the Governor's address and we are ready to support our Governor in order for him to deliver on his mandate for the benefit of our people.

Thank you Mr Speaker.

**Speaker:** Yes, County Member from Karau, Hon. Esther Mwangi.

**Hon. Esther Mwangi:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I rise to support the Governor's speech and I will start by appreciating a certain phrase that caught my eye. He says:

'we must believe in the power of big dreams and take pride in the hard work, resilience and the indomitable faith of the Nyandarua people to succeed despite the years of challenged leadership.'

He continues to say that if you do not dream, someone else will hire you to dream for us. I believe we are perfectly capable of dreaming for ourselves and we do not need to hire other people to dream for us or be hired to dream for others. On the health sector, the Governor has promised to upgrade the J.M. Memorial Hospital into a level 6 hospital and I believe this will do a lot of good to our people. Mr Speaker, I want to be very brief but I recall the former Governor promising to setup a paediatric hospital where our children would be treated. The hospital was even going to have a helipad. I hope our colleagues who were in the previous regime like my friend Hon. Suleiman Kimani here can tell us what happened. On the issue of ambulances, we appreciate because we know it will get the sick to hospitals in time. We also appreciate that the Governor has promised to create awareness and support enrolment of up to 50 percent of Nyandaruanans into the NHIF scheme up from the current 20 percent.

We have seen people moving around with *harambee* cards and letters from chiefs and others have even taken advantage of the situation to con people. I believe the NHIF scheme will save many lives. I also appreciate the proposed establishment of rehabilitation centres because if you remember when we had a massive crackdown of the illicit brews we lost so many of our youth to withdrawal syndrome, which they were referring to as '*gathitima*'.

On the department of education, I am impressed with the introduction of a feeding programme because some areas of Nyandarua are hunger stricken and too poor to feed their children. A feeding programme will not only attract the children to go to school but will also keep them there. There is also the issue of bursaries and I am happy to see that there is enough money set aside for bursaries for children from poor backgrounds. In the recent past, so many people have been denied the opportunity to become great men and women due to lack of access to education. With sufficient bursaries, however, our children will easily become what they want to be. There is potential in our youth. It is said that the greatest tragedy is to see great potential die but for me, an even greater tragedy is to see potential remain unrealized. They also say that the greatest wealth is to be found in a cemetery because there lies books that were not written; there lie doctors who never became; engineers who never became; and politicians who never became because they lacked school fees. With the bursaries, however, we believe that our children will now be able to realize their dreams and especially those in Institutions of higher learning. Hon. Wangari Methu mentioned the issue of bursary committees and requested that they are managed by competent individuals not some money hungry individuals.

On the issue of roads, I appreciate that the Governor has promised to grade all the feeder roads in the county for easy access and this will be greatly beneficial to our farmers. There is also



the bill on potato packaging and I believe we need to first consult with the other counties because we cannot have our farmers taking their 50kgs of potatoes to Nairobi for Kshs. 1000 while farmers from the other counties are packaging theirs at 400kgs at the same price and expect that our farmers will sell anything. He also talked of value addition for our milk and potatoes.

There is also the revival of pyrethrum farming in our county, which will be a major boost to our farmers. I remember some 20 years ago there was a lot of pyrethrum in this area. Pyrethrum is a very good cash crop and it provides job opportunities for our youth especially because it requires harvesting after every two weeks and they are paid depending on the number of kilograms harvested. There is also going to be de-silting and rehabilitating of Kinja and Pesi dams and I am hoping the same will be extended to other dams especially the Kianda and Kagotho dam in Karau ward. With those remarks, I wish to support the Governor's speech.

**Speaker:** Hon. Mwangi Maitai, have you made your contributions on the Governor's speech or do you want to do so now?

**Hon. Mwangi Maitai:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I wish to make my contributions now.

**Speaker:** Please proceed.

**Hon. Mwangi Maitai:** Thank you Mr Speaker. As I support this motion, I wish to commend the Governor for the speech he delivered. I am particularly impressed with the way he emphasized on the Assembly and the Executive's independence and interdependence because I also believe we must work as one in order to achieve our objectives. On industrialization, the Governor really emphasized on cooperatives which I am in total support of. Nyandarua County is greatly marginalized and introducing industries will boost our economy greatly.

In the area of Health, as the Member for Githioro has cited, we cannot ignore the ongoing nurses' strike and it should be given the due attention. Our people are losing their lives every day and it should be put to an end.

On the area tourism, our county is rich in natural resources that are seriously underutilized; like the lake Ol'bollosat, which has very many species of birds, the Karurumo falls and the Ndaragwa falls. On the youth sector, we have very many structures in the name of polytechnics with little or no equipment and no students. I think it is time we re-equipped them and encouraged our youth to enrol. The current rates of unemployment are worrying and I believe it is important that we encourage our children to take up courses that will equip them with sufficient skills for self-sustenance. This will also help curb drug abuse among the youth as they will be constantly occupied doing something functional.

The Governor also mentioned the department of ICT and he promised that major towns in Nyandarua will be connected to the internet and this, I believe will not only create jobs for the youth but will also attract foreign investors as internet connectivity is one of the major factors they consider. With the internet, we are connected to the rest of the world and we can market our skills and products around the globe.

On the area of lands, much has been said about double allocations and I hope this is something that will be looked into because no investor wants to invest in a place where there are land ownership disputes. On matters education, they say that the best gift you could give to your child is education. Unfortunately, a good number of our families come from poor backgrounds and they can hardly meet the high cost of education. I am glad that the Governor promised to boost the bursary kitty so that more children stay in school. As one member has cited, it is important that we ensure that the people we put in these committees are not just there for their own interests. We want people who are development minded.

There is much to be done in the area of agriculture and the best approach would be to go to every ward and identify their specific agricultural needs. With those remarks, I wish to support the speech and it is my sincere hope that the Governor and his team will execute the projects enumerated here and that this document will not just remain a document.

Thank you Mr Speaker.

**Speaker:** Yes, Member for Wanjohi Ward, Hon. Isaac Kung'u.

**Hon. Isaac Kung'u:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I wish to appreciate the Governor's speech because in it, he has been able to capture a five-year vision and although some people may term it as ambitious; you can only walk as far as you can see. Let me start by saying that the Governor took his time in researching where we are as a county, which is commendable because; unless you know where you are coming from, you will not get to where you are going. He has managed to give us some of the social indicators in terms of education, health, NHIF intake among others. Very soon, we will be imploring the Governor to establish a county bureau of statistics in his office from where anyone of us can access crucial statistics that will be instrumental in equitable allocation of resources.

We want to see, for instance, how many kilometres of road have been graded in Wanjohi, how many water projects there are in Wanjohi etc. This will help us take stock and establish the areas we need to improve on. The Governor has also promised to hold 'The Nyandarua We Want' Conference, which I think, is a good idea because it will give the people of Nyandarua a chance to participate and express what they want. Development must be participatory and we must involve our people in coming up with these projects, otherwise, you will find that we are formulating plans that do not meet our people's needs. We are looking forward to the first conference and I will tie this with the Governor's proposal of rebranding Nyandarua because often times, Nyandarua is portrayed in very bad light. It is either there is Marijuana being grown in the Aberdare or someone has been raped another. You will never hear good things about Nyandarua yet we have so many good things.

I am also looking forward to seeing changes in the Governor's office especially in the media relations office. It is very disparaging to hear that those who report do not even know that Nyandarua and Laikipia are two different counties. We need serious rebranding Mr Speaker. We are a commodity and we must sell ourselves. When good things are reported about Nyandarua, we shall attract investors. This brings me to the point on introducing an investors' conference. I know most of the other counties were able to hold such conferences in the first term of devolution and I believe it will give us a chance to showcase our county to the investors. We all know what investors bring with them: Economic endowment.

The Governor is expecting to collect Kshs. 371,000,000 in revenue this financial year. Comparing this with the neighbouring counties, it is sad to note that we are collecting the least revenue. I know Murang'a and Kiambu collect over one billion shillings yet we expect to compete with them. The only way we can boost our economy is by inviting investors to come invest in our county. This will also create jobs for our youth.

On the issue of lands, I think Nyandarua has the most cases of land disputes, people have grabbed public land. We need to conduct a serious lands audit and establish what we have. We cannot expect investors to come in yet we have no land to offer them. What do we expect them to develop? We want to establish an industrial Park but where are we going to put it up? This is a very serious issue and we will be waiting to see what the incoming Minister for lands will do about it.

Members will agree with me that the greatest burden that we have today is health. You find that every weekend you receive invitation cards and calls and you are required to contribute towards hospital bills. There is need for civic education and work with the ministry of health to make people realize the benefits of NHIF. Some people believe that it is expensive but you realize that it is not when you get sick. We need to talk to people through their *chamas* and other informal groups so that we can use those groups to make people understand the benefits of NHIF. I do not think there is a government that can sustain to pay NHIF for its people but it is possible to arrange to have the NHIF staff go out and educate our people.

Concerning tourism and youth, I would say that it is a good idea to start a sport fund to support and sustain the talents of the youth. I believe that among the youth there are so many talents. After the sitting, I would like to hear from the members who were there in the first assembly about the kind of sport activities that were there. I do not think there was serious talent search. Days have changed, this is the time that that we said that you have to get A's and B+ so that you can progress in life. Many people have become successful because of their talents. We have examples in this country and the county. We need to move with speed to harness and get these talents out. There is a funny thing about sports; as you grow older, your energy becomes diminished and therefore the earlier you recognize these talents the better so that we can help these youths. Passenga secondary school has been doing so well in soccer but what happens to those talents after they leave school. Those talents go to waste. It is the high time that we make sports infrastructure. We should also be thinking of how we are going to tap these talents so that the youth can develop their life.

I have noted something so important in the governor's speech; that is Lake Ol' Bolossat Management Act. We have seen in the media that Lake Ol' Bolossat is on the verge of becoming extinct. This is the only lake in the former Central Province and we need to move with speed to protect this lake. Wangari Maathai said that if we do not take care of the Mother Nature it will punish us. When nature starts punishing you it is very harsh. We have seen the results of climate change and all that. If we allow people to continue grabbing land around that lake, we might find ourselves living like people in Ukambani even if we boast of being the country's food basket at the moment. We need to take care of the forests too.

As I conclude, I want to say this, they have indicated that last year our farmers received about 20,321 bags of fertilizer while they needed 300,000 bags. I would like the governor to look into this issue because we are aware of how the farmers suffered. When these few bags were distributed to the people, they caused conflict because the farmers concluded that the fertilizer was probably sold to business people and that was the reason it was not available to them. It is the high time that the governor meets with the Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture to make sure that an agricultural county like Nyandarua does not receive 21,000 bags of fertilizer again because that is not good. This year or next year, we should be talking about 100,000 bags and above. If we had that much last year, even if we do not majorly grow maize, we would have a lot of potatoes and other farm products. Lobbying should be done to see to it that people get a lot of fertilizer.

I would say that this is a good speech. It is ambitious and I support it. I look forward to see that it will not be just a good paper that was written, we are going to see actions in the field. Thank you Mr Speaker.

**Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Samuel Mathu.

**Hon. Samuel Mathu:** Thank you Mr Speaker, sir. I rise to support this speech. My colleagues have discussed most of the best points in this speech. I however will make remarks on health as Hon. Kung'u has said. The governor intends to do civic education on the need to register

for NHIF. I am a victim because every weekend, I have several cards that require me to contribute towards the bills of sick people. We can all agree that cancer has become a deadly disease. There are burials every time. I support the governor on that because I am sure he will ensure there is civic education and that people register for NHIF, which will pay the bill and I will be safe. I urge even the members to enlighten our people on the same.

I am also sure that he will establish a service charter in hospitals. The nurses will come back from strike but at times there are go slows in the hospitals and we have seen patients come to hospital early in the morning but receive treatment in the afternoon. I am sure this is going to address that issue. These people are paid from our taxes.

In the department of Industrialization, Trade, Cooperative and Enterprise Development. I am happy that the governor intends to introduce and build cottage industries. We have very few industries in our county and those are the posho mills. The cottage industries will see to it that we have employed our youths.

The governor said that there would be a sports fund that will be used to nurture and sustain the talents of the youth. This is a high altitude county and we have areas where we can built athletes' academies that could in turn fetch a lot of income for this county.

In the department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources, the governor, aware of the carbon blanket in the atmosphere, made a promise that he will work with Kenya Forest Service to see that we increase the forest cover in the county from 20% to 30%. He will also work with Kenya Wildlife Service and Water Resources Management Authority to see to it that protected areas are preserved.

I support his proposal to introduce a developers' policy so that the local residents are given privilege in saw milling. I was saw milling and having done the activity for about ten years, I have never benefitted from the Kenya Forest Service.

I will also talk about the polytechnics. Hon. Kariuki Muchiri said that there are some wards that have two youth polytechnics but there are others that do not have any. We need to ensure that every ward has an equipped polytechnic. Some of those polytechnics were not even giving students certificates. All they had to say is that they were in a polytechnic. I will move a motion that we have a revolving fund for these students so that when they leave the polytechnics the government can give them a loan to start a business.

Finally yet importantly, I am happy that the governor is ready to give title deeds to the colonial villages. They will be able to get loans from the banks and start businesses.

I support the address.

**Speaker:** Yes Hon. Githinji.

**Hon. Githinji Mburu:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I heard the speech of the Governor on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and I was happy because all that I told *Wanjiku* during the campaigns is in that speech. I told *Wanjiku* about early childhood education and polytechnic and he also spoke about it.

Agriculture is the backbone of this county and the governor addressed it. I have seen that he spoke about potato farming and I am one of the best potato farmers in Rurii ward. I am facing the same problems as the farmers. If I was farming two acres, I now see that it will be possible to do four acres. We shall get fertilizer in good prices. In livestock, farming the artificial insemination services will be available and affordable. I have cows and now I can see that I will be able to milk good dairy cows.

When we come to roads....

**Speaker:** Member are you saying that you will be taking what is meant for *Wanjiku* to your home?

**Hon. Githinji Mburu:** No Mr. Speaker...concerning roads our area...

**Speaker:** Member in your statement you said that you will multiply the number of cows you have from the services that will be given to *Wanjiku* and you will take advantage of it. Are you saying that you will be taking anything provided for *Wanjiku* to you home?

**Hon Githinji Mburu:** No Mr Speaker, I am talking about all the cows in Rurii ward. The artificial insemination is meant to be for the whole county.

Mr. Speaker in Nyandarua county we have so many bad roads. In Rurii ward when it rains it becomes so difficult to go home. I have seen that he talked about standard road in the whole county.

Mr. Speaker all that we have to do as members is to support the governor in the implementation of the same. If we do this, I am sure that all of us will be back in the third assembly.

**Speaker:** Yes Hon. Gaita

**Hon. Justus Gaita:** Thank you Mr Speaker, I support the speech of the governor and I have two points to make. One of them is the youth and their talents. I applaud the governor because he believes in youth empowerment and he will make their dreams come true. It would be good that every sub county gets a talent academy. During my campaigns, I held a talent search activity and in my ward, I had about 300 people competing. I hope that the governor will help those youths.

On infrastructure the governor is willing to develop the town that are there in the county. Mairo-Inya town plan was made in 2006 and to date the town has not changed. There is no sewerage system, public toilet, markets and Bus Park. The population in the said town is higher than Ol'kalou. I hope that the governor with the help of the department of planning and the members of the county assembly will see to it that the said plan is implemented.

Thank you Mr Speaker.

**Speaker:** Yes Hon. Reuben

**Hon. Gitau Reuben:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I support the speech of the Governor. I will start with revenue collection; he said that he will put up measures to ensure that there is efficiency in revenue collection. There is dire need to expand revenue collection in this county because it is lagging behind. It is actually among the last counties in the country in terms of revenue collection. Based on the amount collected, we can see that there is a problem with those that have been given a duty to collect. I do not think we have the right data of the number of businesses in this county. That is why we need to automate revenue collection so that we can seal the loopholes. Those collecting revenue need to be followed so that what they bring into the kitty is what is reflected on the ground. It was said by a fellow member that for revenue to grow, we need more investors in the county. We therefore need to work on the business environment in the county.

If you look at the National Government on the issue of investment, there is this issue of National economic Council where they form an organization that would mobilize resources not only what we are getting as revenue resources from even outside the country. Maybe in our case as a county, I would propose and at the same time feel if it is possible that we can have the same where this economic council starts with a responsibility of mobilizing resources from even outside our county, outside our country that is where we get money for maybe, HIV, money for health at the same time donations grants, we have young people outside there who are ready to give grants or even ask for investment loans e.g. if you are given a good soft loan, to work on the economic measures in our county that you are required to pay maybe after five years, this will boost our economic growth of our country and our county at the same time.

On the issue of agriculture, I come from a ward where the cash crop is potatoes and I do not know whether you are experiencing these problems because in my ward the height of a potato bag that is being sold in the market is equal to the height of two farmers combined. If you look at that height and the amount of potatoes that is being sold at sh1000, you would realize that our farmers are really facing problems and challenges because they do not get profit out of it.

I think we have been given the task of coming up with a bill that will help our farmers all over the county so that we can be having a good packaging system where farmers get value for their produce. On the fertilizer issue, it was mentioned by my friend Hon. Kung'u, in 2016, farmers were given subsidized fertilizers from the National Government i.e. 21320 bags, I was doing simple mathematics, if you are to divide that by 25 wards, if that was the formula, you realize that each ward was to get 852 bags. Personally I have been in the ward and none of the fertilizer that came to our ward, this means even if we were to seek more sources from the National Government we are likely to have loop holes, this fertilizer going to individual pockets.

So at the same time, as much as we are going to lobby more from the National Government, at the same time we need to check on our own systems so that when this fertilizer comes to the county, is meant for the farmer and he should benefit. So there is need to come up with a good structured formula so that the farmer can get what is due to them.

On the same, I want to touch on education, which has been mentioned by some Hon members. On the issue of polytechnics, you realize that there is a perception among the young people that these are village polytechnics, whatever you go to learn from them is for those students who never did well in their class eight exams. That perception has really worked against the polytechnics we have. What I would request and I have seen in the Governor's speech, is that we need to market our polytechnics in a way that the courses they are offering attract employment. At the same time, it is good that the government comes up with a way of assisting those students who successfully complete their courses in the polytechnics to start businesses.

On tourism, our county has only one lake, that is Lake Ol' Bolossat whose part of it is in my ward and I would wish to say that this is an area that has been left out being the only lake in the Central region. It is least known and we are not using the potential to market our county using the same lake. So I would wish what the governor is saying would be able to market our lake and improve the tourism sector.

Mr Speaker, if you mention Nyandarua to some of the institutions that you may think would be coming to visit our areas, they don't know Nyandarua and one of us mentioned that Nyandarua needs to be marketed in the right way. Some of them even think that Nyandarua is part of other counties or an NGO somewhere. Therefore, we need to work as a team, and market Nyandarua properly. I do not want to say that the other regime was not doing the right thing but less has been done to market Nyandarua. You feel bad when you go round and meet somebody and you tell them you are from Nyandarua County Assembly, and you thought that this is somebody who should know where Nyandarua is. They ask you whether Nyandarua is in Nyahururu or Laikipia; they do not understand where we are.

On the youth agenda, as I finish, empowering the youth on social economic spheres is very important. We do not need to say that because most of the young people in our county do not have tertiary education, they cannot do businesses that would help them raise their social economic standards. In the governor's agenda, I have seen that he is talking about soft loans that would help young people to move on and start businesses. This is a good step in the right direction and am sure by the end of the day our young people would be able to benefit.

As he finished, he also talked of support in the re-election of the president. Hon. Members, I know this is in good faith and all of us want our president to be re-elected. We all know that being members from the central lift, if we do not have our president at the top, so most likely we are going to have issues in delivering our responsibilities to the people. So am not happy at all with what is happening at the top with young men calling our president names. That is disrespect to the presidency, and I don't want to mention somebody here but we all know this man, and what he said is completely out of order and if it was in this parliament, am sure we would have been the first ones to take him to the right health centre for check-up.

Thank you.

**Speaker:** Leader of majority, what is it?

**Hon. Gathungu Kamau:** Mr Speaker Sir, as you know, we ought to debate the Governor's address in four days and we have until Tuesday. I beg that we adjourn the following motion; pursuant to standing order No.96 (1), the debate on the motion;

THAT the thanks of the Assembly be recorded for exposition of public policy, contained in the address of the Governor delivered on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 2017 be now adjourned to Tuesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2017 at 2.30p.m.

We had earlier agreed to contribute on the Governor's address for three consecutive days. However, due to public participation, which is happening in all the wards, it has not been possible and all members have not had an opportunity to come and participate in this debate. This is a very important debate putting in mind that this speech is the yardstick for development in the next five years. Therefore, as per our standing orders, 26 (4), the debate should not exceed four days, and Tuesday should be our last day to discuss this motion.

The House Business Committee did not have to draft the business for the coming week, so I urge my fellow Hon. Members to visit the table office to seek guidance on motions and statements as per our standing orders 45 (2) (a). I also take this opportunity to thank St. Peters Kaimbaga pupils and teachers, who have visited this Assembly today. It is a very good idea. They have learnt from their role models, I know there are doctors, MCAs and members of parliament amongst them. In addition, to the teachers this was very important, to my fellow Hon. Members it is a challenge that we also try to make our schools from our backyards to come and visit this August house, and have a learning experience.

I also thank my fellow Hon. Members for the great contribution you have made to the Governor's speech. I know when he hears, he will have a lot to learn from our contribution since we are the ones on the ground and if we implement this, Nyandarua will not be the same again. At this juncture, I wish to inform Hon. Members that after this session, we shall have our *kamukunji*. There are some urgent issues we need to discuss concerning our offices, the deadline of taking over those offices is tomorrow and thus I invite all Hon. Members at the restaurant after this session. At this point, I call Hon. Ngumo Ngamau, the member for Gathanji to second this adjournment motion.

Thank you.

**Speaker:** Leave granted. The seconder.

**Hon. Ngumo Ngamau:** I second.

*(Question proposed)*

*(Consultations)*

*(Hon. Reuben Gitau rises on a point of order)*

**Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Reuben Gitau.

**Hon. Gitau Reuben:** Mr Speaker, have all the members who are in this house today been able to contribute?

**Speaker:** Thank you member for the question, according to my list, 26 members have contributed and we still have 13 more to make their contributions. According to the Standing Orders and as the Leader of Majority has communicated, we still have another one sitting. So far, we have sat three times so by adjournment, we still have another sitting for the 13 members to make their contributions. Therefore, I think it is in order for the House to adjourn.

*(Question is put and agreed to)*

**Speaker:** So thank you members, now I wish to adjourn this House to Tuesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2017 at 2.30 pm. Thank you.

*(The House rose at 4.34pm)*