



Kenya And India To Work On Attracting More Indian Investments Into The Country
 Kenya and India are working together on modalities to encourage more Indian investments in the country in a bid to boost manufacturing, trade and investment and create job opportunities. Page 18

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News>>CS Rebecca Miano Answers Question In Senate

P. 8. The National Government will continue supporting Kenyans affected by the long drought until there will be a significant improvement.



Motivation>>We Pay Dearly When We Chase What Is Cheap

P. 12. Thus it is that no cruelty whatsoever passes by without impact. Thus it is that we always pay dearly for chasing after what is cheap. Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, The Gulag Archipelago 1918–1956.



Business>>Kenya Unveils Plan On Sustainable Cooling Solutions

P. 16 Kenya has unveiled a five-year plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from refrigeration appliances by enhancing availability and accessibility of sustainable cooling solutions.

Finance Bill 2023 Sails Through Second Reading Stage

The controversial Finance Bill 2023 has sailed through the Second Reading stage with 176 Members of Parliament supporting it against 81 who opposed it. The Bill is now set for the Committee of the Whole house stage, where the whole House will seat in the form of a Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.



National Assembly

STORY ON PAGE 9

Gov't Keen On Eliminating Infringements On Intellectual Property, Illicit Trade

By: Enrica Amisi and Lucy Gitei
[@themtkenytimes](https://www.themtkenytimes.com)

Counterfeiting and other forms of illicit trade are a global phenomenon that continues to thrive despite

numerous legislative and regulatory frameworks employed by countries around the world to curb the practices.

The increase in Intellectual Property Right infringements and illicit

trade in general is viewed to be as a result of weak legislative and institutional frameworks as well as lack of collaborative networks to counter the vices.

STORY ON PAGE 13

Some of the stakeholders who took part in the conference



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Noordin Haji Sworn In As NIS Director General

By: Capital Correspondent



Noordin Haji.

Worth Noting:

- Majority Leader Kimani Ichungwa urged Haji to ensure that he safeguards the lives and properties of Kenyans.
- “We hope that NIS will not be used to settle political scores, we will safe with Haji holding that docket. We wish him well and hoping he will act to ignite security challenges,” said Ichungwa.
- Minority Whip Junet Mohammed gave a nod the report supporting the appointment of Haji to become the next spymaster approving the move by President William Ruto to grant him the slot.

Noordin Haji has been sworn in as the new National Intelligence Service (NIS) Director General. This follows Parliamentary approval of a report on his approval hearing tabled by the House Defence, Intelligence, and Foreign affairs committee.

“I Noordin Mohamed Haji do herby swear by the almighty God that I shall be faithful and bear true allegiance to the constitution of the republic of Kenya. That I will at all

times and to the best of my ability, obey, protect preserve and defend the constitution of the republic of Kenya,” he swore.

In their report, the Nelson Koeched committee exuded confidence that Haji is suitable to take the helm of the national intelligence services following his vast experience and capabilities.

Majority Leader Kimani Ichungwa urged Haji to ensure that he safeguards the lives and properties of

Kenyans.

“We hope that NIS will not be used to settle political scores, we will safe with Haji holding that docket. We wish him well and hoping he will act to ignite security challenges,” said Ichungwa.

Minority Whip Junet Mohammed gave a nod the report supporting the appointment of Haji to become the next spymaster approving the move by President William Ruto to grant him the slot.

“This institution must be headed with a person who has the capacity and timidity to do the kind of work related to that institution. No one fits with the skills like Haji, he will make sure we are safe and secure,” said Mohammed.

Majority Leader Opiyo Wandayi urged Haji to live true to his oath of office by prioritizing the nation’s safety in his mandate.

“I want to say from the onset that I have no objection to this appointment. I would just want to urge the incoming DG of NIS to live true to the oath of office that he will be taking and ensure that indeed he gives priority to the security of this nation,” Wandayi said.

Likoni MP Mishi Mboko exuded confidence that the outgoing Director of Public Prosecution has delivered in his previous designation saying that he will deliver in the post.

“We know he is able and has the experience to enable him to lead the nation of Kenya in matters security and intelligence,” she said.

Opposing the special motion, Budalangi MP Raphael Wanjala sought to defeat the appointment of Haji saying that the Somali people had been “picked on” on several occasions regarding State appointments citing ethnicity.

“Many of us MPs we have a lot of interest in this debate of the promotion. What is out of order Mr Speaker is that you have severally picked on the Somalis and you have excluded us and you want to finish,” he said.

Editor's Desk




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Education Committee Pledges Support For Special Education Sector

By: John Kariuki
 @themkenyatimes

The National Assembly Education Committee, chaired Julius Melly (Tinderet) has resolved to work closely with the Kenya Institute of Special Education (KISE) to ensure the institution achieves its mandate. Speaking yesterday after the Committee conducted a familiarization and inspection visit of the institute's headquarters in Kasarani, Nairobi County, Hon Melly underscored the importance of KISE in ensuring all children with special needs access an education, noting that it needs to be strengthened.

"KISE has done a good job, despite the challenges it faces in financing. As a committee, we pledge our full support to the institute as it undertakes its important roles," said the chairperson.

During an earlier session with the management, KISE Director Dr. Norman Kiogora and Coun-

cil chairperson Habat Sheikh Abdi told the MPs that the agency was established in 1986 through a legal notice, lamenting that this fact has hampered their operations and plans to devolve their services.

Melly in response to the concern said they will collaborate with the institution to develop an Act of Parliament that will fully anchor it to the law, and by extension strengthen the special needs education sector.



KISE Director Dr. Norman Kiogora

National Assembly Housing, Urban Planning, And Public Works Committee Rejects The NCA Bill



Committee Members in session.



Johana Ng'eno.

By: Our Reporter
 @themkenyatimes

The National Assembly Departmental Committee on Housing, Urban Planning, and Public Works chaired

by Johana Ng'eno yesterday met to deliberate and write a report on the National Construction Authority (NCA) Bill (2022). The Bill which was rejected following a majority vote by Members of the Committee sought to exempt Women, Youths and People Living

with Disability who apply to be registered by the board as contractors from paying prescribed fees as long as the business is a startup business venture and that the fee does not exceed Sh15,000. While rejecting the Bill, members advised that the roles of exemption

should be left to the NCA. Members added that individuals within these categories already enjoy a special privilege while bidding for tenders where a certain percentage is exclusively reserved for them. "As we reject the Bill we call for the sponsor of the Bill to engage the

NCA management and see how individuals falling in these categories and are unable to pay such fees can be assisted administratively on need bases," said Ng'eno.



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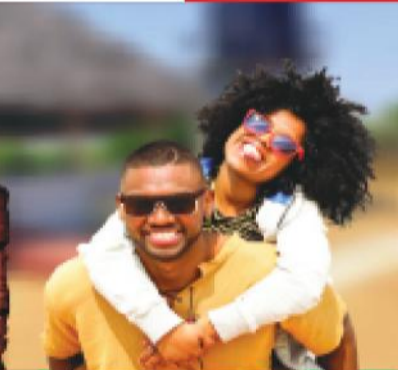
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President Ruto appoints Kamau Thugge as CBK Governor

By: Capital Correspondent

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The shilling has been depreciating to the dollar currency which has been attributed to the global recession which has been precipitated by the ongoing Russia-Ukraine War and the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- “I am looking at the possibility of issuance of dollar denominated bond the way we issue infrastructure bond. We structure it and issue locally and offer better rate that we will have the possibility of increasing liquidity in the system,” Thugge stated.



Kamau Thugge the incoming Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) Governor

President Willim Ruto has appointed Kamau Thugge as the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) Governor.

In a special gazette notice, the head of state indicated that the appointment which will be for a four year period will be effective from June 19.

“In exercise of the powers conferred by section 13 (1) of the Central Bank of Kenya Act, I, William Samoei Ruto, President of the Republic of

Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces appoint– Kamau Thugge (DR) to be the Governor of the Central Bank of Kenya, for a period of four (4) years, with effect from the 19th June, 2023,” the notice stated.

During his vetting before the Finance and Planning Committee, Thugge proposed the issuance of locally sold dollar denominated bond with the government offering good

rate to aid liquidity.

He noted that the government wants to Kenyans an incentive to stop stockpiling dollars in bank and release the money into the economy.

Thugge who cited media reports stated that Sh1 trillion had been deposited in the local banks in the form of foreign currency at a time when the country is facing a dollar shortage.

The shilling has been depreciating

to the dollar currency which has been attributed to the global recession which has been precipitated by the ongoing Russia-Ukraine War and the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“I am looking at the possibility of issuance of dollar denominated bond the way we issue infrastructure bond. We structure it and issue locally and offer better rate that we will have the possibility of increasing liquidity in the system,” Thugge stated.

The Former Treasury Principal Secretary told MPs that once approved as CBK governor he will ensure there’s more consultations with the banking sector to tap on the foreign currency deposited in the industry.

“The foreign currency deposit has reached at least Sh 1 trillion. We may need to see what is not happening in the foreign exchange market that is making Kenyans to hoard the deposit in dollars and not in Kenyan currency,” Thugge stated.

President William Ruto’s administration put in place a short measure of reducing the dollar shortage crisis through government-to-government importation that is estimated to reduce the demand by 500 Million dollars.

Thugge however dispelled the notion explaining that the measure undertaken by the government has managed to ensure the situation doesn’t worsen despite the narrow margin.

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CS Rebecca Miano Answers Question In Senate

By: PSCU



Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano while in the Senate yesterday.

Worth Noting:

- **CS MIANO:** Regarding the period spanning 2017 to October 2021 until January 9, 2023 this query was redirected to the State Department for Devolution and State Department for Social Protection and Senior Citizens Affairs for competent adjudication and response. The Ministry did not inherit any pending bills as far as relief supply is concerned while payment to current suppliers is ongoing as delivery of supplies continues.
- **SEN. CHUTE:** Could the Cabinet Secretary explain the tendering process used to award the tenders, and provide details of the types of food products procured and the price per unit in respect of the current programmes?

The National Government will continue supporting Kenyans affected by the long drought until there will be a significant improvement.

Answering questions in Senate yesterday, the Cabinet Secretary for East African Community (EAC), the ASALs and Regional Development Mrs. Rebecca Miano told Senators that despite rain being experienced in a section of the areas affected, the effects of the long drought are still being felt necessitating support from government.

Below is the excerpt of the session.

SEN. CHUTE: Could you provide a list of the relief food distribution programmes currently being run across the country, indicating the types of food being distributed and the quantity of package?

CS MIANO: According to the guidelines and procedures of the management of relief food distribution in Kenya, the following committees are responsible at various levels, the state Department for Relief Food Committee, County Steering Group Relief Food Committee, Sub-County Relief Food Committee, Ward Relief Food Committee, Location Relief Food Committee, Sub-Location Relief Food Committee and Village Relief Food Committee. The following are the food items procured, rice (50kg) bag, beans (50kg) bag, maize (50kg) bag, vegetable Oil (carton (12) 1 litre) and fortified food bale (25kg).

On the humanitarian emergency response. These are non-food commodities given to households affected by various disasters. They consist of iron sheets, timber, ridges, nails (assorted), mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets, jikos, gas lamps, tents/tarpaulins, soap and sanitary towels.

SEN. CHUTE: Who are the suppliers of relief food under these programmes from 2017 to date, and could the Cabinet Secretary state the amount paid to the respective suppliers and indicate the pending bills accrued, if any?

CS MIANO: Regarding the period spanning 2017 to October 2021 until January 9, 2023 this query was redirected to the State Department for Devolution and State Department for Social Protection and Senior Citizens Affairs for competent adjudication and response. The Ministry did not inherit any pending bills as far as relief supply is concerned while payment to current suppliers is ongoing as delivery of supplies continues.

SEN. CHUTE: Could the Cabinet Secretary explain the tendering process used to award the tenders, and provide details of the types of food products procured and the price per unit in respect of the current programmes?

CS MIANO: The Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development through the State Department for Public Works (Supplies Branch Department) pre-qualifies contractors for supply of goods and services to various Min-

istries, Departments and Agencies every two years or as and when necessary. The Ministry of EAC, the ASALS and Regional Development uses the list of prequalified contractors to identify appropriate suppliers for various commodities for relief programmes. Procurement and relief food and Humanitarian Emergency Response commodities are based on the provision of Public Procurement and Assets Disposal Act, 2015. Types of food products procured from January to May were Rice-Sindano rice grade (50kg) Ksh. 7,250, Beans of various types (50kg) Ksh. 7,500 and Maize-white (50kg) Ksh. (market determined). The commodities supplied are branded "**GoK Relief food not for sale.**"

SEN. CHUTE: The supplied rice and edible oil was bought at how much?

CS MIANO: I don't have the actual figure but I can firmly confirm that the prices were slightly higher.

SEN DULLO: You have not provided an allocation to the DCCs to ensure food stuff reaches intended people and why can't you use cash transfer as a government instead of providing food that does not even reach people?

CS MIANO: From February to May, I have the data to show that we are matching food distribution with the amount. On cash transfer, this is work in progress, going forward we reduce as much as possible the relief food distribution and revert to cash transfers.

SEN. SEKI: Can you give a list of suppliers of relief food between February and almost May?

CS MIANO: The contracts are still ongoing but I have the list, I will submit.

SEN. CHEPTUMO: What measures have you put in place to ensure that the food supplies actually reach the targeted people?

CS MIANO: We use the County Steering Groups to target the affected and vulnerable population following reports by the National Drought Management Authority. When we allocate relief food, we copy to the County Commissioner, all leaders, elected and administrative to ensure higher accountability.

SEN. CHERUIYOT: When are you going to update the records of your ministry regarding the classification of Arid and Semi-Arid areas?

CS MIANO: We will work with KALRO and the Commission on Revenue Allocation to get a new updated classification.

SEN. WAMATINGA: What is the ministry doing in order to ensure that we develop strategic reserves, post-harvest management issues so that we don't lose a lot of food when we have good harvests?

CS MIANO: We need strategic reserves, the ministry of agriculture I am aware of and have seen their documentations, strategies. We are following up with them to implement the strategies.

SEN. LOMENEN: How does the ministry ensure rural areas that have challenges in terms of road infrastructure receive food?

CS MIANO: We have a transport arrangement. We get escorts from KDF and other authorities and lately we are using government vehicles.

SEN. DR. LELEGWE: What measures is the Cabinet Secretary considering to ensure constant supply of emergency relief aid for communities in ASAL areas despite the rains?

CS MIANO: It takes quite a long time to recover from such a drought. The effects of drought are still with us. Despite the improvement, the relief programme is still on and we will continue to support communities that require support until we get a significant recovery.

SEN. MUNGATANA: Has the ministry planned for future droughts?

CS MIANO: We are working on a strategy called Ending Drought emergencies in Kenya. This is the second phase. We are coming up with strategies, programmes and projects that will in future alleviate drought.

SEN. ABASS: How is the ministry addressing disparities in the supply of food as some sub counties have more population than others yet food is distributed across board?

CS MIANO: Food distribution is based on the population at the sub county level. We get data at the sub county level then it is validated by the National Drought Management Authority for our use during distribution of food.

SEN. CHERARKEY: Has your ministry had a discussion with the ministry of Agriculture with the view of reviving the strategic grain reserve?

CS MIANO: We are having conversations with the ministry of Agriculture but first to have sufficient food then have agriculture and farming that can have a reserve.

Finance Bill 2023 Sails Through Second Reading Stage After 176 Mps Support, 81 Oppose

By: Citizen Team & Irene Mwangi

The controversial Finance Bill 2023 has sailed through the Second Reading stage with 176 Members of Parliament supporting it against 81 who opposed it.

The Bill is now set for the Committee of the Whole House stage, where the whole House will sit in the form of a Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

At the Committee of the whole House stage, any proposed amendments to be Bill and a vote taken on each.

Meanwhile, for the better part of the day, Kenya Kwanza and Azimio MPs clashed during the second reading over proposals in the Bill key among them the Housing levy.

Githunguri MP Gathoni Wamuchomba, who is a member of the Kenya Kwanza coalition, elected under the UDA Party, told parliament that she will defy the stand taken by President William Ruto and oppose the Bill.

“Mr Speaker I went all over Githunguri and I was told to vote no for the bill... This bill is scandalous it is punitive...,” she said.

Wamuchomba’s decision to cross the floor however did not dampen the spirit of Kenya Kwanza lawmakers who mounted pressure to have the bill sail through.

“Let us not lie to Kenyans. We will pass this bill because we do not want to dig a hole of debts for our people...,” MP Kimani Ichung’wa said.

“This finance bill has taken care of everything including farm inputs to boost food security...,” said Silvanus Osoro.

Revised Finance Bill Still To Hurt Kenyans’ Pockets More

The government has moved to salvage the petroleum business sector at the expense of Kenyans by increasing the VAT on petroleum from 8 percent to 16 percent.

Kenyans will now be forced to adopt green energy or bear with the increased cost of living as the government maintained that the negative impact of retaining VAT at 8 percent outweighs the positives.

This is despite the public outcry by different stakeholders that the increased percentage of VAT on petroleum products will raise the cost of living.

“The government stands to lose as petroleum businesses become perpetual creditors which then impact quality of service delivery by the government to the citizenry,” said Finance Committee Chair Kimani



Finance Committee Chair Kimani Kuria.

Kuria.

“Dealers incur VAT at 16 percent but when they sell it it’s at 8 percent. This means there’s an 8 percent difference.

Given the increase in the VAT on petroleum products, Kuria said they have proposed incentives to sectors that offer alternatives to fuel consumption by zero-rating bio fuel energy, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), and clean cooking stoves.

“We have had interest conservation with players of clean energy which include Koko Fuel which are able to produce bio ethanol for cooking which was costing Sh 10 bob for a family to prepare a meal,” said the Molo MP.

The proposed VAT increase comes at a time when global oil prices have been soaring, exerting additional pressure on consumers’ wallets.

The implementation of a VAT hike will further burden businesses and individuals already struggling to recover from the shocks of a pandemic-induced economic downturn.

Mobile Money Transfer

It’s a reprieve for Kenyans as the proposal to increase tax on mobile money transfers from 12 percent to 15 percent has been shelved.

Instead, the committee has resorted to retaining it at 12 percent as telco operators had argued that the move would have drawn back efforts of

financial inclusion for low-income earners through mobile money.

The additional costs will likely be passed on to customers, many of whom are unbanked and rely on the service for essential daily payments.

“We have reduced the raise of tax on mobile money transfer from 15 percent to 12 percent,” Kimani stated.

Digital Content Tax

The income earned through digital content monetization will be subjected to a 5 percent withholding tax, which matches with the percentage rate for other professional services.

The bill defines content creators as any individual that is offering “entertainment, social, literal, artistic, educational or any other material electronically,” through websites, and social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, in partnership with brands or retailers. Content creators had faulted the William Ruto-led government’s plan to increase the tax to 15 percent saying it will stifle the creative’s industry.

“We observed that this was unfair because all the other professional fees, legal fees, accounting and insurance fees is charged at 5 percent. We said we are going to treat digital content creators just like all the other creators,” Kuria stated.

Export Levy

In the revised Finance Bill, 2023, the Finance Committee has proposed to impose additional levies on imported products such as steel, paper, plastics, and paints among other goods.

The proposed radical tax measures aimed at promoting local businesses, protecting jobs, and boosting manufacturing by zero-rating raw material components for manufacturing.

“We have zero rated all raw materials components that are used in assembling mobile phones. We are hoping that by them transferring incentives to Kenyans we are not just going to make our own mobile phones but we are going to export them,” Kimani noted.

To promote the manufacturing sector, the revised Bill proposes to provide for export levy, imported into the country for home use to promote local production at 17.5 percent.

“We have introduced export levy at 17.5 percent, so those who import cement and bars from Kenya can export but it will be at a cost. We are going to make local products cheaper,” the Molo MP said.



Worth Noting:

- The Bill is now set for the Committee of the Whole House stage, where the whole House will sit in the form of a Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

- At the Committee of the whole House stage, any proposed amendments to be Bill and a vote taken on each.

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Mysterious Efficacy To Persistent Prayer Pt 2



By: Eric Musa
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

The cultivation of persistence was a recurring motif in Jesus’ teaching on prayer. In Gethsemane Jesus challenged His disciples when they failed to persevere by saying, “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak” (Mark 14:38). At the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus enjoined His followers to prayerful tenacity: “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you” (Matthew 7:7).

The language is unusually compelling because the three verbs (“ask . . . seek . . . knock”) indicate an ascending intensity. “Ask” implies requesting assistance for a conscious

need. It also suggests humility, for the Greek word here was commonly used by one approaching a superior. “Seek” involves asking, but adds action. The idea is not just to express need, but to get up and look around for help. “Knock” includes asking, plus seeking, plus persevering — for example, one who keeps pounding on a closed door.

The stacking of these verbs is powerful, and the fact that they are present imperatives gives them even more punch. Jesus’ words actually read: “Keep on asking, and it shall be given to you; keep on seeking, and you will find; keep on knocking, and it shall be opened to you.” Such tenacity is exactly what Paul has in mind in his call to petitionary prayer when he says to “be alert and always keep on praying . . .” Men, do we pray with Scriptural persistence for our families? For the Church? Are there individuals, groups, causes, souls for which we hold up our hands in prayer? There ought to be, for God answers persistent prayer.

SELAH! THERE IS POWER IN PERSISTENT PRAYERS: TO GOD



BE THE GLORY.

References:

The Living Bible
Discipline of a Godly Man(Book by Kent Hughes)

Evangelist Eric Musa:

(My message continuously: If you are not saved: Believe, accept, re-

ceive and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit, as it is written; “NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2 Cor 6:2”. For prayers, devotion, and to support the ministry contact Evangelist on +254722157300

(Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Remember, God Loves you and I unconditionally, perfectly and always: SHALOM

Nyandarua Integrated IDPS Petition Senate Over Delayed Compensation

By: PSCU

Nyandarua County Integrated Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) have submitted a petition in the Senate over delayed compensation and occupation of parcels of land bought for their settlement between 2010 and 2013.

The petitioners who are among victims of the 2007-2008 Post Election Violence say that despite the vetting exercise that profiled them to be genuine, they have never been compensated even after Parliament appropriated and budgeted for their compensation.

They revealed that their efforts to have the matter addressed by the Nyandarua County Assembly, the Laikipia County Assembly, the National Land Commission, the Minis-

try of the Interior and National Administration, State Department for Internal Security and National Administration and the National Consultative Co-ordination Committee have not borne any fruits.

The petitioners now want the Senate to intervene in the matter with a view to place elaborate and proper mechanism to give new mandate to the National Consultative Co-ordination Committee Board to enable it accomplish its primary mandate as stipulated in the Prevention, Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons and affected Communities Act No. 56 of 2012.

They also want the Senate to recommend the release of the money awarded for compensation of the vetted IDPs.



Senate

Gachagua's Comments on International Duties Assigned to Prime CS were misinterpreted



By: **Joseph Mutua Ndonga**
mutuandonga@yahoo.com

Since President William Ruto's government came to power, a section of the mainstream media has been driving a narrative of a bad blood pitting Deputy President (DP) Rigathi Gachagua and Prime Cabinet Secretary (PCS) Musalia Mudavadi.

I do not want to focus much on these comments because there was no tangible evidence to support the claims.

Up to date, the duo's demeanor and body language cast a picture of leaders who were working cordially and each understood well the role assigned to him by the President.

I remember Gachagua praising the President for giving each a well-defined specific duties during a retreat held in Nyanyuki.

The media is known to thrive in blowing and amplifying the real or imagined political disagreements. At a time, if real, it would be just a small difference.

Sometimes, the media would even play a role in setting a stage for these confrontations.

For Gachagua and Mudavadi, the impression created is that they were embroiled in a fight for political supremacy.

Each was trying to put his best foot forward in seeking the ear, eye and the hand of the President.

But let the truth be told. The constitution of Kenya places Gachagua at the high pedestal.

By virtue of being the principle assistant to the President, he is second-in-command. This unlike Mudavadi whose position is not entrenched in the constitution.

A few days ago, the Deputy President was quoted as saying.

It is true we have been seeing Prime CS making numerous foreign trips outside the country. I'm sure you have noted this. He was being sent to represent President Ruto in some ceremonies.

The latest trip was in Nigeria where he attended the swearing in ceremony of the newly elected President of country.

Gachagua added: For the record, I want to make one thing clear.

This does not in any way mean that the President has sidelined me.

My working chemistry with my boss, President William Ruto, remains very cordial.

I had discussed matters related to these trips with him.

I requested him to disengage me from these trips and instead assigns me local duties. I, particularly, asked him to let me focus in the war against



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua .

Worth Noting:

- Each was trying to put his best foot forward in seeking the ear, eye and the hand of the President. But let the truth be told. The constitution of Kenya places Gachagua at the high pedestal.
- By virtue of being the principle assistant to the President, he is second-in-command. This unlike Mudavadi whose position is not entrenched in the constitution.
- A few days ago, the Deputy President was quoted as saying. It is true we have been seeing Prime CS making numerous foreign trips outside the country. I'm sure you have noted this. He was being sent to represent President Ruto in some ceremonies.
- The latest trip was in Nigeria where he attended the swearing in ceremony of the newly elected President of country.

the illicit brews and bhang.

I'm; however, ready to make these trips if they were meant for resource mobilization.

Again, the media opted to twist and misinterpret his comments.

To me, the DP's response did not mean he had a bone to pick with Prime CS or amount to derision of international duties assigned to him by the President.

Put yourself in Gachagua's shoes. His haters have cooked stories that he was being sidelined by the head of state. How would you expect him to react?

Did you expect him to say the President was assigning Mudavadi these duties behind his back? As a second-in-command and in light of the impression created by the media, this is only option the DP had to rebuttal these claims of imagination.

By virtue of his position, Gachagua is poised to succeed President Ruto

in 2032.

Rumors had it that Mudavadi was also eyeing the same position.

I want to repeat this. For now, these stories are being peddled around by the media.

We are yet to hear this from horse's mouth. For President, he has been leaving nothing to chance in demonstrating he trust and have full confidence in his deputy.

I want to bring this to the attention of DP Gachagua.

The media has somehow succeeded in creating public perceptions that you had been sidelined by your boss. My hope is that you have a powerful communication team that will undo this damage and set the record straight.

It will also help if you opt to go to some of these trips.

This will deflate claims made by some of Mudavadi's allies.

I heard them saying these trips were

important because they were meant to create linkages of friendship and partnership.

It is unfortunate that one of them went amok and stated. We hope the DP's understanding of resource mobilization is not that he will bring proceeds of piracy.

Even though riding from the hype of the media, this person had gone to far. Could it turn out this person was enjoying the support of Mudavadi? For now, I have no answer. Only time will tell.

Joseph Mutua Ndonga is a writer and political analyst based in Nairobi

We Pay Dearly When We Chase What Is Cheap

By: N. George

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Some of the skills you can acquire through interacting with your peers are crucial in life even if they cannot be easily quantified; some of them are not through talks but just mere observation.
- There people who when they fell ill they prefer to take pain killers instead of visiting a physician. Through this they are able to get relieve of pain easily and at low cost. This may happen for quite some time and for simple diseases their bodies may get immune boosted by food they eat or exercises they do hence get healed even without need to seek further treatment.



Thus it is that no cruelty whatsoever passes by without impact. Thus it is that we always pay dearly for chasing after what is cheap.
Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, *The Gulag Archipelago 1918–1956*.

How one was brought up affects the way he thinks and acts. One's deeds are hugely influenced by his experiences. There are those who do not have huge cash inflows and wish not to be indebted to other people so they try to restrict their budgets to the available amounts.

A situation which makes them at times to buy only what they can afford probably the cheapest product of a certain category fully aware that it will get easily damaged or become inefficient hence it will need regular replacement.

Taking a long term perspective and looking at the lifespan of the two types of products you would realize that if one purchased a high quality expensive item the total costs incurred throughout its lifespan would be less compared to the cheap ones that easily wear out and get repaired or replaced regularly.

You will notice that majority of small sized companies do not engage in research before they are set-up enterprises due to various factors among them inadequate resources to conduct such researches, ignorance of the owners of such firms and at times following market trend where they have a general look at the neighbouring businesses then set up theirs as they are aware that there are customers with interest of such products in that area.

It is not a wonder to find that such new entrants facing stiff competition from the existing businesses yet with the same amount of capital they could have established some other enterprises which could give them an easy time to operate had they conducted research then appraised projects but their attempts to save the research money made them to obtain low rate of returns and at times being edged out of the market.

Theoretical classes are important for one to understand a certain subject but not compulsory. Some people think that provided you can have an on job training and acquire neces-

sary skills to perform the task there is no need of following the long path of starting by attending theoretical classes.

Much as they are able to perform tasks after training on site of the job they forget that through knowing the theory behind their operations they are able to have deeper understanding of the subject. Furthermore at classroom and formal school in general one would acquire people skills over and above specific subject training that is why you find that those who attended both theoretical classes then went to field to further train and practice in most times perform better than their counterparts who just trained onsite then started practicing.

Some of the skills you can acquire through interacting with your peers are crucial in life even if they cannot be easily quantified; some of them are not through talks but just mere observation.

There people who when they fell ill they prefer to take pain killers instead of visiting a physician. Through this they are able to get relieve of pain

easily and at low cost. This may happen for quite some time and for simple diseases their bodies may get immune boosted by food they eat or exercises they do hence get healed even without need to seek further treatment.

However, this is not always the case as in some situations even if they are able to suppress the pain the condition gets worse forcing them to visit a physician when the disease is at advanced stage when it requires more elaborate measures which are far much costlier than of those who immediately sought medical support upon noticing the signs for the first time, furthermore the medications used including the painkillers costs some amount.

It is not the worst idea for one to opt for the cheapest product but a lot of considerations should be taken if the cheapest is the best as per the prevailing situation then go for it otherwise when appraisals show otherwise do not hesitate to go for quality despite it being relatively expensive.

Gov't Keen On Eliminating Infringements On Intellectual Property, Illicit Trade

By: Enrica Amisi and Lucy Gitei

@themkenyatimes

This has been brought to light during the global conference by Anti-Counterfeit Authority (ACA) on addressing the menace of counterfeit and illicit trade.

Speaking at the conference at Bomas of Kenya, Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI) Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria stated that the threat of counterfeiting is not just an economic matter but it goes further to the health and safety of consumers through the use of unsafe counterfeit products.

“As a government, we have prioritised the fight against counterfeiting and any other form of illicit trade since it not only affects our economy but also poses a threat to citizens who are the consumers,” reiterated Kuria.

Studies from the World Economic Forum estimates that illicit trade presently deprives the global economy an equivalent of 2.2 trillion US



Some of the stakeholders who took part in the conference

dollars annually and this accounts for 3% of the global Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

In 2019, the value of illicit trade in Kenya stood at Sh800billion which translates to 13% of her GDP.

Citing the event's theme: 'Address-

ing the IPR infringement and related forms of illicit trade enforcement to spur a digital economy', PS state department for Industry, Dr. Juma Mukhwana acknowledged that innovation has always been a catalyst for the economic growth of a country

and is critical to spurring the manufacturing agenda of any nation.

He said despite the legislative measures at hand, decisive actions will be taken to face the threat of counterfeit and illicit trade.

“This symposium presents a timely

platform to deliberate turn around approaches to tackle IP rights infringement at the national, regional and global levels. We also aim to close existing and threatening gaps which are exploited by criminals,” stated Mukhwana.

As Kenya hosts the first international conference on IP protection and enforcement, Executive Director ACA Robi Mbugua said that the three-day conference aims to unite policymakers, judicial officers, enforcers, leading academic scientists and researchers among others to exchange and share their experiences and recent innovations and challenges adapted in the IP rights.

“The country's preparedness in addressing the menace of IP theft is bolstered by the constitution that prescribes respect and protection of IP in Kenya,” reiterated Dr Mbugua.

ACA together with her partners including Attorney General Alliance (AGA) and Anti-Counterfeit Network Africa (ACN) among others are on the forefront to combat counterfeiting in Kenya and Africa at large.

Jijenge Credit Supports CBK Stand on Digital Lenders

By: John Kariuki

@themkenyatimes

Peter Macharia Kamau is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Jijenge Credit.

He takes a moment to share with us his insights pertaining oversight of the Central Bank of Kenya over the digital lenders.

“We as Jijenge Credit we are fully behind efforts by the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) on heightened oversight of Digital Credit Providers (DCPs) in the country.

Mr. Macharia also advised the digital lenders to endeavour to comply with the Central Bank recruitment so that they can be given the green light to operate and do business.

Macharia also expressed full support for the finance bill and called upon those who are criticising it to

do so in a positive and constructive manner and offer solutions.

Jijenge Credit is a non-deposit taking Micro Finance Lending Institution with over 10,000 clients in Kenya, Sudan and Tanzania, and its head office is at Town House, Nairobi, Kenya.

“Our greatest advantage the demand for microfinance products that is very high especially among SMEs who are the company's main client. Jijenge Credit looks to aid those who are unable to access financial services.”

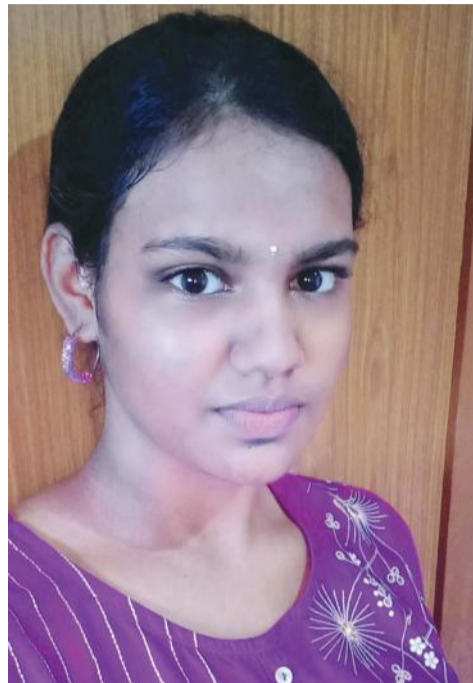


Peter Macharia Kamau is the managing director of Jijenge Credit.

Life Surprises

Life surprises for those who
 Are not worrying about anything
 Not believing about something
 Not trusting about bad thing
 A failure makes a person
 Worrier into Warrior
 Fail?? It's just a fail
 Move!! It's just a move
 One day you will reach
 For what you search.

- AarthiJ



Thank You Teacher



To My Grandfather



I will have children as you wish
 I will always support you
 I will carry your name in the sky

I will protect your honor, my dear
 No matter what, stay safe
 Be with us on our journey
 I ask God morning and evening
 Don't leave it out of sight

Laugh out of joy, not out of sadness
 Be honored among the people
 Dad, you are beaming with joy
 Lion is over, this day is your daughter

Pardayeva Sevara Abdunosir's daughter was born on March 7, 2004 in Denov district, Surkhandarya region. Nationality Uzbek.

Since 2022, the pedagogical faculty of the denov Institute of entrepreneurship and pedagogy has been admitted to the educational direction "pedagogy" on a fee-contract basis.

Pardayeva Sevara Abdunosir's daughter was awarded a certificate for her active participation in the festive event "doctors of the soul who are devotees of their profession", held at the Faculty of Pedagogy on the occasion of the "International Day of psychologists" on November 22, 2022.

On December 26, 2022, WEB OF SCHOLARS: MULTIDEMINSIONLA RESEARCH JOURNAL published an article titled "Assessment of learning in the study progress" in an international journal and was awarded a certificate.

On December 22, 2022, at the Republican scientific-practical conference "the development of pedagogical and psychological sciences in New Uzbekistan: problems and solutions", DPTI was awarded a certificate by participating in the article "Muslihiddin Saadi Sherozi's "Gulistan" about the traditions of the teacher-disciple".

Father, may you live longer
 Be the happiest person in the world
 May you live long, my god
 May God protect you

You always talk about good things
 You will always be rewarded for everything you do
 You always think about good deeds
 Always be kind and considerate
 I ask God again and again

My words are a gesture
 May you live long, my grandfather
 My dad still has hundreds of springs
 Dad, I don't blame you
 I will not break your heart
 I will not spoil your honor

Dad, I will never bow your head
 I am the child of your dreams
 I feel the pain in your heart

My dear person
 My dear teacher
 Like a white bird
 You gave a big life
 We fly to the each side
 Pray For us my teacher.
 You can trust me
 I'm getting your student girl.

My kind teacher
 My scholar-intellectual,
 My Dear teacher
 Be happy and stay safe

I thank you, teacher
 You gave me education
 Your work is inspiration
 I will be a scientist, a doctor.

As soon as possible
 You can trust me,
 I will be a good student
 You are proud of me.

Mejlijeva Zebiniso Mirkomilovna was born on June 4, 2003. She is a second-year student of the National University of Uzbekistan. Future Practical Psychologist. Her creative works have been distributed in numerous nations around the world Envoy on sake of Uzbekistan to a few worldwide organizations. Specifically: "SPSC-(Sustainable Programmers and Sustainable Collaborators). ambassador", "GLOBAL GOODWILL AMBASSADOR 2023".

Member of the international organization "All India Council for Technical Skill Development" of India. IQRA FOUNDATION PEACE AMBASSADOR. ACTIVE MEMBER of the Word Writers and Artists Working Group "JUNTOS POR LAS LETRAS".

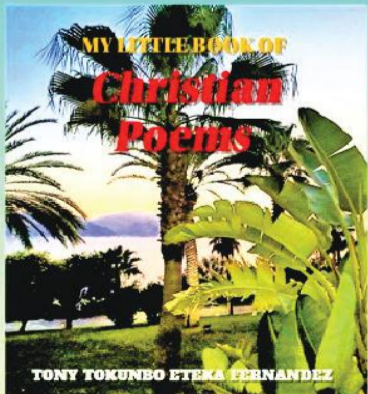
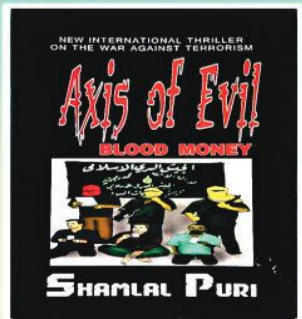
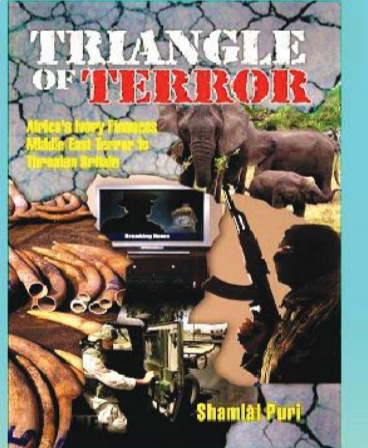
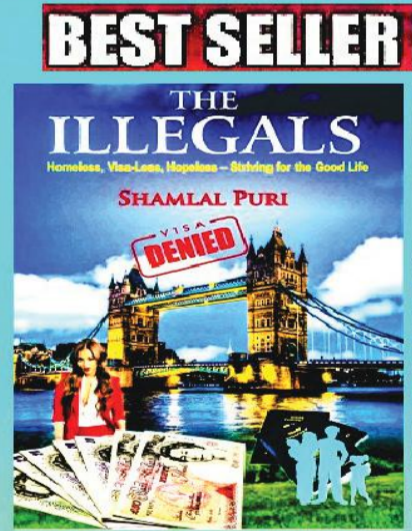
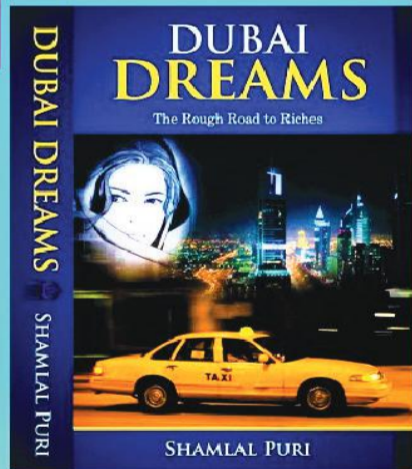
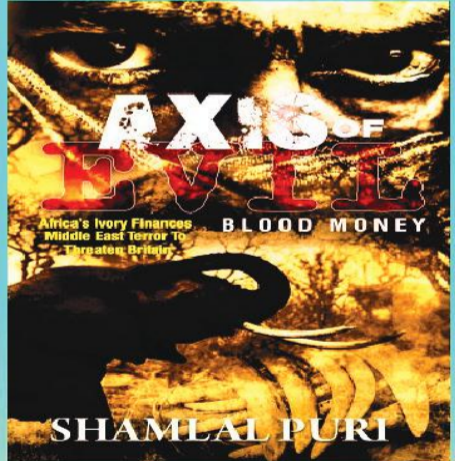
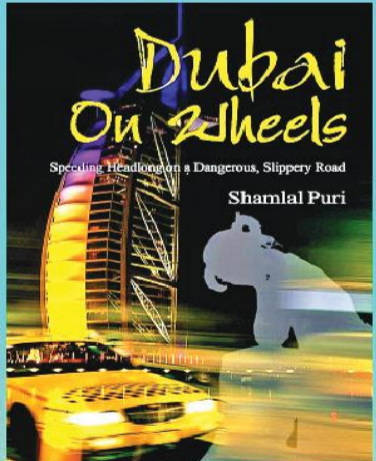
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BUSINESS

Kenya Unveils Plan On Sustainable Cooling Solutions

By: Capital Correspondent

Worth Noting:

- “Kenya’s Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) has committed to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 32% or 143MT of CO2 equivalent by 2030. Therefore, providing conventional cooling services poses a challenge to attainment of this ambitious target,” the PS noted.
- He said NCAP was part of Kenya’s climate change mitigation strategy of transitioning the country to low a carbon development pathway.
- PS Ng’eno said full implementation of NCAP would enhance performance and energy efficiency of cooling appliances, transition the sector climate friendly refrigerants, and increase access to agricultural cold chains.
- He said NCAP, which was developed by the State Department for Environment and Climate Change, will create appropriate conditions for adoption of sustainable cooling systems.



Environment and Climate Principal Secretary Eng Festus Ng'eno

Kenya has unveiled a five-year plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from refrigeration appliances by enhancing availability and accessibility of sustainable cooling solutions.

The 2023 to 2027 National Cooling Action Plan for Kenya (NCAP) was unveiled at a Nairobi hotel on yesterday by Environment and Climate Principal Secretary Eng Festus Ng’eno who said the plan puts the country on a path towards a “green, cool revolution”.

“With this plan in place, we are charting a course towards a more efficient, eco-friendly, and inclusive Kenyan refrigeration and air-conditioning sector.

“Our goal is clear: to make sustainable cooling accessible for every Kenyan by using efficient appliances, environmentally-safe refrigerants, and enhancing access to agricultural cold chains,” Eng Ng’eno said.

Besides making Kenya’s cooling sector eco-friendly as a climate

change mitigation measure, PS Ng’eno said NCAP would help Kenya meet her global climate action obligations.

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He said NCAP, which was developed by the State Department for Environment and Climate Change, will create appropriate conditions

for adoption of sustainable cooling systems.

“We are talking about providing financial incentives for cold storage systems and making sure everyone understands the incredible benefits of zero-emission cold-chains.

“The action plan will also support research and development that suits our unique local needs. Our goal is to make innovative business models easily accessible to everyone,” PS Ng’eno said.

At the same time, Eng Ng’eno applauded refrigeration, air-conditioning and cooling systems sector stakeholders for increasingly embracing sustainable cooling solutions, and urged them to partner with Government in the roll out of NCAP.

“I urge all stakeholders to actively engage and collaborate in implementing NCAP. By integrating the actions outlined in this document into your institutional framework, we can collectively achieve its goals and make a significant impact,” PS

Ng’eno urged.

NCAP was developed through a participatory process that brought together cooling sector stakeholders that included the private sector, academia, state and non-state actors.

Its development was supported by Kenya’s development partners led by the Government of Germany through GIZ’s Green Cooling Initiative,

Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP), and Sustainable Energy for All (SEforAll).

At the State Department for Environment and Climate Change, NCAP’s development was coordinated by the National Ozone Unit within the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) Directorate. National Ozone Unit and MEAs are headed Mr Kirui Marindany and Mr Cyrus Mageria respectively.

CS Bore Urges Youth To Embrace Online Development Programme

By: Ali Sheikh Mohamed

[@themtkenyatimes](#)



Ministry of Labour and Social Protection Cabinet Secretary Florence Bore

Worth Noting:

- “We are empowering them to shape their own futures and contribute meaningfully to the economic growth of our nation,” said Bore while affirming that the program has attracted over 2000 young people across the country.

- She further added that the gig economy has grown, transforming the labour market towards more accessible, competitive, and consistent job opportunities over the last decade, which she noted has the potential to reduce the unemployment that has affected the youth.

- According to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics 2021, the unemployment rate is 6.6 percent indicating that age groups of 20–24 and 25–29 continued to record the highest proportion of unemployment, while in the long-term unemployment rate, which was 3.9 percent, youth aged 20–24 still have the highest rate of long-term unemployment at 13.5 percent.

Young people have been urged to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the National Online Employment Skills Development Programme, an initiative that bridges the gap between employment and education.

Ministry of Labour and Social Protection Cabinet Secretary Florence Bore said the program demonstrates the government’s commitment to empower the youth with skills aimed at enhancing their economic participation in the country’s economy.

She said there is need for the young people to join the programme as it will enable them to exploit information technology to pursue economic opportunities.

“I hope this programme will inspire many to join the online gig economy as gig workers or freelancers,” said Bore.

The CS said the programme which is an innovative initiative of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, State Department for Labour and Skills Development, in collaboration with the Ajira Digital program driven by the Ministry of Informa-

tion, Communications and The Digital Economy is designed to bridge the gap between education and employment.

It is also aimed at equipping young people, especially person with disability with the requisite skills and competencies which is the backbone in today’s evolving job market.

The CS who was speaking virtually during the virtual launch of the National Online Employment Skills Development Programme at NSSF building said the government is providing individuals with tools, training, and opportunities they need to succeed.

She added that the programme is a significant milestone of the government’s effort to build a highly skilled and future-ready workforce.

“We are empowering them to shape their own futures and contribute meaningfully to the economic growth of our nation,” said Bore while affirming that the program has attracted over 2000 young people across the country.

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The survey also lauds the Judiciary for offering opportunities to over 110,476 young people who have been linked to work in the private sector thereby addressing the challenges faced by both job seekers and employers thereby creating a win-win scenario that fosters sustainable growth and prosperity for all.

Ajira programme also focuses on empowering the youth with Skills Assessment and Gap Analysis, Apprenticeship and internship opportu-

nities and Job Placement and Career Services through their career development journey.

In his remarks, the Principal Secretary State Department for ICT and the Digital Economy, Eng. John Tanui, in a virtual presentation by Ms. Priscilla Maina, Assistant Director State Department of Digital Economy, said the Ajira Digital Program was instituted in 2016 with the aim of ensuring one million young people, 70 percent of whom are young women, access digital and digitally enabled jobs annually.

“Today there are over 400 Ajira youth empowerment centers across the country where young people can access free computers, internet, and working space to work and earn online,” said the PS.

He added that the government has also established over 114 Ajira clubs institutionalized in universities and Technical and Vocational Education and Training institutions, to equip young people in higher learning institutions with digital skills.

“We have trained and mentored over 321,000 young people on the Ajira Digital Curriculum, 33 percent who are already working online,” said Eng.Tanui.

In his remarks, Geoffrey Kaituko, Principal Secretary State Department for >Labour and Skills Development, said the program targets youth, among them people with disabilities, especially youth with hearing and visual impairments.

“This program will be delivered through e-learning. However, youth with disabilities shall be trained through face-to-face methodology,” said Kaituko,

He added that beneficiaries of the program will also be trained in data management, transcription and content writing owing to the high demand for data management in the online gig economy.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, in close collaboration with the Ajira Digital Program under the Ministry of Information, Communications and The Digital Economy, Kenya Private Sector Alliance, the eMobilis Technological Training Institute, the Mastercard Foundation, and Konza Technopolis, will collaborate to ensure the success and widespread reach of the Program across the country.

Kenya And India To Work On Attracting More Indian Investments Into The Country

By: Joseph Ng'ang'a
@themtkenyatimes



Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary Korir Sing'oei.

Worth Noting:

- The PS called on Kenyans to emulate the Indian communal style of living where they come together and put-up projects and initiatives like hospitals, schools, sports centers like the Oshwal club in efforts to assist each other.
- “I have observed that most Indian businesses are family owned and they are passed from father to son and they keep building on that. Most Kenyan wealth which a generation creates often disappears in the second or third generation and it is high time that Kenyans embraced the idea of incorporating their children into their businesses early enough so that they can learn and carry on with the business long after the parents have passed on,” said Sing'oei.

Kenya and India are working together on modalities to encourage more Indian investments in the country in a bid to boost manufacturing, trade and investment and create job opportunities.

Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary Korir Sing'oei said that the Kenyan government has put in place an enabling environment for businesses to operate and thrive which is key in attracting foreign investment into the country.

Speaking at the Mövenpick hotel, Sing'oei said that the story of the Kenyan-Indian community's impact on the country is of one of resilience, hard work and immense creativity from manufacturing to health, agriculture, hospitality, and cultural sphere where the community has left an indelible mark on virtually every sector of the economy.

“We cannot overlook the realm of manufacturing where we have had great contribution from the likes of Manu Chandaria, Vimal Shah, the Merali family, Patel family among others who have played a vital role in shaping our nation's manufacturing landscape particularly in textile, steel, iron pharmaceuticals, food processing among many others,” said Sing'oei.

The PS noted that in the medical sector, the Kenyan-Indian community has made contributions in the establishment of hospitals like MP Shah, Aga Khan, Mediheal which

have led to improvement of the health sector as well as providing a skilled workforce in the medical field.

The PS called on Kenyans to emulate the Indian communal style of living where they come together and put-up projects and initiatives like hospitals, schools, sports centers like the Oshwal club in efforts to assist each other.

“I have observed that most Indian businesses are family owned and they are passed from father to son and they keep building on that. Most Kenyan wealth which a generation creates often disappears in the second or third generation and it is high time that Kenyans embraced the idea of incorporating their children into their businesses early enough so that they can learn and carry on with the business long after the parents have passed on,” said Sing'oei.

Sing'oei explained that just the other day they were with President William Ruto in Djibouti where they met with the leadership of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), a conglomeration of about seven countries where they held talks on setting up a new regional economic block which will bring together members of the East African Community (EAC) and also include Ethiopia, Somalia, Djibouti and Eritrea in efforts to boost free trade and facilitated movement among the member states.

“The Kenyan government is engaged in creating larger markets that go beyond Kenya so that when foreign investors like those from India set up businesses in Kenya they are able to access a larger regional market,” said Sing'oei.

He said that there are many strategies that the government has put in place, be it in infrastructure, licensing, removing tariff and nontariff barriers to enable businesses to operate optimally.

India High Commissioner to Kenya Namgya Khampa said that Kenya and India have a very old and historical relationship and the diaspora can play a critical role in bringing the two countries closer.

“We are looking at working with Kenya's priorities and India's capacities to see how we can align them and get greater Indian investments and expertise as well as getting the exchanges going on smoothly for the benefit of both countries,” said Khampa.

She said that Kenyan-Indians have played a crucial role in the development of Kenya and they deserve to be celebrated as they have grown to be a force to reckon with from the humble beginnings that the first Kenyan-Indians started from.

Khampa said that as India celebrates its 75 years of independence, they reckon the immense contribution of the Indian origin diaspora who are estimated to be 30 million across the

world and 80,000 in Kenya.

“The Indian diaspora is a force to reckon with and a building bridge of friendship between the countries they are in and India,” said Khampa. United Asian Network (UAN) chairman Bimal Kantaria said that the organization is an umbrella body for the Asian community think tanks in Kenya which is quite diverse with members from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka and they are trying to bring everybody together so that they have a dialogue on the nation's development.

Kantaria said that they are first Kenyans and then Indians explaining that for his case their family first came to Kenya in the year 1898.

“As the Asian community in Kenya, we are big in manufacturing but over the coming years, Information Technology (IT) will be a very important area that we will be investing in to go in line with the government's digital transformation agenda,” said Kantaria.

He added that they will also be investing in the services sector and agriculture where this year is the year of the millet and they will be looking at using millet as a substitute to maize in the wake of global warming and in support of the ministry of agriculture's drive for more drought tolerant crops to replace maize.

Request For Statement On The Alarming Closure And Threatened Closure Of The County Assemblies Across The Country

By: PSCU

Meru County Senator Kathuri Murungi is seeking for a statement from the Senate Standing Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations on the alarming closure and threatened closure of the county assemblies across the country.

In his request, the lawmaker wants the committee to give measures being taken to curb the alarming adjournment of County assemblies across the country, with so far Narok, Mandera, Kericho, Embu, Tana River, Kisii, Marsabit, Makueni, Wajir, Garissa, Mombasa, Kwale, Nakuru, Kajiado, Nyamira, Laikipia, West Pokot and Samburu shutting down.

The Senator further wants the committee to state the measures being put in place to ensure that the shutdowns will not affect the functions

of the County government and its ability to deliver key services to the people and also give measures they are taking to ensure the issues raised by MCAs are addressed to avoid the cases of the perennial



Meru Senator Kathuri Murungi.

Request For A Statement On Institutions, Stadia And Parks Named After Former Presidents And Popular Leaders

By: PSCU

Kiambu County Senator Karungi Wa Thang'wa is seeking a statement from the Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare regarding all public institutions, stadia, roads and places that bear the names of individuals.

In the Statement, the Senator requests the committee to provide a comprehensive list of all public institutions, stadia, roads and places named after the current and former presidents of the Republic of Kenya indicating their respective locations and, where applicable, distance in kilometres.

The Senator further wants the committee to highlight any additional advantage gained by institutions from individuals whom the amenities are named after, indicating whether the process of naming these amenities conformed to the existing policies and guidelines.



Kiambu County Senator Karungi Wa Thang'wa.

Ajira Digital Platform Empowers Youth In Murang'a County

By: Florence Kinyua and Michael Mutua

@themkenyaintimes

The government's initiative of Ajira digital platform recruited 48 youths in Murang'a South Sub-County by offering them a two-day training on online skills so as to help them secure jobs in the digital economy.

The program's trainer Ms Olive Wamaitha noted that the initiative is meant to continuously equip the youth with essential online skills and empower them to earn money independently so that they can access various employment opportunities by ensuring they acquire valuable skills in the digital realm.

"We are introducing the youths to online work and data entry because what we want to do is to empower them so that they can be in a position to work online and earn a livelihood for themselves," she said

The program gives them training and the trainees are later helped to open working platforms.

"Moreover, while the youths are still working, we offer them virtual mentorship classes for five weeks before the next training which is done monthly," said Wamaitha.

"We have a wide range of modules offered to cater for diverse interests for the youths in their empowerment which include digital marketing, transcription, content writing, virtual assistance among others," she added.

Wamaitha further noted that the program offers all the modules to the youth so that they can gain an all-round knowledge which will help one choose their best areas and concentrate on them.



Ms Olive Wamaitha.

Reprieve To Kenya Aviation Students As Association Signs Pact With Ethiopian University On Training

By: Muoki Charles

@themkenyaintimes

Students pursuing aviation courses have received a boost after a pact was signed between the Association of Kenya-Ethiopia Friends (AKEF) and the Ethiopian Aviation University and the Ethiopian Airlines on affordable training and apprenticeship.

The pact will be in areas of subsidised training, apprenticeship and linkages of Kenyans students to the Ethiopian Aviation University and the airline.

AKEF, an organisation formed by former mayors Chairperson, Joe Aketch said the partnership will make studying of aviation courses that are deemed expensive, affordable.

Addressing aviation students at Mangu High School, Aketch, also former Nairobi mayor said Kenyans students pursuing Aviation courses will also be encouraged to study at the Ethiopian Aviation University.

"Through the partnership, Kenyan students wishing to study at the Ethiopian Aviation University will



Former Nairobi mayor Joe Aketch with other aviation sector stakeholders.

get a special package at lower rates, adding that the University of Ethiopia was the best in East and central Africa.

He called on aviation stakeholders to ensure the next generation across the African continent actively takes part in this aviation transformation development agenda that will give

opportunities for new strategies for the growth of the sector that has remained dormant for decades.

AKEF Treasurer John Mutahi who is also a former Thika Mayor noted that through the partnership in apprenticeship; aviation students will get exposure to the market.

Mutahi revealed that they are in the

process of networking with other former mayors globally in areas of partnerships and linkages to boost the sector.

"Students will get industry exposure through internships, industrial training, and value added courses through the new technology, guest lecturers and workshops conducted

by the aerospace industry experts," he said.

Mangu High school Deputy Principal Peter Thairu decried that most students drop the aviation subject once they get to Form Two due to unaffordable fees.

Thairu said the Aviation learning has been met by a lot of challenges ranging from lack of modern equipment and apparatus that fit the new airspace technology skills.

He said the partnership would bring about hands-on training, thereby making the students marketable and also open up the aerospace and aviation sectors.

Dickens Magak, KNEC examiner with Kenya Aviation Authority urged students in the country to take advantage of the collaboration and asked the government to identify a few aviation schools that require to be boosted.

Magak said most schools face infrastructure, apparatus and well-equipped workshop challenges with low enrolment due to lack of these essential equipment.

Kenya To Launch An E-Commerce Platform To Link Traders, Buyers

By: Martin Munyi

@themtkenyatimes

The country is set to launch an e-commerce platform that will see traders and farmers sell their goods and farm produce on a digital platform under the Kenya National Multi Commodities Exchange (KOMEX).

Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Trade Alfred K'Ombundo said that the platform would link commodity producers and buyers through an integrated electronic platform where they can trade in commodities and derivatives backed by the Warehouse Receipt System (WRS).

Speaking when he closed a one-week trading rules validation workshop for stakeholders drawn from the ministries of Trade, Information, communications and The Digital Economy and Cooperatives at a Nanyuki hotel, the PS noted that a multi-commodity exchange was an important part of modernizing the country's agricultural production systems.

"Currently, we are losing 30 to 40 per cent of our products in the agriculture sector due to post-harvest losses, and in the production space, we are still losing quite a lot.

This multi-commodity exchange creates a platform whereby we are incentivizing farmers and local producers to be part of a system where the buying process can happen in a very determinant way," K'Ombundo said.

He added that the workshop came up with a trading rule book that will guide on how trade will be regulated on the e-platform, who can trade on it, as well as modalities for the insurance of goods being traded.

The Trade PS also noted that the KOMEX platform would come in handy in eliminating brokers and cartels in the coffee sector by linking farmers' cooperatives directly with local and international buyers.

"Under KOMEX, coffee farmers will have a choice in determining who they can trade their produce with," he added.

Nairobi Securities Exchange Chief Executive Officer Geoffrey Odundo said the platform would assure trad-



Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Trade Alfred K'Ombundo.

ers of fair market trading in terms of monitoring and surveillance.

"We are looking forward to having a very highly efficient trading mechanism that guarantees fair and better pricing and information asymmetry

that will enable every Kenyan to enjoy a very high level of price discovery," Odundo said.

The President's Economic Advisor on Trade, Robert Muriithi, noted that the KOMEX platform would be

a key avenue for the government to implement its promises as outlined in the Kenya Kwanza manifesto.

Kajiado Referral Hospital Receives Sh20 Million Medical Equipment

By: Rop Janet

@themtkenyatimes

Kajiado County Referral Hospital has received medical equipment worth Sh20 million from the College of Surgeons of East, Central, and Southern Africa (COSECSA) to boost the delivery of health services.

The laparoscopy equipment, which includes an endoscope, camera, light source, video monitor, insufflator, trocars, and surgical instruments, will help boost the surgical services being offered at the facility.

While handing over the equipment, Prof. Pankaj Jani from COSECSA urged the hospital to put the equipment into good use so that many patients could benefit from it.

According to the hospital's medical superintendent, Dr. Fred Ayani, patients from Kajiado will no lon-

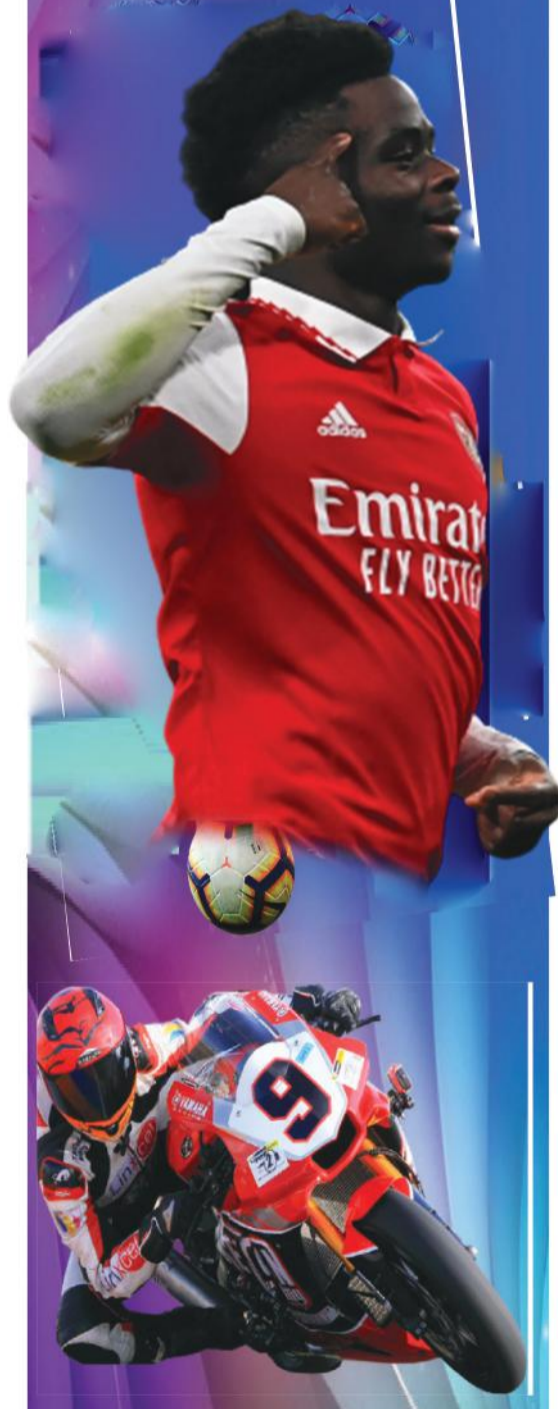
ger have to travel many kilometers to Kenyatta Referral and Teaching Hospital in Nairobi to seek laparo-endoscopic procedures.

Ayani said the laparoscopic machine will help improve the outcome of surgeries being performed at the hospital, thus ensuring patients receive quality services as the risk of infection will be reduced.

The laparoscopy equipment allows a surgeon to view and access the inside of the abdomen and pelvis without having to make large incisions in the skin.

It enables the surgeon to perform surgery on the relevant part without potentially damaging other parts of the body.



SPORTS
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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *In a sign that the plans for the 2023 WRC Safari Rally are gaining pace, the final list of officials and the teams that will work with them has been release

WRC Safari Rally 2023: All You Need to Know About Security And Safety



By Capital Sports

In a sign that the plans for the 2023 WRC Safari Rally are gaining pace, the final list of officials and the teams that will work with them has been release.

In a change towards making the teams lean and efficient, the Safety Team under Norris Ongallo has been reshuffled to focus on the teams strength and capabilities. Norris has streamlined his team and has banked on training and experience.

Abbas Murbe takes over as Head of E-Safety; a new position after the vehicle manufacturer resolved to use hybrid cars and will be assisted by Alex Mwanzo who is an electric vehicle engineer specializing in Electric battery systems and lithium ion.

Abbas has a vast experience in safety after working as the head of safety in Exxon Mobil for many years. He has been part of the WRC Safari Rally since the Candidate event.

Norris will rely on 66 key officials with a diversity of specialties and positions to deliver a safe and spectacular WRC Safari Rally.

The teams are broken down into radio for Communications under Mark Hudson, Spectator management, TIV management, marshals and stage management.

To encourage knowledge trans-

fer, Norris has flanked the experienced teams with new young and upcoming enthusiasts who are slowly growing and rising the ranks.

Dash Patel, who is the new Chief Rescue officer has received recognition from the FIA.

In a letter seen by Capital Sports Dash has been nominated as the Chief Rescue Officer and will be available to provide his services anywhere on the continent or the world when called upon.

Norris has been commended in the past for trying to achieve a 1/3 (One third) gender balance. Of the 66 officials, 18 are ladies; while 48 are men.

A rally is all about safety. One small mishap could easily lead to the cancellation of a stage or the event.

To ensure that every detail is looked into, Norris has selected his best. To give you an idea of how much work goes into getting each stage ready and ensure that everything is checked and rechecked, each stage has a stage safety Officer, a deputy stage safety officer, and two or three assistant stage safety officers.

In a slight change towards improving the safety of crews during WRC events, the FIA have opted to add the TIV (Technical Intervention Team) to the Medical team as they are to be embedded together.

In the event of an accident or

incident, they are to be deployed together. The TIV team has been divided into two; the TIV will be fully equipped with the life-saving safety equipment like the Jaws of life, cutters and spreaders, body jacks and E-Safety equipment while the ISU (In stage Units) will be responsible of ensuring that the rally routes are clear at all times. They will have E-Safety and firefighting equipment.

WRC LIVE BROADCAST

For this year's event, the Shakedown, Kasarani, Elementaita and Hells Gate Power Stage will be live on WRC TV.

Stage length and Running Order

The stage lengths have changed in one or two areas. I order of how they will run; Shakedown

will be 5.40km and will be run four (4) times, Kasarani will be 4.84km and will run twice (2 times.)

Loldia will be 19.17km and will run twice. One of the fastest stages is Geothermal and is 13.12km and will also be run twice.

The second longest stage of the event; Kedong better known for its Fesh Fesh is 30.62 km and will run twice.

Soysambu is 29.32km and will run twice, Elementaita is 15.08km and will also run twice. Sleeping Warrior, the longest and probably the most exciting stage especially in the wet (If it rains) is 31.04km.

This is the longest stage of the 2023 WRC Safari Rally. Malewa which is back after being replaced by Narasha last year is 8.33km and will be run twice.

Oserian will be 18.33km and will run twice while Hells Gate will run twice. The second loop being the Wolfe Powerstage and is 10.53km.

Shakedown will run on Wednesday; Kasarani on Thursday and Loldia, Geothermal and Kedong on Friday. Soysambu, Elementaita and Sleeping Warrior will run on Saturday and Malewa, Oserian and Hells Gate will run on Sunday.



GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Kenya's Cynthia Cheruto says she was never in doubt that she was going to win her match against Uganda's Winnie Birungi during day three of the Billie Jean King Cup at Nairobi Club

Kenya's Cheruto overjoyed after thrashing Ugandan best friend at Billie Jean King Cup



Kenya's Cynthia Cheruto in action against Uganda's Winnie Birungi at the Billie Jean King Cup. PHOTO/TENNIS KENYA KLTA.

Kenya's Cynthia Cheruto says she was never in doubt that she was going to win her match against Uganda's Winnie Birungi during day three of the Billie Jean King Cup at Nairobi Club on yesterday.

The teenager made light work of her opponent, claiming the first set 6-3 before cruising to a 6-0 victory in the second one to notch her first singles win of the tournament.

Cheruto described Birungi as a longtime friend but noted that none of that mattered when it came to settling matters on the court.

"I knew that this is exactly how things would go because she is someone I know too well, hav-

ing played against her in a past tournament. I knew that she has a particular weakness when it comes to moving side to side on the court and this is what I exploited to emerge victorious," Cheruto said.

The Mbagathi Road Secondary School student was one half of a victorious duo that produced one of the biggest upsets of the tournament, beating top seed Morocco in their doubles match at the same venue.

Alongside Wimbledon Open doubles junior champion Angel-la Okutoyi, Cheruto had beaten the Moroccan pair of Aya El Aouni and Yasmine Kabbaj 6-4, 7-5 to give Kenya a 2-1 win over the North Africans on day one of

the continental showpiece.

Reflecting on that particular win, Cheruto said it was a huge morale booster that gave her the guts to cruise through her singles match against her East African rival.

"This was my first singles match that I was playing in this tournament after competing in the doubles on Monday. It was a huge morale booster and this morning, I asked the coach that he allow me to play in a singles match," she recalled.

Her success notwithstanding, Cheruto believes there is room for improvement as the games keep

"The sun was really hot...when I was tossing, it was towards the

sunlight. And most times when I looked up, the sun was blocking my eyes and that's why I was struggling with my serve," she explained.

In an earlier match at the same venue, Okutoyi had easily dismissed another Ugandan, Patience Athieno, 6-0 6-0 to put Kenya in the driving seat.

The home girls remain unbeaten in the tournament after beating Morocco 2-1 and Botswana 3-0 on Monday and Tuesday respectively.

Capital Sports

SPORTS NEWS



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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



Suffering In The Bomost Of Whiteness

By: Our Reporter

@themkenyatimes



Lobarkhon RUSTAMOVA.

The vast cotton field is swaying like a white sea. The golden rays of the sun, returning to its bed, play on the faces of the white, fluffy cottons, which the farmer raised as an example.

While I was admiring the boundless expanses of heaven, flocks of storks returning to warm lands, and the beauty of nature surrounding me, someone's voice came.

It was you.

"Hey, good girl, you're going to throw it away!" Go back.

I blushed. "If they fight." You came to me before I took one step at a time.

- My sister, you look like an intelligent and understanding girl. After all, cotton grows from this one seed! The embers of the harvest are falling. You will not be blessed if you rush to see those who have gone before you so as not to be left behind. Try to clean it up. Your weight will also increase.

- Sorry, brother. Now I will type as you said.

When you said that, my heart was filled with sadness in your eyes. I took you so close to my heart that I didn't even realize it. You've gone to other insects. I didn't know then, did I like it at first sight? Your beautiful body, your tanned faces in the sun, and your pitiful rebuke have settled in my heart, as if.

The night seemed to drag on. I would like to see you in the morning.

I tied the hem in the morning and came to the end of the hem. Dew glistens on cotton leaves. As I pick the white cottons overflowing from

the fields, I think about you. I look for you with my eyes. Finally, I heard your voice:

"Hey, a good girl, I didn't hear what you said yesterday." It seems that we can not punish.

A handful of cotton in your hand.

"How are you, sister, I didn't even ask your name last night," you said, putting the cotton on my skirt. I said.

- It's a beautiful name.

"Aren't you going to ask my name?" - You laughed.

- I know your name.

- Look at this, the girls' information center works very well. Nice to meet you. But you type too slowly. City dwellers are like that. He has not seen the sun.

- I am not from the city. "It's on the outskirts of the city, the village is ours too," I said.

- Come on, give me the skirt. I'll dig a little.

I was very, very happy in those moments. Because you are next to me. He would say funny things and make you laugh, but your hands would go from groin to groin. During the conversation, I learned that you are an agronomist and studied in Tashkent.

The cotton era has passed so quickly that I wish it would not end.

My friends are happy and reluctant to leave. I am sad only for me. I can't see you anymore.

You called me in the evening. You were also kind of sad.

- Do you leave your patient without treatment?

- Are you a patient? - I laughed.

- It's true, a patient suffering from love pain.

- Tell the truth, where does it hurt? I asked again.

- My heart. How can I stand with-out you?! - You took my hand between your palms.

"Have no choice" I said.

- May I go and write a letter? Don't fight?

"No," I said, as if I was being separated from the closest person in the world, my heart ached for some reason, I couldn't help myself, I started crying.

- I will wait for you.

Sorry, I received only one letter from you. You wrote that you will definitely come. And then I spent one year of my studies with your imagination. I was a third-year student of the medical college.

Finally, we are in cotton again. I wish I could see you now and pour out all the bitter and bad words in my heart to you. I'll show you how to make fun, how to laugh at love...

It's been a week since we arrived and you haven't been seen. I was impatient, I asked. Did you hear me, Dad, I rushed out of the room.

- No, no, it cannot be. No. Do not dead. He is alive, he is alive!

I was in a strange situation. I was going to the cemetery while leaving. I found you - your grave. In my opinion, you were always alive and laughing in the image inside the stone. I couldn't stand it, I cried.

On the day of that terrible incident, you came to the shed and smelled the soot. You rushed to the place where the cotton was harvested, it was burning. You started to turn it off when it was still alive, and you didn't notice the broken electrical wire lying on the ground. You saved tons of wealth...

I still can't believe it. You will always appear in my memory. You live in my heart.

While picking cotton, I hear your voice:

"Hey, a good girl, don't do anything."

I'm looking for you, looking for you, and at first you'll look like you're laughing with a bunch of cotton in your hand.

- You left so much cotton, sister.

I hurry to get to you, so as not to lose again. I run through the hills. And you keep moving away, moving away...

- Stop, don't go, don't go!!!

I hear your sweet voice that burns my heart.

- Don't you treat your patient? I'm sick of love. The pain of love...

My heart is in pain. Tears fall from my eyes. From Ohla-rim, the cotton fields are swaying like the sea. I will join the white, white sea.

SORRY

Someone knocked on my window. Is that you?.. I jumped out. I looked for the gardens, ran to the canal. But... I couldn't find it. My body aches from the bitter pains of separation, pressing on the bad situations lying on the earth's bosom. Tears flow from my eyes from the blows of separation's dagger. "What, is this a delusion? Is it not you who clicked on my window, but the wind? I remember... It was autumn. You knocked on my window.

- Get out. Look at nature. Shall we go to the garden?

- I am checking the written work, let me finish it.

You entered the house impatiently: - You are wonderful! If I tell you to rest, won't you agree... - You took my pen.

"You don't understand that my work is extremely necessary," I complained.

- I understand, I'll take a look later. And now I want to talk to you for a long time... If you know more, I'll fly on a donkey.

"Oh, my dear, what's wrong with the stallion, young boy?" - I laughed.

- You know, when you are old and grumpy, you brag to your grandchildren that I flew in a rosy pony when I was young.

"You confirm, don't you?" - I say looking at you.

"That's right," you say and draw a sad smile. - You still miss these days. Then do not regret!

- Why do you say that? - my spirit falls.

- After all, we are not tied to life. But your presence, being next to me is a world of happiness for me...

I left behind you. I searched for it. But I can't find it. Now I'm sorry... I'm looking for you, your lovingly nurturing eyes... I want to talk with you, fly on a donkey. But...

Lobarkhon RUSTAMOVA



Worth Noting:

- Sorry, I received only one letter from you. You wrote that you will definitely come. And then I spent one year of my studies with your imagination. I was a third-year student of the medical college.
- Finally, we are in cotton again. I wish I could see you now and pour out all the bitter and bad words in my heart to you. I'll show you how to make fun, how to laugh at love...
- It's been a week since we arrived and you haven't been seen. I was impatient, I asked. Did you hear me, Dad, I rushed out of the room.