

STATEMENT REQUEST ON THE STATE OF MIGWANI LEVEL 4 HOSPITAL IN MIGWANI WARD

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 41 (2) (c), I wish to request a statement from the Chairperson of the Committee on Health and Sanitation regarding the state of Migwani Level 4 hospital in Migwani Ward.

Whether the Chairperson is aware that Migwani level 4 hospital, being the third largest public health facility in Kitui County is in a deplorable state in terms of infrastructure and that the hospital currently fails to meet the expectations and standards of a Level 4 health facility.

The facility does not have a designated female ward, forcing female patients to be admitted to the pediatric ward. This arrangement increases the risk of cross-contamination, exposing children to potential infections from the adult patients.

In addition, the facility lacks a functional laundry room with fitted laundry machines. Hospital beddings and garments are washed manually in an inadequate and unsanitary room, posing significant risks of cross-contamination and infections to both patients and hospital staff.

The facility remains unpaved, which leads to significant issues during the rainy season. The unpaved grounds become extremely muddy, making it difficult to navigate the area. As a result, patients are exposed to potential accidents, as the muddy conditions can lead to slips, falls, and other injuries.

Whether the Chairperson is cognizant that the hospital experiences persistent shortages of essential drugs, severely limiting its ability to deliver quality healthcare. Patients in need of medication are often forced to purchase

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Mr. Speaker
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it from private facilities at significantly higher prices, as opposed to accessing it at the hospital at subsidized rates. This situation places an undue financial burden on already vulnerable patients and compromises equitable access to healthcare.

Moreover, despite being a referral facility for Mwingi West and Kitui West sub-counties, the hospital lacks a functional X-ray machine, compelling patients to seek these services in either Mwingi Central or Kitui Central sub-counties. This not only delays critical diagnoses and treatment but also increases healthcare costs for already vulnerable patients hence undermining the hospital's role in providing accessible and timely care.

Whether the Chairperson is also aware that, despite the construction of the main theatre being completed in the year 2021, it has remained non-operational. This is due to critical factors such as:

- i. Lack of oxygen piping and a reliable supply of fresh water;
- ii. Staffing shortages, including surgeons, anaesthesiologists, theatre nurses, theatre assistants and infection control personnel;
- iii. Lack of essential medical equipment necessary for safe surgical operations.

Whether the Chairperson has knowledge of the fact that in the current financial year 2024/2025, the hospital was only allocated Ksh 2.5 million out of the Ministry of Health and Sanitation's total approved budget of Ksh 3.7 billion. This allocation was solely for the construction of a kitchen, leaving critical infrastructure and operational needs unbudgeted for.


Mr. Speaker Sir,

The deplorable state of the hospital has severely hindered its ability to provide adequate healthcare services, undermining its role as a key health facility in Kitui County. Patients are often forced to seek services in far-off facilities, worsening their hardships.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I therefore request the Committee on Health and Sanitation to provide a statement response within twenty-one (21) days. Specifically, I urge the Committee to outline the measures being taken to:

- i. Elevate the hospital to meet the standards of a Level 4 facility, thereby enhancing the hospital's capacity to deliver comprehensive and affordable healthcare services to the public;
- ii. Address the chronic drug shortages and ensure that essential medicines are consistently available at the hospital and provided at subsidized rates;
- iii. Allocate adequate resources to the facility in order to address the infrastructure and equipment gaps in the hospital;
- iv. Ensure staffing challenges are resolved to operationalize essential units like the theatre;

SIGN 
HON. HARRISON MALUKI MAWIA
MCA- MIGWANI WARD.
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI.

19/11/2024