

**Sen. Olekina:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir for giving me an opportunity to support this Petition. The issue of SGR has caused a lot of problems within the Maasai community, not only in Kajiado but also in Narok. I know that a lot of you saw that the Narok road split into two yesterday. This could have been an impact of the blasting that the SGR contractor is doing.

However, on the Petition, I urge the Committee to come up with a standardised way of compensating land owners. This is because on this issue of compensation, it is very sad that when you are within a kilometre, for instance, in Suswa, you are paid “X” amount of money on the side of Narok while in Duka Moja, you are paid “Y” amount of money, and by the time you get to Sotik, it will be very different.

Therefore, the Committee ought to come up with a procedure and set up a committee on setting standards on what should be compensated to the land owners. This issue is not only affecting Kajiado County, but it is also affecting Narok County and the entire line. It will cause many problems. It is important for---

*(Sen. Haji spoke off record)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the distinguished Senator wants to contribute.

**The Speaker** (Sen. Lusaka): What is your point of order? Switch on your microphone.

**Sen. Haji:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not a point of order. It is a point of information.

**The Speaker** (Sen. Lusaka): What is your point of information?

**Sen. Haji:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, compensation is paid according to the value of the land. If the land is at a very high value area, it is paid higher and if it is in marginal areas, normally, it is paid lower. I do not think the Committee can do anything concerning that issue because this is according to the law of the country.

**Sen. Olekina:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, my issue is this; land is valuable and the issue of land is emotive. When the people of Duka Moja realise that the people of Suswa who were one kilometre away from them are being paid Kshs200,000 more per acre than their piece of land, it will bring a lot of problems. So, it behooves the Committee to consider coming up with a process whereby the valuation of land is done and the community is given time to respond to it.

The other issue is title deeds. The Maasai people live in most of the pieces of land where the SGR is passing. There are no title deeds. When you go through Narok, Kedong Ranch, there has been a huge court case regarding the ownership of that land for very many years. So, it will bring a lot of issues. Yes, we do love the effects on the economy that the SGR will bring, but if it will affect our people’s standard of living and the way they live, then, of course, we will object to it.

So, I encourage, urge and fully support this Petition to allow the people to be involved. These are their issues and assets which are being bought or taken. So, on that matter, the Committee should also look at the issue of employment. This is because the locals have to be employed. Recently, a Maasai young man was killed when he was going to seek employment. There were issues that people were being brought from other areas and given those jobs. Therefore, this Petition is so timely.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Sir---

**The Speaker** (Sen. Lusaka): Order, Senator! Keep it short.

**Sen. Olekina:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I want to raise the issue of the passage that the Committee should also look at. The way the SGR was constructed in Makueni was that, after every 800 metres, there is a passage for the animals. That standard should also be maintained.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

**Sen. Olekina:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for making that communication. I want to inform my dear brother and friend whom I respect a lot that it is not true that I came to this House through the NASA Coalition. I came to this House through my name and picture being on the ballot papers on an ODM ticket. As I stand here, I represent the ODM Party.

Leadership is not given but you have to fight for it. As Members of the ODM, we have been asking questions. I know most of us will not talk here but it is always good to talk. We have been raising concerns of being the majority in the coalition yet the entire leadership is with our brothers.

We sat and deliberated on the issues and the majority opinion was that we need a change of leadership. We have been talking about things in this House. Our House needs to focus on issues of oversight. We need to go out to see how governors spend money.

Last Friday, we witnessed something which assured most of us that this country is now moving forward, lest we forget the death of a child called Samantha Pendo who was killed when she was doing what a child does because of conflict in this country. She was just playing. It is time we took bold movements to ensure that the leadership we have is one that will save this country for the future of this nation.

I am a Member of the ODM and I know that we have four principals. We had five but my dear brother Isaac Ruto decided to run away. I know they say “we are together” but it is really confusing.

I agree with the distinguished Senator who is my good friend and I respect him a lot but I do not agree with him telling us that we were doing things behind his back. We sat down and we have the powers to do it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you made a communication and gave a direction. I request my dear brother, whom I love so much, to sit with the other principals who are not in this House. It is sad and I feel bad for him because he is a “minority” in this country just like and we are always sidelined but sometimes that is how democracy is. Some of us have belittled democracy and tried to change it into something called a written law. We all have to move forward and support our political parties for prosperity.