

**COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU**



**COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU**

**THE HANSARD**

*Official Report*

**THIRD ASSEMBLY – FOURTH SESSION**

**Wednesday, 03<sup>rd</sup> September, 2025**

**House met in the Main Chamber at 2:30 p.m.**

**(The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Carren Ajwang') in the Chair)**

**PRAYERS**

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Honourable members in line with the provisions of Orders No.32 (2) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders, I direct that the quorum bell to be rung for the first five minutes.

*(Quorum bell rung for the first minutes)*

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Honourable Jagongo, please confirm if we have quorum to transact business.

**Hon. Jagongo** (MCA, North West Kisumu): Thank you Madam Speaker. We have quorum.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Thank you. Clerk, please take us through the business of this afternoon.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Next order!!

**STATEMENTS**

STATEMENT SOUGHT BY HON. SAMUEL ONYANGO REGARDING THE AGREEMENT ON THE MANAGEMENT OF KANYAKWAR CULTURAL CENTRE IN RAILWAYS WARD.

STATEMENT SOUGHT BY HONOURABLE MOSES OCHELE REGARDING THE MATTER OF PRIVATIZATION OF MIWANI, CHEMELIL AND MUHORONI SUGAR COMPANIES.

STATEMENT SOUGHT BY HONOURABLE FREDRICK ADONIJA REGARDING THE ALARMING DISCREPANCY AND APPARENT ANOMALIES SURROUNDING THE ALLOCATION, WITHDRAWAL AND SUBSEQUENT REQUISITION OF BURSARY AND SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS IN THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU FOR THE YEAR 2024-2025.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Yes, Honourable Samuel Onyango, member representing Railways.

**Hon. Onyango** (MCA, Railways): Thank you Madam Speaker. Pursuant to the provisions of Orders No. 41 (b) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Order, I rise to seek a Statement from the Chairpersons, Departmental Committees on Education, Technical Training, Innovation and Social Services and that of Sports, Culture, Gender, Youth Affairs about the agreement on the management of Kanyakwar Cultural Centre in Railways Ward.

Madam Speaker, I read that the current government of Kisumu undertook the renovation of the Kanyakwar Cultural Centre located in Railways Ward during the financial year 2024-2025 and that the facility is now fully refurbished and ready for public use.

FURTHER AWARE THAT, it is in the public domain that the current government of Kisumu has entered into the agreement with the Utali College regarding the management and operational oversight of the said facility. Madam Speaker, in light of the above and recognition of the importance of transparency, community involvement and potential socio-economic impact of this partnership, I hereby seek a response from the committees on the following matters.

- a) What are the specific terms and conditions of the agreement signed between the current government of Kisumu and Utali College and
- b) What tangible benefits are expected to occur to the local community as a result of this partnership?
- c) Was any public participation conducted prior to the signing of this agreement in accordance with the principles of public accountability and conditional requirement for citizen involvement in matters affecting them?

Madam Speaker, it is my hope that the two House Committees will provide a detailed response to ensure that the residents of Railways Ward and Kisumu County at large are well informed and adequately represented in decisions that impact their cultural heritage and economic well-being. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Honourable members, is there any chairperson of the two House committees mention in the House?

Honourable members, this report is directed to the tow said House Committees. I am not able to spot the respective committee Chairpersons. What is it Honourable James Were?

**Hon. Were** (MCA, Nyalenda "B"): Madam Speaker, I request a period of two weeks to enable us work on the Statement.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): That is granted.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Next Statement?

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Yes, Honourable Moses Ochele.

**Hon. Ochele** (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 41 (2) I rise to request a statement from the Chairpersons of the Committee on Finance and the Committee on Agriculture regarding the Matter of Privatization of Miwani, Chemelil and Muhoroni Sugar Companies.

Madam Speaker, Section 114 of the County Governments Act 2012 provides that the development of national significant projects within a county shall be preceded by a mandatory public hearings in each of the affected counties and that such projects shall subsequent to those hearings be considered and approved or rejected by respective county assemblies.

Madam Speaker, the three sugar companies situated in Kisumu County are not only national significant projects but also critical to the socio-economic well-being of the residents of Miwani, Chemelil and Muhoroni and greater Sugar Belt region.

Their privatization has therefore generated considerable public interest. In this regard, I seek statement from the Chairpersons, Departmental Committees on Finance and ICT and that of on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Blue Economy to clarify the following.

- a) What were the views, memoranda or feedback from the residents, stakeholders and other interested parties during the public participation exercise and how are these incorporated into the final decision?
- b) Plans on revival of the sugar sector including the nuclear land and ownership of the privatized companies.

- c) Whether there were any plans for collaboration with the County Assembly of Kisumu for the successful implementation of the new lease arrangements.
- d) Any measures being taken to safeguard the rights, welfare and economic interests of the workers including pensions, if any, and local community following the privatization.
- e) History of workforce uptake in the transition period.

Madam Speaker, this matter is of grave importance to the residents of this county and I humbly request that the two Chairpersons provide comprehensive response to this House. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang', MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Honorable members, I am not able to spot the Chairpersons, Departmental Committees of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock Development and Irrigation. However, I can spot the Vice Chairperson, Honorable Bill. Do you have something to say?

**Hon. Oliver** (MCA, Kobura): Thank you Madam Speaker. I would request for time precisely 3 (three) weeks so that we give this House sufficient response. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang', MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): As requested and as per the procedure, I will give these two House Committees 14 (fourteen) calendar days to investigate and file a report then bring it back to the Honorable House. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang', MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Yes, Honorable Adonijah.

**Hon. Odari** (Chemelil/Tamu): Thank you Madam Speaker. Pursuant to the provision of Standing Order No. 41(2)(b), I rise to seek a statement from the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Education, Technical Training, Innovation and Social Service regarding the alarming Discrepancy and Apparent Anomalies Surrounding the Allocation, Withdrawal and subsequent Requisition of Bursary and Scholarship Funds in the County Government of Kisumu for the year 2024-2025.

Honorable Speaker, as we can recall, during the budget cycle for the year 2024/2025, this Assembly approved an allocation of Kshs. 205 million specifically earmarked for Bursary and Scholarships to support deserving learners across the county. The bursary program remains one of the most critical interventions in our Education Sector, directly touching the lives of thousands of needy students and ensuring that no child is denied the right of education due to financial hardship. However, it has come to the attention of this House that Kshs100 million of the allocated fund was withdrawn at some point during the financial year.

Alarming, records indicate that this substantial amount was not utilized for its intended purpose of paying Bursaries and Scholarships. Its expenditure remains unclear. This raises serious

concerns about the prioritization of education and the proper utilization of public funds. Even more worrying is that the department in charge of bursary has now only made a requisition of only Kshs. 65 million, leaving a puzzling shortfall of Kshs 140 million from the original allocation. At the same time, bursaries for the current financial year remain unpaid, leaving many families stranded at school demanding fees from students who are depending on these allocations.

Honorable Speaker, this situation raises serious questions of accountability, fiscal discipline, and transparency at a time when parents and guardians in Kisumu County are under immense financial strain. Such inconsistencies in the handling of education funds risk eroding public trust and undermining this Assembly's oversight role. The lack of clarity over the expenditure of these funds paints a worrying picture of how public resources meant to empower our children are being managed. This House and the people of Kisumu deserve answers.

Honorable Speaker, in light of the above, I seek that the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Education, Technical Training, Innovation, and Social Service urgently provides a comprehensive report addressing the following issues:

1. Clarification on why Kshs 100 million was withdrawn but not used for the bursary and scholarship, and a detailed breakdown of how this amount was ultimately spent.
2. Furnish this House with a complete and audited report on the expenditure of the aforementioned Kshs 100 million.
3. An explanation as to why only Kshs 65 million has been requested so far for the bursary despite the Assembly approving Kshs 205 million for the same purpose.
4. A detailed update on the balance of Kshs 140 million from the approved bursary allocation, with a clear indication of where these funds are currently being held or how they have been utilized.
5. A timeline and concrete plan for disbursement of the pending bursaries to ensure no disturbing students is disadvantaged due to delays or mismanagement of funds.

I therefore urge the Chairperson of this House Committee to table a substantive response to this statement within the shortest time possible so that this House may take necessary action to safeguard the integrity of the novel program and restore public confidence. Thank you.

Madam Speaker, I am kindly requesting if you can give us two minutes so that any other Honourable member with additional information to add onto this statement, thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Honorable members, the statement sought by Honourable Fredrick Adonija is quite contentious. So, I will do as per his request. However, going by the dictates of the Standing Orders, the statement hours should

not go past 03.30 p.m. and we only have 2 minutes left. So, if you are lucky to get that opportunity, use 30 seconds. It is not a debate, Honourable members, it is just a commentary or to add something that I may have been left out.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Honourable Nyaoke, I saw you stand up first.

**Hon. Nyaoke** (MCA, North Nyakach): Thank you Madam Speaker. The Statement which has just been sought by my good friend Honourable Odari is unifying.

Madam Speaker, if there is one hell of a problem that we have in our Wards back at home is the issue of Bursary. Several questions or telephone calls that are being channeled to us to explain why we are unable to disburse these funds are giving us really sleepless nights. They have even started a narration that since we came into the office, some of us, maybe our constituents believe that, we have disbanded this issue of bursaries and you will find out for instance the former Honourable members that were here previously says; 'you see, nowadays you are not even getting the bursary and before then, when I was there as the area MCA, I used to get you people the bursary'.

Madam Speaker, this is a very serious issue and the Statement which has been sought by Honourable Odari should be answered because we really need those answers and the way forward to see exactly what we are going to do and how we are going to explain to our constituents. Thank you, Madam Speaker, for that opportunity.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni Shaurimoyo): Honourable members, it is already 3p.m. So, I will just advise that any other member who has any concern to join the Education, Technical Training, innovation and Social Services Committee to ensure that his or her views are captured in the report. So, I will refer this Statement to that House Committee and give them 14 (fourteen) calendar days to do a report and then bring it back to this Honourable House.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo) Next order!!

## MOTION

REPORT OF JOINT DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES OF MEDICAL SERVICES, PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION AND LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES ON THE INQUIRY INTO THE MATTER OF PAYMENT AND DEDUCTIONS ON STIPENDS OF COMMUNITY HEALTH PROMOTERS.

BY

HON. VINCENT JAGONGO, MCA, NORTH WEST

[CHAIRPERSON, JOINT HOUSE COMMITTEES]

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Yes, Honourable Vincent Jagongo.

**Hon. Jagongo** (MCA, North West Kisumu): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Orders No. 41 (2) (b) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders which allows Honourable members to seek Statements from House Committee Chairpersons on matters of topical concern that fall within the mandates of their respective House Committees.

Madam Speaker, in line with this provision, and while exercising his oversight role, the Honourable Member for Kobura Ward, Honourable Bill Odhiambo, during the House sitting of Wednesday, 07<sup>th</sup> May 2025, sought a statement drawing the Assembly's attention to allegations of Deductions from Stipends paid to Community Health Promoters (CHPs) (*see Annex 1*).

The Honourable Member requested a formal response to the issues therein, from the Chairperson of the Committee on Labour and Social Welfare Services. However, owing to the cross-cutting nature of the issues, the Honourable Speaker, in his wisdom and pursuant to Orders No. 185 of the Standing Orders, directed that the matter be handled by a joint Committee comprising the Committees on Labour and Social Welfare Services and, Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation.

#### Scope and Limitations

Honourable Speaker, the scope of this report is limited to the following issues as were outlined in the statement;

1. A clarification on the legal, policy, and administrative framework governing the payment of stipends to Community Health Promoters in Kisumu County.
2. A detailed breakdown of the monthly stipend amount allocated to CHPs, and the agency or department responsible for its disbursement.
3. An explanation of the nature, percentage, and legal basis of all deductions made from the CHPs' stipends, including whether such deductions are statutory, policy-driven, or administrative in nature.
4. Information on whether the payment of stipends has been consistent across all wards and sub-counties and if not, the reasons for the disparities.
5. Evidence of whether CHPs were adequately informed or consulted before the deductions were affected, and whether consent was obtained where required.
6. Measures being undertaken to resolve the concerns raised, ensure timely and full payment of stipends, and improve the transparency and fairness of the payment process.
7. Steps taken by the County Department of Health to monitor and audit the payments and deductions to ensure accountability and compliance with public finance laws.

## Methodology

Honourable Speaker, the Committee primarily relied on the information provided by the Department of Medical Services, Public Health, and Sanitation to gather information. The following were the methods employed for this case:

- i. Stakeholder engagement
- ii. Review of relevant reports and documents
- iii. Research

## Acknowledgement

Honourable Speaker, the Joint Committee expresses its sincere gratitude to all its Members for diligently participating in the proceedings of this inquiry. Their dedication and contributions were instrumental in shaping the contents of this report.

The Committee also acknowledges the invaluable support of the Office of the Speaker, the Clerk of the Assembly, the Directorate of Legislative Procedural and Committee Services, and its Secretariat for logistical and administrative facilitation.

Special recognition goes to the Honorable Member for Kobura ward, Hon Bill Odhiambo, for bringing to the attention of the County Assembly, this important matter. His proactive approach provided the basis for this inquiry.

This report is therefore submitted with the hope that its recommendations will inform stronger interventions and foster a healthier working environment for the county health workforce. It is now my pleasure, on behalf of the Committee, to move;

THAT, this House adopts the report of the Joint Committee of Labour and Social Welfare and, Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation, on the inquiry into the matter of the matter of payment and deductions on stipends of Community Health Promoters (CHPs).

## Submissions

Honourable Speaker, Following the establishment of the Committee and during its maiden meeting, it resolved to communicate the issues sought to the CECM responsible for Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation.

Through the Office of the Clerk and via a letter referenced CAK/MSPHS/03/06/2025, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025 (*See Annex 2 IN page 15*), a formal communication was made to the CECM seeking responses to the attendant matters.

Honourable Speaker, the Committee received a response from the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Medical Services, Public Health, and Sanitation through a letter referenced CGK/EXCHEALTH/CA/34/VOL.IV(052) and dated 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2025. (*See Annex 3 in page 16*).

1. A clarification on the legal, policy, and administrative framework governing the payment of stipends to Community Health Promoters in Kisumu County;
  - a) THAT, remuneration of the CHPs is anchored in section 15(6) (a) and (b) of the Kisumu County Community Health Services Act, 2022 (*see the extract in Annexure 4*);

*A Community Health Volunteer shall be paid a facilitation allowance in accordance with the provisions of the regulations of this Act.*

*The County Executive Committee Member responsible for Health shall make necessary regulations as to the implementation of Clause (a) above.*
  - b) THAT, the process of developing these regulations is currently underway, and a draft copy has already been completed.
2. A detailed breakdown of the monthly stipend amount allocated to CHPs, and the agency or department responsible for its disbursement.
  - a) THAT the amount set aside for payment of stipend for CHPs is Kshs. 22,305,000 per quarter, amounting to Kshs. 89,220,000 in a financial year.
  - b) THAT the Department of Finance is responsible for the disbursement of these funds to the CHPs.
3. An explanation of the nature, percentage, and legal basis of all deductions made from the CHPs' stipends, including whether such deductions are statutory, policy-driven, or administrative in nature.
  - a) THAT, evidenced by the attached payment vouchers (*See Annexure 5*), no deductions are made from the amounts paid to the CHPs. Each CHP is entitled to a stipend of Kshs. 2,500 per month, which is disbursed on a quarterly basis.
  - b) THAT, upon receiving complaints regarding deductions, the Department conducted investigations and established that some CHPs had taken mobile loans using their phones. As a result, once payments were made, the loan repayments were automatically deducted, leaving them with less than the expected amount.
  - c) THAT, depending on the bank through which the payments were processed, additional charges such as processing fees are applicable to the beneficiaries' accounts. This is a further cause of the reduction in the net amount received.
4. Information on whether the payment of stipends has been consistent across all wards and sub-counties, and if not, the reasons for the disparities.

- a) THAT, payment of stipend has been consistent across all wards and sub-counties, as shown in Annexure 5.
5. Evidence of whether CHPs were adequately informed or consulted before deductions were affected, and whether consent obtained where required.
  - a) THAT there are no deductions made, by the County Government, on the CHP's payments, as shown in the attached copies of payment vouchers (*See Annexure 5*).
6. Measures being taken to resolve the concerns raised, ensure timely and full payment of stipends, and improve the transparency and fairness of the payment process.
  - a) THAT the Committee finds this concern inapplicable, as the stipends are paid in full, as evidenced by the attached payment vouchers.
7. Steps taken by the County Department of Health to monitor and audit the payments and deductions to ensure accountability and compliance with public finance laws.
  - a) THAT remuneration of the CHPs, just like all other payments for the county, follows normal financial management procedures. Auditing for these payments is done with the other county payments by both the internal auditors and the Office of the Auditor General's Office (OAG) under the Public Audit Act, 2015.

#### Committee Findings

Honourable Speaker, from the submissions and in relations to the attendant matters as sought by the Honourable Member for Kobura ward, the Committee found as follows;

- 1) THAT, payment of CHPs' stipends is anchored in section 15(6)(a) of the Kisumu County Community Health Services Act, 2022 (*see annex 3 in page18*).
- 2) THAT, in respect of (1) above, the Committee finds the CECM responsible for Medical Services, Public Health, and Sanitation in contravention of Section 15(6)(b) of the Kisumu County Community Health Services Act, 2022, which obligates him to formulate regulations for its implementation. Three years down the line, these regulations are yet to be formalized.
- 3) THAT, the amount set aside for payment of stipend for CHPs is Kshs. 22,305,000 per quarter, amounting to Kshs. 89,220,000 in a financial year.
- 4) THAT, the Department of Finance is responsible for the disbursement of these funds to the CHPs.
- 5) THAT, allegations of unlawful deductions from the stipends paid to CHPs are unfounded and untrue as each CHP is entitled to a stipend of Kshs. 2,500 per month, disbursed on a quarterly basis, as evidenced by the payment vouchers externally attached, indicating Kshs. 7500 paid to each CHPs per quarter. (*see the 'CHPs annexures' document shared alongside the report*).
- 6) THAT, some CHPs had pending mobile loans whose repayment were automatically deducted from payments made to them hence the less receipts than the expected amount.
- 7) THAT, bank fees and charges applicable also added to the deductions experienced.

- 8) THAT, like all other county payments, remuneration of the CHPs follows the normal financial management procedures and auditing dully conducted alongside other county payments by both the internal auditor and the Office of the Auditor-General and in accordance with the Public Audit Act, 2015.

### Recommendations

Honourable Speaker, based on the foregoing findings regarding the issues sought in the Statement, the committee makes the following recommendations:

1. THAT, the CECM for MSPHS should prioritize finalization of the Kisumu County Community Health Services Regulations. This will ensure that remuneration processes are legally defined, well-grounded, and standardized, thereby preventing confusion or misuse and providing a formal framework for addressing any future disputes regarding the remuneration of CHPs. This regulation SHOULD be submitted to the County Assembly within a period of one month, failure to which the Committee on Delegated County Legislations should take up the matter and invoke necessary sanctions.
2. THAT, the Committee on Delegated County Legislation should fast-track the processing of the Kisumu County Community Health Regulation and others that are pending.
3. THAT, the Committee of Delegated County Legislation should ensure timelines for formulation and processing of regulations are adhered to, failure to which the Committee, alongside the Assembly should invoke appropriate sanctions as provided under the County Governments Act and other enabling legislations.
4. THAT, the Department of Medical Services, Public Health, and Sanitation, in collaboration with financial institutions, should organize targeted financial literacy workshops for CHPs. This should cover, among other areas, the risks associated with mobile loans and automatic deductions on their finances, as well as a comparison of banking services and related charges. Such initiatives will enable CHPs to make informed decisions on borrowing and managing their banking services.
5. THAT, the CECM responsible for Finance and ICT SHOULD establish clear Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the disbursement of stipends, with periodic reporting to the County Assembly. These reports should detail disbursement timelines, payment status, and reconciliation of funds to foster transparency and legislative oversight.
6. THAT, while the Committee found the allegations of unlawful deductions to be untrue, the Committee recommends the development of a dedicated, publicly accessible payment verification system which would allow CHPs to verify their

payments in real-time, strengthening trust between the County Government and the community health workforce.

### Conclusion

Honourable Speaker, CHPs are the first point of contact for households, providing essential health education, disease prevention, and early intervention services that reduces the burden on higher-level health facilities. Prompt and fair remuneration not only motivates and retains this vital workforce but also demonstrates the county's commitment to valuing their contribution to public health. The Committee, together with the department of MSPHS are committed to ensuring that timely and adequate payment of stipends to Community Health Promoters (CHPs) is prioritized. This is crucial for ensuring the effective delivery of primary healthcare services at the community level and builds a resilient health system that aligns with the principles of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and devolution

This report is therefore submitted with the hope that its recommendations will inform stronger interventions and foster a healthier working environment for the county health workforce. It is now my pleasure, on behalf of the Committee, to move;

THAT, this House adopts the report of the Joint Committee of Labour and Social Welfare and, Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation, on the inquiry into the matter of the matter of payment and deductions on stipends of Community Health Promoters (CHPs).

Madam Speaker, please allow me to call upon the Honourable Millicent Omuya to second the adoption of this report.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Yes, Honourable Millicent Omuya.

**Hon. Omuya** (MCA, North Seme): Thank you Madam Speaker, I do second.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Honourable members, now that a Motion on adoption of the report of Joint Departmental Committees on Medical Services Public Health and Sanitation on Labour and Social Welfare Services on the Inquiry into the matter of Payment and Deductions of Stipends of Community Health Promoters has been presented and seconded, I want to propose a question and I propose that the motion on adoption of the report is open for debate.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Yes, Honourable Nyaoke, North Nyakach.

**Hon. Nyaoke** (MCA, North Nyakach): Thank you Madam Speaker. I stand to support the adoption of this report. At the same time, I want to give lots of thanks to the member representing Kobura Ward who raised this matter and requested for answer.

Madam Speaker, I have been anxiously waiting for this report to see exactly or to be enlightened on the problems that the CHPs are undergoing. Madam Speaker, these are very important persons. I can categorically say that even from all our wards within the county, they are doing a very important having a fundamental responsibility back in our communities. During several meetings that we have with them, they always raise this question number one which is about remuneration which they still feel is below the standard.

Apart from that, they have also complained about deductions. I am learning today from this report that those deductions might not have been true or the claims might not have been true and I believe that, this House Committees for digging into the whole matter and now we are aware of exactly what is going on. Madam Speaker, this report once adopted it will also help us to sit together with the CHPs that we have in our areas and sometimes if they ask such kind of questions we can see ways and means of letting them know.

Otherwise, I would also like to impress upon this House that the regulatory framework which is still pending should be done so that we need to really think on how to remunerate these CHPs in a proper manner. It is through this that, we are going to encourage them and that they are going to work so hard even more than what they are doing right now. Thank you, Madam Speaker and I beg to support.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang', MCA, Kaloleni Shaurimoyo): Yes Honourable James Were, member representing Nyalenda "B" Ward.

**Hon. Were** (MCA, Nyalenda "B"): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to commend the Joint Departmental Committees for a job well done. I only picked on one recommendation which is vital for this House Committee and for this House. Madam Speaker, if we look at recommendation one which is making the regulation that is going to safeguard the interest of the CHPs. I believe that, everything will be cured, Madam Speaker. Let us rush and push the County Executive so that they ensure that regulation is formulated. That can also ensure that this thing is fast-tracked and is enforced so that it can work so that we have timely payment of the stipend to these our people. Otherwise, I beg to support. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang', MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Yes Honourable Bill Oliver, member representing Kobura Ward.

**Hon. Bill** (MCA, Kobura): Thank you Madam Speaker, I want to thank the Joint Departmental Committees for a report well done. At least even the CHPs when they get this report I know they will really appreciate it. I want to thank the two House Committees because there was a lot of

concern because when we work in our wards the CHPs had a lot of complaints about how they are being paid and some of them were saying that they were not getting enough money.

So, I want to thank the two House Committees for giving clarifications so that we all understand as the House of what is really happening so that whenever we get the complaints we can explain to them what is happening.

Madam Speaker, I also want to support that recommendation of regulations to be put in place so that this can legally bind the County Government to remit the allowances that is given to the CHPs to encourage them to do the work that they are doing. And I also want to support, I see our president is really trying to help the CHPs and I believe that, in the near future they will be getting more compared to what they are currently receiving because the impact of what the CHPs are doing on the ground is really something to be admired. They should even be given more training and made to understand their job well so that we even reduce, because they are the first line of contact with the people and their impact, they can also help to reduce some of these diseases because they are the people who talk to people on the ground. So, we need to encourage them. I support really what the president is doing, trying to give them more recognition so that their impact is really felt, I support.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni Shaurimoyo): Yes, Honourable Kennedy Ouko.

**Hon. Ouko** (MCA, West Kisumu): Thank you Madam Speaker. Let me thank the member for Kobura Ward for bringing this statement to the House. Again, let me also thank the two House Committees and the respective Chairpersons for the elaborate and extensive report.

Madam Speaker, this report is an eye-opener. These are very important people within our communities. These are the people we are relying on, especially on matters of health. They detect first, they report back. Madam Speaker, these are the people we are even giving the testing kits, and they are also given some drugs to administer before going to the hospital, Madam Speaker. So, with this, we cannot underscore, they are very important people within the society.

Madam Speaker, I am only surprised to find today that nobody has been deducting any money from these people, as has been believed. It is true I have had a direct contact with most of the CHPs, especially within my ward, and this is a complaint which is also coming from some other wards. But on conducting a thorough investigation on the report by the oversight committee and relevant House Committee, Madam Speaker, I am tongue-tied in one way, because I have also believed that, these people have been deducting a lot of money from them. It is true whatever we are trying to compensate this community is small. It is my belief that, we should come up with a regulation as recommended, a regulation that will reinforce the activities of the CHPs and it will also protect them, and it will also protect the county. Suppose we are taken to court to explain

how we are giving these CHPs Kshs 2,000, Madam Speaker, we might not even win that case, because we do not have any regulations reinforcing the operations of these very important people within the health sector. So I support the report, it is advisable; we should take it from there, that we have realized there's a gap which can only be filled by the County Assembly. I support. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni Shaurimoyo): Yes, Honourable Warindu.

**Hon. Warindu** (MCA, Miwani): Thank you so much, Madam Speaker. Let me also thank the Joint House Committees and the author of the statement for bringing this to the House.

Madam Speaker, out of the functions that were devolved in Kisumu County, it's the health sector that has been giving Kisumu a good name, and I really want to thank the CHPs. I want to believe that the CHPs are also part of the contributing factor to this good reputation of health sector of Kisumu County. Madam Speaker, I was equally surprised that the little stipends being deducted, but from the report it's so clear that the money that they're being given has got no deductions, and we are only requesting for the regulations so that the stipends can also be looked into. If these are people who have just volunteered, and they are doing it on a daily basis, some of them have taken this as their work, and they really need to be looked into.

Madam Speaker, their number is too huge, and with that, they can reach the people easily Madam Speaker, if this is going to help us maintain the good reputation of the Kisumu County, let me also be on the Hansard that I support the report from the two Joint House Committees. Thank you so much.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni Shaurimoyo): Yes, Honourable Alice Wajewa.

**Hon. Wajewa** (Nominated MCA): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise to support the report of the Joint Committee. I want to start by appreciating what the Joint House Committees has done. They have really done a very good job by coming out with an elaborate and detailed report on the issue of the Community Health Workers. I also want to applaud our Honourable Billy for coming up with this issue, which is a thorn in the flesh in all the wards in our county.

Madam Speaker, as you are aware, the community health workers have been doing a very good job in our community. These are the people who our people in the grassroots depend on when it comes to the issues to do with health. When there is a problem of health issues in our community, the first person who our people look for or depend on is the community health workers.

Madam Speaker, these people have volunteered their time. These people are not paid and they work throughout the wards in our county doing the commendable job. I rise to support the call that the relevant department should develop clear regulations to fast-track the payment of community health workers, particularly the TPWH, who are entitled to these allowances.

Madam Speaker, I also agree that their training needs to be enhanced. With better training, our community health workers will be able to manage common illnesses such as malaria and other conditions that affect our children. This will significantly reduce mortality rates within our communities and, in turn, ease the burden on our hospitals. I therefore urge the relevant authorities to take this matter seriously and ensure that our community health workers receive the support they need. Madam Speaker, by standing with them, we will be standing with the very communities they serve. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni Shaurimoyo): Yes, Honourable Odari.

**Hon. Odari** (MCA, Chemelil/Tamu): Thank you Madam Speaker. I wish to call the mover to reply.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni Shaurimoyo): Honourable Vincent Jagongo, Joint Committee Chairperson.

**Hon. Jagongo** (MCA North West): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wish to sincerely thank all members who have contributed to this motion and highlighted important issues during their deliberations. It is clear that our Community Health Promoters (CHPs) are doing commendable work within our communities, and they deserve our full support.

One key issue that has come out strongly is the need for proper regulations. I therefore urge the responsible House Committee to take up this matter and ensure that regulations are developed and implemented to operationalize the Community Health Promoters Bill that was passed in 2022.

Secondly, we also appreciate the national government for recognizing the vital role of CHPs and for extending support, especially through financial facilitation and training, which strengthens their work at the grassroots.

Madam Speaker, it is important to note that CHPs currently receive a stipend of Kshs. 2,500 per month, which amounts to Kshs. 7,500 per quarter. However, a number of them end up receiving less due to bank deductions, creating the impression that they are being underpaid, when in fact it

is the charges eating into their pay. This is a matter that requires attention. I want to urge members of this Assembly that we must collectively stand with our community health promoters. They form the backbone of primary health care and are indeed the first point of contact at the community level. Supporting them is equivalent to strengthening our level-one health facilities.

Lastly, Madam Speaker, I wish to make an appeal to this Assembly: that, in the coming budget cycle, let us consider raising their stipend by at least from Kshs. 2,500 to Kshs. 3,000 per month. We initially had this allocation before it was reduced during the COVID-19 period. Restoring it will go a long way in motivating our CHPs and enhancing their preventive health interventions across our wards. With those remarks, Madam Speaker, I beg to reply. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Honourable members, now that a motion on adoption of a report of Joint Departmental Committees on Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation and Labour and Social Welfare Services on the Inquiry into the matter of Payment and Deductions of Stipends of Community Health Promoters has been presented, seconded and debated, I want to put a question on the adoption of the same.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Honourable members, the motion on adoption of a report of Joint Departmental Committees on Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation and Labour and Social Welfare Services on the Inquiry into the matter of Payment and Deductions of Stipends of Community Health Promoters has been adopted today, Wednesday 03<sup>rd</sup> of September 2025 at 15:40 hours.

Consequently, I direct that the recommendations of this report and that of the Hansard be prepared and forwarded to the relevant department. In furtherance to that, the Select Committee on Implementation to do a follow-up on the implementation of the same. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Next order!

## ADJOURNMENT

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Ajwang' MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo): Honourable members, let us be upstanding. There being no other business to transact, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday 04<sup>th</sup> of September 2025 at 02.30 p.m.

*(House rose at 03.41 p.m.)*

*Addendum*

**The Hansard Team**

*Zablon Otiende – Assistant Direct, Hansard Services*

**Hansard Reports**

*Patrick Okoyo – Chief Hansard Reporter*

*Jesca Otieno – Chief Hansard Reporter*

*Fanuel Okode – Chief Hansard Reporter*

*Vallery Achieng’ – Hansard Reporter*

*Jackline Otieno - Hansard Reporter*

*Edward Odanga – Hansard Reporter*

*Brian Omondi – Attache’*