



National Assembly Budget Committee Recommends Review Of SRC Perks

The Budget and Appropriations Committee has recommended a review of the Salaries and Remuneration Commission's terms of service during the just concluded retreat that sought the Committee's consideration and recommendations on various legislation proposals.

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News>>Nyeri County Enforcement Officers Advised To Familiarise With Bylaws

P. 8. Officers from the County Inspectorate Unit have been advised of the urgent need to familiarise themselves with the existing county bylaws



News>> Warrant Of Arrest Issued For Nakuru Senator Tabitha Karanja

P. 12. The court yesterday issued a warrant of arrest for Nakuru Senator Tabitha Karanja for failing to turn up in court for the hearing of Ksh 14B tax evasion case.



Business>>State To Empower Smallholder Farmers Through Mechanization

P. 16 The government plans to form cooperative societies in every Ward where farmers will be grouped together to benefit from the collective support of mechanisation.

Ruto: Africa Must Invest In Its Human Resource For Growth

He said he was convinced that if Africa pursues the right mix and sequence of policies, it will overcome traditional and emerging crises. "But we will also have a chance to transform our population explosion and youth bulge into a demographic dividend," he argued. The President said this will help position Africa as the young, green continent of the future and the global driver of a new industrial revolution.



President William Ruto and Tanzania President Mama Samia Suluhu Hassan at the Human Capital Forum in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

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Raila Rules Out Talks With President Ruto Over Protests Without Mediator

Opposition leader Raila Odinga told AFP Wednesday that he would not hold talks with President William Ruto without a third-party mediator after months of anti-government protests.

Since Odinga urged Kenyans to take to the streets in March, his Azimio alliance has held nine days of protests against the government, with the demonstrations sometimes spiraling into looting and deadly

clashes with police.

The unrest has sparked alarm among Kenyans and the international community, which has urged the two sides to negotiate an end to the

STORY ON PAGE 13

Azimio leader Raila Odinga, Wiper Leader Kalonzo Musyoka led opposition leaders in visiting victims of police brutality during July 2023 anti government protests.



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Limited Warehousing Facilities Hinder Investment, SMEs Growth - Chandaria

By: Muoki Charles
@themtkenyatimes



Warehousing Facilities .

Worth Noting:

- “This is an area that needs to be exploited. Most SMEs cannot afford to put up their own spaces and turn to long-term space leasing programmes. Global companies too opt to lease warehouse spaces rather than put up their warehouses,” said Chandaria.
- His sentiments were echoed by Tatu City Head of Sales David Karimi, who said with the fast growth of the city, a state-of-the-art warehousing facility was needed to facilitate investment.
- More than 80 companies have set up shop on the over 5,000-acre piece of land.

Industrialists have decried limited warehousing facilities in the country, saying they hurt investment and slowed the growth of small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

Led by Chandaria Properties Founder and Managing Partner Darshan Chandaria, they said warehousing remains critical in the industry and called on entrepreneurs to exploit the gap.

The Industrialists said the limited storage spaces, coupled with the high cost of establishing their own facilities, were a challenge to SMEs as they impeded investment and the growth of industries.

Speaking during the ground breaking ceremony of the Link, a multi-million state-of-the-art SME warehousing and logistics park in Tatu City, Kiambu County, Mr. Chandaria said most SMEs have turned to long-term leasing of ware-

house spaces as they lack the resources to own warehouses outright.

He added that companies with high production capacities struggle with storage, thus the need for more investment in leased warehousing.

“This is an area that needs to be exploited. Most SMEs cannot afford to put up their own spaces and turn to long-term space leasing programmes. Global companies too opt to lease warehouse spaces rather than put up their warehouses,” said Chandaria.

His sentiments were echoed by Tatu City Head of Sales David Karimi, who said with the fast growth of the city, a state-of-the-art warehousing facility was needed to facilitate investment.

More than 80 companies have set up shop on the over 5,000-acre piece of land. “Due to the hard economic times, quite a

number of companies don’t want to construct their own warehousing and distribution centres. Due to this gap, we will provide long-term warehousing leasing to enable them to penetrate the market,” said Karimi.

The multi-million project that will be completed by the end of next year is a joint initiative between Tatu City Ltd., Chandaria Capital, Steel Structures, and M&T Construction.

Kiambu County Trade and Investment CEC Nancy Gichung’wa said the establishment is a milestone in supporting SMEs as well as attracting industries in the County, adding that SMEs will be able to fix and store their wares as they prepare to export them.

She noted that local farmers from the rich agricultural County will get cooling facilities for their perishable produce as

they wait to go to market.

Besides, she said, more youth will be employed in the industrial park, which currently has over 10,000 employees and more than 80 companies, both local and global.

Tigoni MCA and Kiambu County Assembly Trade Committee Chair Patrick Ngaria said, “This is a milestone for SMEs. It will also save farmers from post-harvest losses and motivate them to farm more.”

Other companies in Tatu City include Kenya Wines, Kopier, Dorman, and Twiga Foods, among many others.

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times

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(Wambugu farm along Nyeri-Karatina Highway)

Nyeri County UDA Coordinators Meet To Strategise On How To Popularize The Party

Opening Of A Regional Office And Recruitment Drive Among Issues Discussed

By: Our Correspondent
@themtkenyatimes



Nyeri UDA County coordinators: Sitted from left; Jack Kabiru, Lucy Wanyitu, Wabandi Gacheru and Jackson Ndegwa. Photo/ PAUL MWANGI WANJIRU.

United Democratic Alliance (UDA), the ruling coalition biggest partner, is mooting plans of popularizing the party more in Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua's backyard.

The party is seeking to ensure it eclipses other parties in the area by carrying out a massive recruitment drive.

Further, the party that produced the Presidency want Kenyans to give the new administration time to fix the country, saying better things are on the way.

During a Nyeri County party coordinators' meeting, it was decided that a regional office will be set up in Nyeri town.

This office will be expected to coordinate party activities like recruitment in the region.

Briefing the media after the meeting that was held at Outspan Plaza near

Nyeri town, the party County coordinator Lucy Wanjiku revealed that the recruitment that is expected to start soon will see them visiting all villages to enlist new members.

The coordinators who were drawn from all the six constituencies urged Nyeri residents to remain peaceful and concentrate in farms and take advantage of the favourable weather to

boost food security.

They thanked the residents from Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua's backyard for remaining peaceful and concentrating on their various economic activities.

Wanyitu said, "We also call upon all political parties to embrace peace and concentrate on hard work in farms which can help change the cost of living instead of destroying properties and losing lives."

Jack Kabiru from Mathira constituency observed that the President and his Deputy have no time for shenanigans saying, "We don't need many sufurias on the head but many sufurias on the table".

Supporting a call the Bipartisan dialogue, the leaders led by Wabandi Gacheru, a lawyer based in Nyeri said Kenyans wanted a peaceful country where they could carry out their economic activities with ease.

Public-Private Partnership Initiative to Support Student Innovation at Industrial Level

By: Our Reporter
@themtkenyatimes



Dr Julius explaining how the iTATU IAP platform works.



From Left Karanja Njora- Principal Administrative Secretary MITI, Cindy Waweru - Student and Phillip Maitha - KIEP Project Coordinator.

The Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry (MITI) has today launched iTATU, a student-centric Industry-Academia Platform that enables tertiary institutions and their students to partner with individual companies for specific product development. This will see companies support innovation of new products through access to relatively low-cost human capital and enable students to gain practical, on-demand skills and workplace experience during their formal education thereby strengthening the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in Kenya.

Speaking in Nairobi during the launch, MITI Principal Secretary Dr Juma Mukhwana said this is an opportunity for corporates to build synergy with students in nurturing an innovation culture at the workplace where solution-oriented initiatives will now become the norm.

"At the cusp of a significant shift in how economies are organised around digital and green transitions, innovation is now more crucial than ever. Emerging countries risk being left behind unless they pay attention to how to create and drive local innovations, and capture the leapfrog opportunities that these new developments present," he said.

The launch themed 'Enhancing in-

dustry academia partnerships through open innovation' saw panel discussions from various industry stakeholders take centre stage on emphasising on the value of creating buy-in from both industry and academia.

The platform seeks to drive productivity and increase the participating companies' competitiveness in the market via development of products. iTATU will achieve this by facilitat-

ing innovation challenges that will be posed by the participating companies and carried out by cross-disciplinary student teams in different colleges.

".... iTATU is the clinic that Kenyan MSMEs can refer to when they want to tackle challenges. These can be the pain points an organisation is experiencing, wants to see what is on the horizon and thus prepare better

for the future, help companies test how they can deploy new technologies, say, Industry 4.0 technologies and also help companies identify talent....," stated by the iTATU Team Lead, Julius Gatune.

Students can register for the various challenges on the iTATU website at www.iTATU.net

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Agriculture And Health Committee Hold Joint Meeting With Stakeholder On Food And Feed Safety Coordination Control Bill

By: PSCU

Worth Noting:

- During the meeting lawmakers' recognized the importance of having a comprehensive regulatory framework that aligns Kenyan standards with international norms while catering to the specific needs of the country.
- "We must have regulations that meet Kenyan Food and Feed Safety Control Coordination standards and International Market standards to remain competitive in exports of Horticulture, Food and Feed Export," stated Yegon.



The joint committee during yesterday's session

The National Assembly Committee on Health and Committee on Agriculture and Livestock yesterday held a joint meeting with stakeholders on the Food & Feed Safety Coordination Control Bill.

In a session co-chaired by Dr. Robert Pukose, Chair Health and Brighton Yegon, Vice Chair Agriculture and Livestock Committee, members engaged with stakeholders drawn from the Ministry of Health led by PS, Public Health and Professional Standards, Mary Muthoni, Kenya Bureau of Standards Acting CEO Esther Ngari, Council of Governors CEO, Mary Mwititi, Representatives from Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service, Agriculture Food Authority and Kenya Pest Control Products Board.

The Council of Governors CEO, Mary Mwititi submitted that the Council of Governors' supports the Food & Feed Safety Coordination Control Bill.

On her part, Kenya Bureau of Standards boss highlighted Section 16 of

the Bill, which focuses on the role of the Kenya Bureau of Standards, was particularly emphasized. Stakeholders acknowledged that adherence to international standards, such as the International Codex, would help create a robust regulatory framework for food and feed safety, thereby boosting Kenya's competitiveness in the export of horticulture, food, and feed products. During the meeting lawmakers' recognized the importance of having a comprehensive regulatory framework that aligns Kenyan standards with international norms while catering to the specific needs of the country.

"We must have regulations that meet Kenyan Food and Feed Safety Control Coordination standards and International Market standards to remain competitive in exports of Horticulture, Food and Feed Export," stated Yegon. However, members also acknowledged the complexity of addressing different requirements and standards among different countries.



Nyeri Town constituency MP Duncan Maina Mathenge, a member of the Health Committee making his contribution during yesterday's forum..

Members of the National Assembly emphasized the need to strike a balance between setting food safety standards and allowing flexibility to accommodate diverse needs.

Seme MP Dr. James Nyikal, highlighted the complexity arising from the coexistence of Kenyan standards, international standards, and even more stringent private standards like those set by the European Union.

Balancing these various standards while ensuring consumer safety remains a challenge.

Regarding coordination of regulatory agencies involved, members of the Joint Committee called for avoidance of redundancy and promote efficient regulation, the importance of having a unified regulatory framework.

They expressed concerns about potential duplication of efforts if each county were to have its own unique regulations.

During the meeting, the efficacy of existing bodies responsible for food

and feed safety standards came under scrutiny as well. Members of the Joint Committee underscored instances of consumer products being released for consumption and later found defective were cited as examples of potential shortcomings in the system.

Further submissions by stakeholders revealed that the Food & Feed Safety Coordination Control Bill aims to involve Food Business Operators by having regulators conduct frequent inspections to ensure compliance with safety standards.

This proactive approach is intended to mitigate risks and protect consumers.

Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Livestock and the Health Committee are expected to review submissions and prepare a comprehensive report which will be tabled in the coming weeks.

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Nyeri County Enforcement Officers Advised To Familiarise With Bylaws

By: Samuel Maina
@themkenyatices

Officers from the County Inspectorate Unit have been advised of the urgent need to familiarise themselves with the existing county bylaws in order to avoid finding themselves in collision with the public. Nyeri Governor Mutahi Kahiga, while opening a two-day training workshop for the county law officers, said every officer should ensure he has read and understood all the 22 county bylaws before executing any arrest, as doing so oblivious to the rights of individuals may lead to unnecessary litigation battles.

He similarly said the officers will soon be taken through an individual evaluation exercise to determine how suitable they are at their individual workstations as part of continuous service improvement to the public. "How can an officer enforce bylaws which he or she has never read?" posed Mutahi.

"Nyeri County has 22 Acts ranging from the control and licencing of liquor to revenue collection from business operators. But you must be well conversant with these laws before you go out to enforce them.



Some of the enforcement officers.

You must know which bylaw you are enforcing before going out to close down that liquor joint or that business premises, for that matter, or end up embarrassing yourself when a business operator demands to know which law you are invoking in enforcing your mandate as an officer,"

he told the officers.

Among the areas the officers will be trained on are investigation and prosecution, mental health awareness, stress management, and complaint handling mechanisms.

In addition, the enforcement officers will be sensitised on the need to

acquaint themselves with organisation culture, communication skills, and teamwork, curb corruption, and steer away from alcohol and substance abuse.

Kahiga also emphasised the need for the officers to conduct themselves with decorum and profession-

alism while on their day-to-day operations, noting that the department has on many occasions been tainted due to the actions of a few rogue officers.

To this end, the governor promised to continue improving their working conditions through frequent re-tooling workshops and looking into enhancing their employment terms through promotions.

"We as the enforcement officers must be able to earn respect from the touts making noise in the streets, from that woman doing her business, and from that casual working at a construction site but who is not a professional mason. From our end, we must conduct ourselves with decorum and respect for others so that we may earn their respect," he stressed.

The two-day workshop took place at the Culture Centre.

Others present included CECs Peter Macharia (County Public Service), Simon Gachunia (Lands), Joseph Kiragu (Health), James Wachih (Agriculture), Abdi Hanif (Transport), and Esther Ndung'u (Gender).

Also in attendance were County Secretary Ben Gachichio, Chief of Staff Paul Wambugu, and MCAs Simon Mbogo (Rware) and Gibson Wahinya (Dedan Kimathi).

Nakuru Signs MOU For Eased Diagnosis And Automation

By: Anne Sabuni
@themkenyatices

Nakuru County Government has partnered with ElsMed Ltd. Group, a renowned International Medical Equipment supplier, to equip Nakuru County Referral Hospital with high-technology diagnostic equipment.

Through the Public-Private Partnership, ElsMed will also facilitate the automation of health services, as the county seeks to advance its systems for more accurate diagnoses and improved patient outcomes.

Speaking during the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the collaboration, Governor Susan Kihika said the cutting-edge technology will revolution-



Governor Susan Kihika.

nise diagnostic systems by enabling more precise and comprehensive analysis of samples for proper and early diagnosis.

"This project will also facilitate the transportation of samples and enhance the efficiency of laboratory networking from the primary level

health care facilities across Nakuru County to this Referral and Teaching Hospital," added Governor Kihika.

This monumental agreement follows earlier engagements that the Governor and other Healthcare Managers have had with this team to set the working framework and groundwork for the installation of a state-of-the-art Automated Laboratory Management System in Nakuru County.

"With this advanced system, we can look forward to efficient workflow, data tracking, flexible architecture, data exchange interfaces, and analysis, all while optimising testing time and reducing resource requirements," added Kihika.

ElsMed Healthcare Solutions Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Yaren Farachi, noted that the solution will come in handy for speedy diagnosis and

ensuring data security.

"The effective systems would facilitate easy record keeping, tracking, and reporting, thus eliminating the risks of human error and improving the overall turnaround time," he added.

"The laboratory information and inventory management system is also expected to greatly reduce the need for manual data input, mitigating the risk of human error, in order to streamline workflows and significantly improve turnaround times," he said.

ElsMed Ltd. is a worldwide medical equipment supplier with extensive experience and knowledge of high-quality, fully refurbished diagnostic imaging medical equipment that it arguably offers at affordable prices.

Ruto: Africa Must Invest In Its Human Resource For Growth

By: Presidential Communication Service

President William Ruto says Africa must strategically invest in its workforce if it is to grow.

According to the Head of State, the continent is presented with gifted human capital that can drive its transformation.

He noted that Africa must fix itself in a lane that will see the exploitation of the skilled, educated and productive manpower.

This move, he explained, will sustainably accelerate the continent's economic growth.

"We must — jointly with other countries and partners— design a sound framework that will consciously nurture and invest in human capital that yields high returns."

He said he was convinced that if Africa pursues the right mix and sequence of policies, it will overcome traditional and emerging crises.

"But we will also have a chance to transform our population explosion



President William Ruto, Tanzania President Mama Samia Suluhu Hassan and other leaders at the Human Capital Forum in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

and youth bulge into a demographic dividend," he argued.

The President said this will help position Africa as the young, green continent of the future and the global driver of a new industrial revolution.

He was speaking on Wednesday

at The Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar Es Salaam during the Africa Heads of State Summit on Human Capital.

Under the theme: "Accelerating Africa's Economic Growth: Boosting Youth Productivity by Improv-

ing Learning and Skills," the event was hosted by President of Tanzania Samia Suluhu.

It sought to reactivate the timely investments in education and health to drive productivity, stimulate jobs creation and unlock Africa's im-

mense untapped economic potential.

Presidents Lazarus Chakwera (Malawi), Julius Maada (Sierra Leone), Filipe Nyusi (Mozambique), Carlos Vila Nova (São Tomé and Príncipe), Andry Rajoelina (Madagascar), Prime Ministers Gervais Ndirakobuca (Burundi), Félix Moloua (Central African Republic), Hamza Abdi Barre (Somalia), Vice Presidents Jessica Rose Epel Alupo (Uganda), Mutale Nalumango (Zambia), World Bank Regional Vice President for Eastern and Southern Africa Victoria Kwakwa, among others, were present.

President Suluhu asked Africa to amplify investments in social services such as education and health to improve productivity.

She said there was a danger of the continent being occupied by the crises it is facing and overlook investments in key areas such as the workforce.

"Yet, this is Africa's greatest asset; hardworking, multi-talented and industrious."

EAC Allocates Ksh 335M To Complete Lake Victoria Basin Commission HQ

By: KNA

The East Africa Community (EAC) has allocated Ksh 355 million for completion of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) headquarters in Kisumu.

LVBC Executive Secretary Dr. Masinde Bwire said the allocation contributed by EAC member states, will see the agency which is mandated to coordinate sustainable development and management of the Lake Victoria basin move to the new building in February 2025.

Speaking after handing over the site for phase two of the project, Dr. Bwire said the contractor- China Jiangxi International Kenya Limited has up to 80 weeks to complete the project.

He said LVBC has partnered with the State Department of Public

works to ensure that the project is completed on time within the set budget.

Dr. Bwire said the contractor was competitively sourced adding that the agency has put measures in place to ensure the works are done to the set standards.

LVBC is the only EAC institution with headquarters in Kenya and the only diplomatic mission in the country located outside Nairobi.

Lake Victoria Basin Commission HQ. PHOTO | KNA.



Governor Mbarire Promotes Embu County Local Tea Consumption

By: Samuel Waititu
 @themkenyatimes

Embu Governor Cecily Mbarire has instructed all offices across the county to consume locally produced tea from the three factories of Mungania, Rukuriri, and Kathangariri to promote and expand the market.

Mbarire said that despite the factories producing the best tea in the country, local consumption was still low, hence the need to incentivize them by being the main consumers of their products.

Speaking early this week when she met with MPs from the tea growing zones and the Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) to strategize on how to improve the sector in the county, Mbarire regretted that most of the tea produced in the county was consumed outside instead of the reverse.

She directed Chief Officers from all the departments to effect the move

immediately to boost local consumption as well as create more markets and revenue for the factories and farmers.

The county boss further said they would set aside two stalls at the Embu Town bus park to facilitate the sale of the tea from the three factories and tap more markets.

At the same time, she said alongside other elected leaders will labour to see to it that the cost of production is brought down through mechanisms such as ensuring the factories are equipped with the capacity to produce their own power, whose net effect will be increasing returns to the farmers.

“We are looking into how we can assist the factories in generating hydropower from the Rupingazi River, which will greatly lower the cost of production,” she said.

Manyatta MP Gitonga Mukunji echoed her sentiments, saying only a paltry one per cent of tea produced in the county was consumed locally, adding that he will champion efforts



to capture the niche market.

His Runyenjes counterpart, Muchangi Karemba, said the biggest percentage of farmers in Embu County depend on tea farming as their main source of income and added that it is

necessary to do what it takes to improve the trade.

KTDA National Chairman Enos Njeru said the efforts being made by the county government are set to benefit farmers big time and make tea

farming a lucrative venture.

He promised to keep up with innovation in the sector, including value addition to secure more markets to boost farmers' earnings.

Guru Vet Advice To Farmers

By: John Kariuki
 @themkenyatimes

Livestock keeping is a major source of livelihood for millions of Kenyans today. Livestock, majorly cattle are not just a sign of prestige and social status but also an economic mainstay.

It's for this reason that a guru veterinary Doctor, Simon Gichuru, OGW of Murang'a Veterinary Centre has taken responsibility in his hands to ensure farmers countrywide reap the most out of their livestock.

Dr. Gichuru, armed with an experience spanning close to five decades now in animal health and with a kind heart, does that by ensuring he empowers farmers with knowledge on how to improve health of their livestock.

In an interview with Mt. Kenya Times, Dr. Gichuru shared with us his major driving force as being the passion with which he serves his clients.

“information is power. My key aim is

to ensure that i strive to equip the farmer with the knowledge and know-how of the best practices to maximise on productivity.

Agriculture is no longer a past time activity nor reserved for a special group of people. It's now a full time business with the major aim of capitalising on profit. However, if the farmer is not keen, he will most certainly miss out on this important business.” Dr. Gichuru Advises.

Dr. Gichuru is a highly respected vet, having helped hundreds of thousands of farmers with hands on knowledge.

“I use my God given skills and knowledge to disseminate the same to the farmers. Some of the major challenge to dairy farmers is Mastitis, which deprives the Farmer the income from milk.

I have been training farmers on how to detect mastitis in their cattle by giving them test materials for free but most importantly empowering them on know-how of safely treating the disease without the use of injections. Applying the knowledge I possess, I'm able to formulate rations that help prevent as well as control Mastitis thereby ensuring that the farmer benefits,” he added.

Dr. Gichuru who is also a Gikuyu Muthamaki urged farmers to always seek assistance from qualified personnel whenever they are faced with challenges touching on the health of their livestock.

“Most of the fatal diseases that are a nightmare to farmers such as foot and mouth are both preventable and treatable using the right procedures and advice.”

Dr. Gichuru is reachable on the contact 0724888872.

Dr. Simon Gichuru, OGW is a respected vet in Murang'a Veterinary Centre.



Has Ruto Suspended The Constitution?



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com

Worth Noting:

- Surely, as a government, would you expect us to sit and watch? The police have a responsibility to deal firmly with the law-breakers/criminals but within the confines of law.
- I'm sure many Kenyans have read the relevant provisions of the constitution of 2010 and would agree with me on this.
- The National Police Service (NPS) is an independent institution. The National Police Service Commission (NPSC) is charged with recruitment, vetting and appointment of the top officers.
- In light of this, the President's hands are tied. He has no power to direct them on how to do their job.

I have heard the talk that President William Ruto has suspended the Constitution for quiet sometimes.

The discourse has in the recent days gone a notch higher and this comes in the wake of what would be seen as use of excessive force by the officers of National Police Service in containing the anti-government protests organized by the opposition Azimio La Umoja-OKA party led by Raila Odinga.

The Coalition leadership, its sympathisers and human rights groups would point an accusing finger at President William Ruto.

They would allege that he had sanctioned this brutality on innocent and hapless protesters.

Azimio would also want Kenyans to believe that this is the first time in the history of Kenya that we are witnessing this madness.

Reacting to this, President Ruto and top allies of his government would tell off their critics. "I took the oath of office to first and foremost protect the lives of Kenyans and their properties", Ruto would reiterate.

The constitutional mandate of enforcing this lies with national security agencies.

These demonstrations share one thing in common. They are always chaotic, bloody and destructive.

These actions sharply contradict Article 37 of the constitution which emphasizes on peaceful demos and protestors are unarmed.

The situation has been bad such that it always resulted to loss of lives and other citizens maimed and left nursing serious injuries.

We have also seen businesses and properties of Kenyans being destroyed.

Surely, as a government, would you expect us to sit and watch? The police have a responsibility to deal firmly with the law-breakers/criminals but within the confines of law.

I'm sure many Kenyans have read the relevant provisions of the constitution of 2010 and would agree with me on this.

The National Police Service (NPS) is an independent institution. The National Police Service Commission (NPSC) is charged with recruitment, vetting and appointment of the top officers.

In light of this, the President's hands are tied. He has no power to direct them on how to do their job.

To justify this, I want us to go back to the memory lane.

In the aftermath of 2007 general elections, then commissioner of police Mohamed Hussien was one of those arraigned before The International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague. He faced charges of failing to stop/contain brutality meted on hundreds of civilians by rogue police officers, who shoot some of them dead.

Many would have expected President Mwai Kibaki, who had just been sworn in, to bore the brunt. I hope my point is now well understood.



President William Ruto .

Today, you cannot blame President Ruto for the police brutality if the claims are proved beyond reasonable doubt.

An officer will bear individual's responsibility.

I heard Raila saying they visited the hospitals and morgue and found that victims bore the wounds of gunshots.

To him, the shots were fired by the police officers.

The government, on the other hand, had dismissed the claims.

The Interior CS, in a statement, noted that the police while acting on intelligence report had raided three palatial residences in Karen and recovered and confiscated 23 guns.

He said the investigation showed some of these firearms had been used to kill the protestors.

We know Raila is a politician and he has been working very hard to discredit and paint President Ruto in bad light.

It is therefore hard to believe him. He is not a trained ballistic expert. So, even if the victims bore similar wounds, it was hard to know whether it was a police officer or a member of criminal gang who had fired the shots?

It is worth to note that this is not the first time we are hearing cases of firearms being in wrong hands and used to commit atrocities.

In the aftermath of 2007 and 2017 general elections, the story was the same.

In both, Raila was on the spot. He was accused of allegedly hiring and arm-

ing his criminal gangs. Reportedly, he would direct them to target his supporters and use this to taint the image of the government that it was using the police to kill innocent Kenyans.

In 2017, for instance, the government reported that the gun that had been used to kill a young person in Kisumu town belonged to his key ally and financier.

We know today Raila is burning midnight oil plotting to finish Ruto politically.

This is because he is yet to come to terms with the loss he suffered at polls. He never thought he can lose these elections because he enjoyed full support of the outgoing President, Deep State and System.

This explains why he alleges that the atrocities by this government have never been witnessed before. He further alleges that President Ruto had sanctioned this. Where is evidence?

We know Raila played a key role during the clamor for the new constitution. And during the referendum campaigns he minced no in terming the draft constitution as best and most progressive. He likened it to the American constitution and that of South Africa.

He is today faulting the same constitution he helped to deliver.

He seems to suffer from this mentality. Raila is the constitution and the constitution is Raila.

This is a bad precedent. The laws are not made to serve selfish and personal interests of an individual. They are

made for posterity.

It is the same constitution that creates the National Police Service Commission charged with recruitment, vetting and appointment of senior police bosses.

He never raised an alarm when the framers of constitution enacted these provisions.

Get me right. I'm not opposed to amendment of these provisions if there is a compelling reason to do so.

However, with due respect, I call upon Raila to stop being hypocrite and casting the image of holier-than-thou.

As for the high cost of living, we know he was a core principal of the 'Handshake' government led by President Uhuru Kenyatta. That is when things started going south.

The retail price of 2kg packet of Unga stood at Sh230 when they left office. The cost of electricity and fuel was also higher.

With this, Raila share a big blame. So, the answer does not lie in confrontational politics and mass action. The solution lies in engaging Dr Ruto in a structured and constructive dialogue.

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

Warrant Of Arrest Issued For Nakuru Senator Tabitha Karanja

By: Beth Nyaga

The court yesterday issued a warrant of arrest for Nakuru Senator Tabitha Karanja for failing to turn up in court for the hearing of Ksh 14B tax evasion case.

In April this year, the Keroche Breweries Limited CEO was charged afresh in the Ksh 14 billion tax evasion case.

The prosecution had requested to amend the charge sheet in the tax evasion case.

Keroche's lawyers told the court during her court appearance on Thursday that they want the matter resolved outside of court.

However, a KRA officer Irene Muthee, told the court that there had been no agreement to settle the matter outside of court because Keroche would be required to notify the commissioner in writing under the Tax Procedure Act.

Subsequently, the court gave Ker-



for Nakuru Senator Tabitha Karanja .

oche 45 days to begin the out-of-court settlement process with KRA, failure to which the case will go to

full trial.

"It's evident that the defence was not ready. I give them 45 days to initiate

the ADR process failure to which no further delay or adjournment will be granted. The court has always been

ready," Milimani Senior Principal Magistrate Esther Kimilu said.

In an attempt to clear the tax row with KRA, Karanja took to Twitter in February to explain the source of the company's protracted KES14.1 billion tax row with the tax man.

Karanja claimed that the alleged tax arrears arose from the manufacture of one of its brands -The Viena Ice Ready to drink vodka.

"Our Viena Ready to Drink Vodka is produced by diluting the 40 percent Crescent Vodka, with our naturally distilled water from our source to make it 15 percent. This is similar to the way a customer can walk to a bar, purchase six tots of vodka equal to 188 ml of vodka and the bartender fetches a 312ml of water from his tap and mixes the two to make 500ml Ready to Drink Vodka. But unlike the barman, Keroche Breweries would use its 312ml naturally distilled water from our brewery source and use its 21st-century technology to mix uniformly to precision for moderate drinking," Karanja explained.

Travel Recovery To Boost Global Economy, Says IMF

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) increased its forecast of how much the global economy will grow this year to 3%.

The 0.2% improvement from April's forecast was partly driven by increased post-pandemic travel.

A strong jobs market and services sector was also included in the predicted uptick.

But soaring consumer prices and higher interest rates remained risks in developed nations, the IMF said.

China's delicate economic recovery was also amongst the biggest risks on the horizon.

The IMF's chief economist Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas told the BBC that the recovery from the pandemic is still having an impact.

He said in the first three months of 2023, there was a "strong resilience" in the demand for services, going out, and travel and tourism.

"Those countries [that] are tourist destinations have done relatively well. Those countries [that] are more manufacturing hubs have done maybe a little bit less strongly," Mr



Gourinchas added.

The latest numbers from the International Air Transport Association show that in May global air traffic continued its recovery, reaching 96.1% of pre-covid levels.

However, the IMF says there is limited room for further recovery in tourism dependent economies in southern Europe, some of which have been badly damaged by wildfires.

So-called emerging economies such as China and India are set to see the

fastest growth this year as advanced economies including Europe and the United States grow at a slower pace.

The United Kingdom has had one of the biggest upgrades in growth since the last forecasts in April, with the IMF reconfirming May's expectation of growth of 0.4%, rather than a decline of 0.3%.

The IMF said this reflected falling "stronger-than-expected consumption and investment from the confidence effects of falling energy prices", and "lower post-Brexit un-

certainty".

However it leaves UK's growth as the second slowest in the G7 group of major economies with only Germany faring worse, with a 0.3% contraction expected.

The Eurozone's biggest economy is already in recession because higher prices have led consumers to cut back on spending.

Mr Gourinchas encouraged central banks to do what they could to continue bringing down soaring consumer prices, known as inflation.

The US Federal Reserve, Bank of England and European Central Bank are all still some way off hitting their 2% inflation targets.

Banks have been raising interest rates to make borrowing more expensive, and to cool down the economy. It has led to interest rates being at their highest since before the 2008 global financial crisis.

The US central bank and the European Central Bank are both widely expected to increase the cost of borrowing again this week.

There is continued uncertainty as a result of the ongoing debt problems in China's property market as the country's nervous recovery from the pandemic continues.

The fate of China, the war in Ukraine, inflation and the higher cost of borrowing money are some of the biggest challenges facing the global economy, the IMF cautions.

It says that although the outlook for the global economy is looking more positive, it remains below the 3.8% average seen in pre-pandemic 2000 and 2019.

Raila Rules Out Talks With President Ruto Over Protests Without Mediator

By: AFP

Continued from page 1

crisis.

Late Tuesday, Ruto expressed his willingness to meet Odinga in a social media post addressing the opposition leader.

“As you have always known, am available to meet one on one with you anytime at your convenience,” Ruto posted on Twitter, which is being re-branded as ‘X’.

But Odinga told AFP on Wednesday that he would not meet Ruto unless a third-party mediator was present.

“He is not somebody you can trust, he keeps changing words that is why I insist they must be a mediator between us,” he said.

“I am ready to talk if there is a mediator between us.”

Ruto has never publicly discussed the possibility of third-party mediation.

Odinga called off demonstrations in April and May after Ruto agreed to dialogue, but the talks broke down, with several demonstrations held this month.

The veteran politician spoke to AFP after visiting two hospitals in Nairobi to meet injured protesters.

Accompanied by around two dozen opposition leaders and at least a hundred supporters, he later paid tribute to slain protesters, lighting candles

and offering white roses “to the memory of the departed.”

Similar candlelight vigils were held by small groups in Nairobi’s Mathare neighborhood and the opposition bastions of Kisii, Kisumu, and Migori in response to Odinga’s call, TV broadcasts showed.

The violence has sparked outrage among rights groups, with campaigners condemning the police for firing tear gas and live rounds to disperse stone-throwing protesters.

Twenty people have been killed, according to official figures, although Azimio puts the toll at 50.

– ‘Sit and talk’ –

Several Kenyans told AFP they were fed up with the disruptions.

“I have not been coming to work every time there are protests because I fear being attacked on the road and being stolen from,” receptionist Cate Wafula, 29, told AFP, urging the two sides to make “peace”.

Motorcycle taxi driver Josphat Ng’atho, 36, echoed her views, saying: “Let them sit and talk.”

“If they don’t, the stalemate will never end and our suffering will continue forever.”

Odinga, who says last year’s presidential election was “stolen” from him, has blamed the government for a cost-of-living crisis and of “unprecedented police brutality” against pro-



Azimio leader Raila Odinga, Wiper Leader Kalonzo Musyoka led opposition leaders in visiting victims of police brutality during July 2023 anti government protests. They visited the victims at the Mama Lucy Hospital, Mbagathi and Kenyatta National Hospitals in Nairobi.

testers.

More than two dozen rights groups including Amnesty International last week said they had evidence of 27 “extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions” in July alone.

The interior ministry on Tuesday said allegations of “extrajudicial executions and/or excessive use of force... are malicious, false and intended to distort public opinion”.

Ruto has repeatedly called for a halt

to the protests and vowed to clamp down on any sign of “anarchy”.

Critics accuse Ruto of rowing back on promises made during his election campaign last year when he pledged to improve the fortunes of impoverished Kenyans.

The rags-to-riches businessman imposed hefty new taxes this year, further adding to the economic misery endured by ordinary Kenyans.

As the demonstrations have dragged

on, appetite for the protests has flagged, with Kenyans largely ignoring last week’s call for three consecutive days of rallies.

Opposition protests following Odinga’s election loss in 2017 continued until he brokered a surprise pact with his erstwhile foe, former president Uhuru Kenyatta, that became known as “the handshake”.

GK Ruku Made A Presentation On A New Public Procurement Bill In Parliament

By: John Kariuki

@themtkenyatomes

Mbeere North Member of Parliament GK Ruku Wednesday made a presentation on a new public procurement bill.

“Public procurement is a foundational pillar to the economic development of every country, and a streamlined procurement process and well-equipped procurement officers are instrumental in building public trust in government institutions.

Therefore, today I made my presentation to the National Assembly’s Hon. Ndindi Nyoro led Budget and Appropriations Committee on my Proposed Public Procurement and Asset Disposal (Amendment) Bill,

2023.

The Bill proposes to amend 72 sections of the Principal Act which will give birth to new guidelines on public procurement to enhance social inclusion and fair administrative action in public procurement.

It also augments the role of the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority to strengthen administration, supervision, regulation and control of public procurement in the country.

The PP and AD (Amendment) Bill 2023 also aims to build the capacity of procurement practitioners, their vetting, approval and certification.

It further proposes the establishment of the Kenya School of Procurement to train, examine, certify, qualify and award Diploma courses.

It also tightens the requirements for one to be licensed as a procurement practitioner in Kenya to eliminate

corruption and misappropriation of public resources.

It also promotes further openness in the public procurement process to ensure optimal trust and transparency and accountability in the use and deployment of public resources.

The Budget and Appropriations Committee unanimously endorsed the proposed amendments.

Once passed into law, the implementation of the Act of Parliament will assist in reforming the Kenya’s Public Procurement System.”

Mbeere North Member of Parliament GK Ruku.



To My Inspiration



I woke up one night,
From the light spread over my room.
I was surprised to see
Inspiration was standing there like a fairy.

His wings are like diamonds,
He catches the eye with a glare.
If you laugh, the world will be filled with light,
His face is as full as the moon.

His gait is beautiful, delicate,
The dress is elegant, made of silk.
In my mind, chaos, surprise,
Maybe it flew from a fairy tale.

I went to him slowly,
I grabbed his little hands.
Sorrow took me away
It's as if my dreams have come true.

My heart is constantly spitting,
From its luscious warmth.
My heart was full of joy,
Creativity is from the freshness of the garden.

We are covered in flowers and tulips,
Then we rode the imaginary horse.
The world that lives around,
Lol you will stay on earth.

We walked together with him,
We walked in the world of imagination.
We are close, we are one,
We felt it from the heart.

Then I came back home,
Then he said goodbye to me.
I'm still in awe
I can't sleep.

He comes to me every night
Divine feelings will appear.
I write poetry with my heart's blood,
Cheers for inspiration.

Dilrabo Yoldoshova was born on November 7, 2008 in the city of Khiva. Currently, he is one of the creative and active students of Ogahi School of Creativity. Until now, his collections of poems entitled "Peace be with you", "My innocent feelings", "El aziz inson aziz" have been published. Currently, another collection of poems is being prepared for publication. The poems of Dilrabo Yoldoshova are cities, regions, translated into English in the republican collection, newspaper, and published in America, India and a number of countries. He was awarded with more than 100 (hundred) honorary titles, diplomas and certificates, including honorable mentions in literary contests.

Look At My Heart



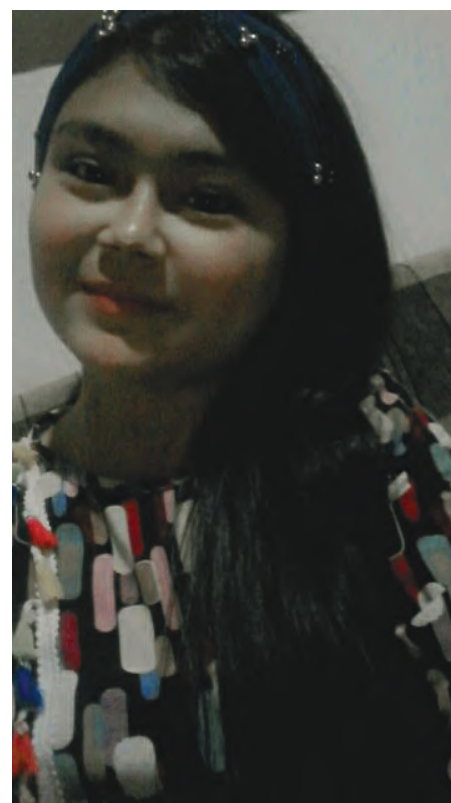
Look at my pale face
I don't know, I want to see you
Look at our lost love
Now he is not full of happiness either

But I'm getting used to it
Persuading my heart
Now I wish you happiness
Forget the happy days

Look at my longing heart
He is still looking for you
Look at my smiling eyes
He cries when he remembers you

Toshtemirova Dildora Hakim qizi
Born in Uzbekistan in 2008 year 9 october

I Fell In Love With God



Enough strength for the tests
Say "HEAVEN BELONGS TO PATIENTS".
Beloved misses.
A loved one worries...
Love comes...
A love one does not leave...
A loved one does not cry...
Love doesn't look for excuses...
Lovers don't care about their loved ones...
Ro'ziyeva is the daughter of Gulbahor
Hasanboy.

She Was born on September 7, 2006,
Koshtepa district, Fergana region.
Currently, he is a 2nd year student at
KHM no. 2, Koshtepa district.
Achievements; 2022-2023.

- ◆ Participant of the III season of the "INITIATIVE FORUM" project.
- ◆ Member of the international organization "AI council for Technical Development" of India.
- ◆ Graduated from the "Barkamol Avlod bolalar" school in Margilan city, 2 majors, ie "computer design and graphics" and "Alla nurse" circle.
- ◆ 2nd year student of KHM no. 2.
- ◆ participant of the online competition "kitab Khan Youth".
- ◆ "Golden wing" volunteer.
- ◆ Coordinator of "Golden wing" Koshtepa district.
- ◆ participant of "Shine With Shokhida" project.
- ◆ Several Acknowledgments Diploma and certificate holder Insha'Allah student.

I fell in love with God, the beautiful
Messenger of God,
Does he Wholoveshis Lordtouch sin?
I have a sin behind it.
Why are you sad, my heart?
I have a forgiving God.
Rasulullah said to come.
Happiness is so comfortable
Say Alhamdulillah.
You love some people for no reason,
And some people you can't love even
After looking for a thousand reasons...
Nice comfort...
Close your eyes when you don't have

SIRI YA MAPAMBAZUKO



Siri ya mapambazuko, ni tuweze badilika

Nimewaza jambo hili, kwa maswala mletayo
Huku kule jambo hili, na yote maponza hayo
Hatuwezi enda mbali, na wa kuishi uchoyo
Siri ya mapambazuko, ni tuweze badilika

Haliizi hata moja, chazi tukibadilika
Tufanye mambo pamoja, utu ulokamilika
Hutoviona vyojia, vile vipo kwa hakika
Siri ya mapambazuko, ni tuweze badilika

Tendo ninalilaani, yategeni wananchi
Mnisikie jamani, mijitao wenye nchi
Nanyi mlio wa chini, enyi wabombaa nchi
Siri ya mapambazuko, ni tuweze badilika

Tufanyayo ni chukiza, inachukiza yakini
Inaleta matatizo, sio kwetu peke yani
Waso na walio nazo, wote tupo taabani
Siri ya Mapambazuko, ni tuweze badilika

Enyi mlo viongozi, ni ya nini mapambano
Chuki mwaileta wazi, hili lazima maono
Mwakhiribu kizazi, mbona haya malumbano
Siri ya mapambazuko, ni tuweze badilika

Hivi mbona tunateta, na chanzo ni sisi watu?
Maafa tuliyoleta, ni hii mikono yetu
Vireje maswali tata, na umeshatoka utu?

Tuweze kubadilika, tajiri na masikini
Alo nacho kadhalika, ampe yule wa chini
Sote tushikane fika, tusiwalize wengine
Siri ya mapambazuko, ni tuweze badilika

Hatutajua yakini, mambo yakinyooka
Tutayoona matorni, jinsi yalivyofanyika
Tutakulia jamani, furahani furahika
Siri ya mapambazuko, ni tuweze badilika

Naumaliza usemi, wa hii iliyo siri
Kitunguu mimi ndimi, mwandishi wa hii siri
Nawapa huu usemi, kiomba mtafakari
Siri ya mapambazuko, ni tuweze badilika

Wanjohi. P. Mugambi
Malenga Kitunguu Machoni

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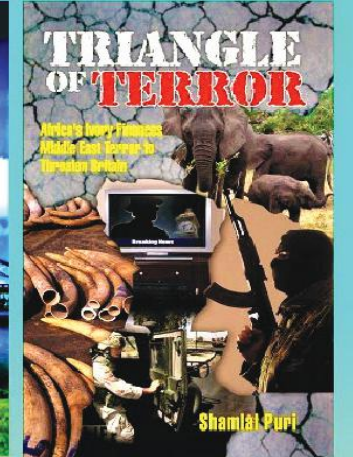
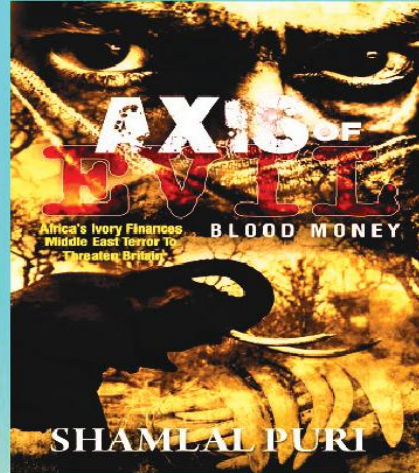
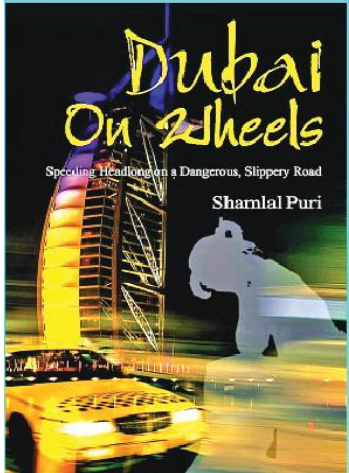
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BUSINESS

State To Empower Smallholder Farmers Through Mechanization

By: Joseph Ng'ang'a
@themtkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- “Agriculture remains a key sector and is one of the five pillars in the government’s Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA). The strong emphasis by the government on economic transformation provides an enormous opportunity to unleash the potential of agriculture value chains for social and economic development in Kenya,” said the PS.
- Harsama said that under the BETA plan, two million poor farmers will be transformed into surplus producers through access to affordable inputs, intensive agricultural extension support, and linkages to markets.



The government plans to form cooperative societies in every Ward where farmers will be grouped together to benefit from the collective support of mechanisation.

State Department for Crop Development Principal Secretary Kello Harsama said that the mechanisation percentage in Kenya is only at 30 per cent, adding that in the next five to 10 years the government plans to increase the percentage of mechanisation of land in Kenya to over 50 per cent.

“As a government, we have started the process of acquiring machines to transform the agriculture sector.

Through this model, we will be able to provide tractors, harvesters, and planters, among other mechanical equipment, which the cooperatives will manage on behalf of the farmers,” said Harsama.

Speaking on Tuesday during the media launch of the African Conference on Agricultural Technologies (ACAT), the PS explained that the plans are at an advanced stage and they have started designing cooperative programmes for each Ward with a view to ensuring that farmers share the mechanised equipment, access subsidised fertiliser, certified seeds, and pesticides, among others, under farm inputs.

“Agriculture remains a key sector

and is one of the five pillars in the government’s Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA). The strong emphasis by the government on economic transformation provides an enormous opportunity to unleash the potential of agriculture value chains for social and economic development in Kenya,” said the PS.

Harsama said that under the BETA plan, two million poor farmers will be transformed into surplus producers through access to affordable inputs, intensive agricultural extension support, and linkages to markets.

“The productivity of key value chains will be enhanced to strengthen food and nutrition security, reduce basic food imports, and grow exports,” he said.

“We are pleased as a country and the Ministry to co-host the inaugural ACAT that will bring the global, regional, and local community to Nairobi. This is an important forum, and we look forward to discussing actionable solutions to the challenges facing the agricultural sector that will also drive change and foster growth,” said the PS.

He said that the conference comes at an opportune time when the African continent is struggling to feed its people and climate change is posing serious challenges to our collective prosperity. The solution to this chal-

lenge lies largely in technology and innovation.

“The leadership of the African Union (AU) has recognised the pillar of technology in the socio-economic development of the continent. In view of this, Africa’s Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action on Science and Technology (CPA) was developed in 2005,” said the PS.

He explained that the CPA outlined strategies to improve the policy environment and support the building of innovation mechanisms through Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) initiatives.

“Kenya, taking cognisance of this, developed a 10-year road map, the Agricultural Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy (ASTGS), 2019–2029. The ASTGS provides the Government’s commitment to reforming the sector and presents nine Flagships aimed at driving Kenya’s agricultural transformation and food security aspirations,” said Harsama.

The PS highlighted that to drive Kenya’s transformation over the 10-year period, the ASTGS is anchored in three key outcomes: increasing small-scale farmer incomes, increasing agricultural output and value-added, and boosting household food resilience.

Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) Executive Director Dr. Cani-

sius Kanangire said that, present in 24 countries in Africa, AATF is working with partners to address agricultural productivity challenges brought about by climate change, pest infestation, and related value chain concerns by applying varied technologies like mechanisation, improved breeding methods, and biotechnology.

Kanangire said that the ACAT conference will provide a unique platform to discuss barriers to technology transfer and propose strategies for transforming existing technologies into super-next-generation technologies capable of enhancing productivity and effectively addressing challenges faced by African countries.

“AATF has dedicated itself to promoting agricultural technology transfer that addresses farmer productivity constraints. We are working with partners across the continent to access 24 innovative and cutting-edge agricultural technologies worth over 650 million US dollars spread across 24 countries, reaching 4.8 million smallholder farmers with new interventions during the last five years,” he said.

The ACAT conference will run from October 30 to November 3, 2023, at the Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi.



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National Assembly Budget Committee Recommends Review Of SRC Perks

By: PSCU



Some of the committee members during yesterday's meeting

Worth Noting:

- “It is not sustainable to manage such recurrent expenditure. Such jobs are part-time in nature whose occupants have other jobs. We can't say this Commission became full time because of others. As Parliament, we will have to start with this, then look at parastatals, merge them and have a lean government for effective service delivery to the people of Kenya,” said Nyoro.
- The other legislative amendment proposals that were also approved without amendments by the Budget Committee are the Central Bank (Amendment) Bill 2023 by Yusuf Mohamed Farah, Public Procurement and Asset Disposal (Amendment) Bill, 2023 by Geoffrey Kariuki Mbiuki and the Public Participation Bill, 2023 by Daniel Epuyo Nanok.

The Budget and Appropriations Committee has recommended a review of the Salaries and Remuneration Commission's terms of service during the just concluded retreat that sought the Committee's consideration and recommendations on various legislation proposals.

Appearing before the Budget Committee, Didmus Barasa (Kimilili) defended his sponsored legislative proposal; Salaries and Remuneration Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2023 which provides that the Chairperson and Members of the Commission serve on a part time basis and also seeks to set a maximum number

of meetings to fifteen per financial year unless on exceptional cases as opposed to “at least four” as provided for in the Principal Act and full time Commissioner's basis in order to save funds.

“Most Commissions operate on a part time basis, the SRC duty is reviewing civil servants' perks which can also be done on part time basis,” said Barasa.

He indicated that there was wastage of resources in paying recurrent expenditures that cannot be justified.

His sentiments were echoed by the Chair of the Budget Committee, Ndindi Nyoro (Kiharu) who said that

there was a lot of role duplication where civil servants hold more than one responsibility and draw salaries for both jobs hence ballooning the country's wage bill.

“It is not sustainable to manage such recurrent expenditure. Such jobs are part-time in nature whose occupants have other jobs. We can't say this Commission became full time because of others. As Parliament, we will have to start with this, then look at parastatals, merge them and have a lean government for effective service delivery to the people of Kenya,” said Nyoro.

The other legislative amendment



Ndindi Nyoro..

proposals that were also approved without amendments by the Budget Committee are the Central Bank (Amendment) Bill 2023 by Yusuf Mohamed Farah, Public Procurement and Asset Disposal (Amendment) Bill, 2023 by Geoffrey Kariuki Mbiuki and the Public Participation Bill, 2023 by Daniel Epuyo Nanok.

Farah's Bill proposes that the Central Bank provide establishment of the Shari'ah Advisory Council which shall be responsible for formulating and monitoring policy to regulate licensing and supervising of Islamic Banks and Islamic Institutions.

In support of his Bill, Farah encouraged Christians to open accounts in Islamic Banks so that they can also access loans just like Muslims.

The proposed amendment on the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Bill will enable enhancement in regulatory and capacity in public procurement, improve efficiency and effectiveness in public procurement.

This Bill seeks to introduce additional principles that will guide when offering tenders to those who apply for it through enhancement of social inclusion and fair administrative action in the procurement process.

Conversely, the Committee approved other legislative proposals with amendments.

For instance, the Public Service Human Resource Audit Bill, 2023 by Hon. Oku Kaunya, and the Public Participation Bill, 2023 by Barasa.

There will be a Directorate within the Office of the Auditor General to perform regulatory compliance of all public institutions should Hon. Kaunya's Bill be approved by the National Assembly. The Human Resource Auditor shall among other duties ensure effectiveness of internal controls, risk management and over all human resource at both National and County levels and issue an audit report on human resource matters in the public service within six months after the end of each financial year.

Notably, the proposed legislation on Public Participation Bill, 2023 seeks to provide a general framework for effective and enhanced public participation budgets across the government, raise awareness, promote transparency and accountability in decision making.

On considering the Public Participation Bill, 2023, the Committee observed that Barasa and Nanok work together to co-sponsor the Public Participation Bill, 2023 since they were both sponsoring the same Bill.

Southern Africa In Need Of \$90B For Climate Resilience Yearly

By: Our Reporter
 @themkenyatimes

New investments in form of climate finance could spark economic growth for Southern Africa economies with expected slowdown this year.

According to the African Development Bank (AfDB) the 2023 Southern Africa Economic Outlook, the region is expected to slow down in 2023 to 1.6pc, followed by a slight improvement of 2.7pc next year.

AfDB says last year, Southern Africa region's GDP growth barely reached 2.7pc, a level much lower than global and African averages of 3.4pc and 3.8pc.

The slowdown in South Africa has been mirrored in other countries within the region such as Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Madagascar, and São Tomé and Príncipe, which have also experienced intense adverse weather events.

"Weighing down the environment

further is the external debt burden which is forecast to remain high across the Southern Africa region. In 2022 it stood at 48pc," said AfDB.

However, the region could benefit from new climate action funding given the region needs at least \$1 trillion with an annual requirement of \$90.3 billion until 2030.

Average annual climate finance flows to Southern Africa currently stands at \$6.2 billion, a mere 6.9pc of what is required. Southern Africa, in addition, received the least financial flows relative to its financial needs, compared to other African regions, AfDB said.

"We estimate that the continent will need about \$235-\$250 billion annually between now and 2030 to meet investments needed under the Nationally Determined Contributions. So this leaves Africa, the African private sector and the global private sector with an investment opportunity of up to \$213.4 billion annually to address climate change alone," said Kevin Urama, AfDB Vice President and Chief Economist.



PHOTO | Courtesy.

The bank is currently spearheading regional initiatives that intersect with climate adaptation, energy transition and sustainability across the

entire continent. They include among others, financial instruments, green bonds, technical expertise, climate insurance

schemes, policy interventions.

BasiGo To Deliver First Bus In Rwanda By October

Kenya's electricity bus manufacturer BasiGo plans to deliver its first unit to public transport operators in Rwanda by start of the fourth quarter this year.

Rwanda now becomes the second market for the e-mobility firm after Kenya.

BasiGo Rwanda has also announced partnership with the country's leading provider of automated fare collection systems for public transport, AC

Mobility.

BasiGo Chief Executive Officer and Co-founder Jit Bhattacharya said the partnership will see the buses delivered to public transport operators through BasiGo's innovative Pay-As-You-Drive financing model.

"Electric buses will bring bus operators freedom from rising fuel prices while also dramatically reducing air pollution and CO2 emissions. Through our Pay-As-You-Drive model, we are excited to bring a complete E-Bus solution to make this technology affordable, accessible and convenient for all bus opera-

tors in Rwanda," said Bhattacharya.

BasiGo and AC Mobility have signed letters of intent for the pilot with Kigali Bus Service, Royal Express, and Volcano Express, three of Kigali's leading bus operators.

"We are excited to partner with BasiGo to drive Rwanda's public bus electrification. The country has recorded rapid transformation, creating a need for a more robust and cost-effective public transport system. The electric buses will help ease the cost burden of public bus transporters and advance Rwanda's transition to clean mobility. We look forward to leveraging BasiGo's experience and network to build a strong electric bus business in Rwanda," added Jones Kizihira, Chief Executive Officer, AC Mobility Rwanda.

The deal comes as Rwanda embarks on a quest to rapidly scale the size of Kigali's public transport fleet while also aiming to convert 20pc of the public bus fleet to electric by 2030.

Since inception in 2021, BasiGo has sold 19 Electric Buses to public



transport operators in Nairobi and has secured reservations for over 100 additional buses.

The firm says to date, it buses have

covered a total distance of more than 460,000km and carried over 580,000 passengers.

Through the financing model, Basi-

Go and AC Mobility target to deliver 200 electric buses to bus operators in Rwanda by the end of next year.

Thembelani Majingo Annual Soccer Tournament

**under 21
Top 16**

Prizes 1st
kit,beeps,ball,medals,trophy

2nd: beeps,ball,medals

3rd:beeps,ball,medals

Individual awards

- .Goalkeeper of the tournament
- .Top goalscorer of the tournament
- . player of the tournament

Date: 15,16 December 2023

venue: Green central sports ground, Madibogo village in NW.

Time:08h00-18h00 daily

Registration opens now
closing date: 1 November 2023



082 5921 563 whatsapp/call



For more information
Thembelani Majingo Foundation Fa



AVIC Presents Season Eight Of The Africa Tech Challenge (ATC)

By: Our Reporter
@themkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- She asked the participants to embrace the challenge with an open mind, embrace failure as an opportunity to learn and grow, and leverage on collaborations as a means to unlock potential because the world needs ideas, creativity and passion for technology to address the emerging and pressing issues facing the country and the entire globe, with a view to shaping a better tomorrow.

- “Let us therefore seize this opportunity to be the architects of change, the trailblazers of innovation and the visionaries of a future propelled by technology. Together, we will break barriers, exceed expectations and embark on a journey that will not only inspire us, but also challenge us to achieve the extraordinary,” she voiced.

The Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC) in conjunction with the Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Education will stage the Africa Tech Challenge for the next one month ending August 25, 2023, targeting contestants from Kenya, Uganda, Ghana, Egypt, Zambia, Tanzania, Cote D'Ivoire and Zimbabwe.

The tech challenge, started in 2010 and now in its Eight Season, will be hosted at the Technical University of Kenya amid optimism from sector players that it marks a pivotal moment in collective pursuit to push the boundaries of human potential, which will create opportunity to showcase skills, creativity and problem-solving abilities at the intersection of science and technology.

“Through this partnership, 154 TVET institutions have been equipped with modern equipment enabling them to produce graduates with a hands-on experience to meet the current labour and industrial demands,” said Principal Secretary for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Dr. Esther Muoria.

She noted the world is now at a stage where technology is the driving force behind progress and innovation.

“It has revolutionized the world, shaped industries, economies, and connections with one another,” she said

She asked the participants to embrace the challenge with an open mind, embrace failure as an opportunity to learn and grow, and leverage on collaborations as a means to unlock potential because the world needs ideas, creativity and passion for technology to address the emerging and pressing issues facing the country and the entire globe, with a view to shaping a better tomorrow.

“Let us therefore seize this opportunity to be the architects of change, the trailblazers of innovation and the visionaries of a future propelled by technology. Together, we will break barriers, exceed expectations and embark on a journey that will not only inspire us, but also challenge us to achieve the extraordinary,” she voiced.

AVIC representative in Kenya Ma Changyuan reiterated that the challenge will focus on the rapidly developing construction industry, notably the design component.

“Contestants will be able to boost design abilities, especially in reading and drafting construction drawings using cutting-edge technology tools and the winners will be awarded internships and job opportunities among other rewards,” he said.

He added that participants will receive certificates to show their participation and to highlight the skills they learned

during the session.

Further, Technical University of Kenya (TUK) acting Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Shiundu announced that the choice of the facility as the hosting institution was not in vain and should meet every aspect of the expectations, objectives and aspirations.

TUK offers training path for candidates who have developed through the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programme.

He added that the institution will continue to provide leadership in the TVET at the apex of technical and vocational education and training.

The aim of the ‘Season 8’ challenge is to ensure that the immense benefits of Technology can be made to endure and thus provide a solid base for the only kind of development in our times that is really worthwhile and sustainable.

“Working together with the AVIC International Holding Corporation, we will all be able to mobilize and bridge our skills and the industry for the benefit of ourselves in technology advancement and also in technology transfer,” Prof. Shiundu said.

For this year’s competition, vocational institutions will create teams of four, with one instructor and three students under the age of 24.

(From Left) TUK Deputy Vice Chan-

cellor Institutional Advancement and Enterprise (IAE) Prof. Paul Wambua, Acting Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Shiundu, State Department for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Principal Secretary (PS) Dr. Esther Muoria and AVIC representative of Kenya Ma Changyuan during the Africa Tech Challenge Season Eight launch held at Technical University of Kenya on Monday, July 24 2023.

Sports >> *Kenya's Kakamega Homeboyz FC will begin their Caf Confederations Cup campaign against Libya's Al Hilal Benghazi

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Caf Confederations Cup: Debutants Kakamega Homeboyz To Take On Libya's Al Hilal



Kenya's Kakamega Homeboyz FC will begin their Caf Confederations Cup campaign against Libya's Al Hilal Benghazi.

According to the draw held today in Cairo, Egypt, seat of power of CAF, Homeboyz will play Al Hilal on between August 18-20th in first leg at home before traveling to Tripoli a week later

for the reverse fixture.

Homeboyz got the nod to represent Kenya at the continental level, for the first time in their two decade history after beating Tusker FC 1-0 in the final of MozartBet Cup.

Several players who were key to the team's success last season are expected to play a leading role in

the club's continental charge.

Goalkeeper Farouk Shikhalo who has had a test of continental football while at previous club Yanga will be central to head coach Patrick Odhiambo strategy.

The winner of the first preliminary round will meet Rayon Sports of Rwanda in the second

preliminary round.

KBC

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *

“African Cup of Nations Or Not, We Must Build Our Stadia To World Class Levels,” – Sports CS Ababu Vows As Caf Inspectors Jet In



Past preparations at the Nyayo National Stadium. PHOTO/Timothy Olobulu

Sports Cabinet Secretary Ababu Namwamba insists the current renovation of various stadia across the country will continue regardless of whether or not Kenya wins the bid to host the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations.

Namwamba said world class sporting facilities are a prerequisite for a country with a rich sporting heritage such as Kenya.

“We are doing this because Kenya needs international level sporting facilities. We are a sporting nation and you cannot be a proud country with such a sporting degree without the infrastructure to back that. So with or without the Afcon, we are focused on our sports infrastructural development programme,” the CS said.

Namwamba added that it has been a long time coming for Kenya to upgrade its sporting infra-

structure.

“The work that we are starting here by upgrading these three stadia is one that Kenya should have done many years ago. Honestly... and if you ask me...the money that you have spent constructing little things all over the place...a little stadium here...a little stadium there. That money, ideally, should have been pooled to first of all upgrade the facilities that we have,” he said.

The CS added: “If you want to continue living in your house, you first fix the leaking roof before you build a new infrastructure.”

Kenya is bidding to co-host the prestigious competition alongside East African neighbours Uganda and Tanzania — the third time they will be bidding for the hosting rights.

Namwamba was speaking on

Wednesday afternoon when receiving a group of inspectors from the Confederation of African Football (Caf) who are on a two-day tour of the country to assess the country’s stadia and overall readiness to host the continental showpiece.

The inspectors began with a tour of the Moi International Sports Centre Kasarani before heading over to the Nyayo Stadium and Ulinzi Sports Complex.

On Thursday, they will be in Eldoret to inspect the Kipchoge Keino Stadium, University of Eldoret Grounds and Eldoret Referral Hospital before concluding their visit with an inspection of the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

The CS undertook that work on the three stadia as well as other preparations for Afcon will begin

as soon as possible.

Speaking at the same time, Football Kenya Federation president Nick Mwendwa expressed optimism that Kenya’s bid with Uganda and Tanzania will be successful despite competition from other interested countries who boast superior sporting infrastructure.

“The main thing I want is for us to be ready. That is why we are focused on getting everything done in good time. We are competing against some big countries. They (the inspectors) have already visited Senegal, Egypt and after Kenya, they will be going to Botswana and Algeria,” he said.

Kasarani and Nyayo — which hosted a lot of local league matches last season — are expected to be closed for renovations.

Capital Sport

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A Place Full Of Knowledge



By: Kuziyeva Shahrizoda
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- In the Department of Bibliography, Polvonova Feruza is the head of the department, Atajanova Surayyo is a specialist;
- Davletova Nafosat is the head of the department, Ganjayeva Mashhura is a specialist in the fund storage and processing department;
- In the act department, Rahmonova Zulfizar is the head of the department, Boltayeva Nodira is a specialist;
- In the user service department, Bobojanova Rayhon is the head of the department, Khojaniyozova Nilufar, Khojaniyozova Intizor, Ruzmetova Nazokat, Boboniyozova Zulayha have been providing service to 12,000 readers in the positions of specialists and assistants.



Urganj State University Student of the Faculty of Philology..

Man is a product of mind and thinking. Thinking is not a spontaneous process. He gets rich as a result of the knowledge he has acquired and the books he has read. A book read sincerely and tirelessly gives the person who is its product an inexhaustible potential and an unlimited eloquence.

That is why our people call the book the best friend. Considering how knowledgeable a person can be who reads one book, it is not difficult to imagine how talented the owners of a whole library are, in our opinion.

At this point, let's turn our attention to the information resource center located in Bogot district of Khorezm region. This educational center was founded in 1986 and is currently one of the largest libraries with more

than 95,000 collections. After some renovations, the library reopened in 2019.

Rajabova, the leader of that place, is working diligently. Gulbahor Rajabova, head of the library, also proved that the love for books and learning starts from childhood. We learned from one sentence that they are excited and excited and proud to be a library employee.

"If I were given the chance to be born again, I would become a librarian without hesitation", they repeated over and over again with endless joy. In fact, it is the greatest duty to read books, which are a source of knowledge, and to share them with readers, and to preserve the most necessary and necessary, rare books. We express our endless gratitude

to Gulbahor Rajabova, who spread kindness to the book-loving young people who fell in love with books with her sincere and kind words, and radiated a radiant expression from her face.

Also with library staff to see how beneficial it is to tap into the fountain of knowledge and whether there are internal staff who can serve as role models for a knowledgeable leader. We talked, we are not mistaken.

First of all, we were convinced that they are sincere and fully qualified for their work and profession. At present, about 20 workers are working in the information resource center of Bogot district.

Among them:

- In the Department of Bibliography, Polvonova Feruza is the

head of the department, Atajanova Surayyo is a specialist;

- Davletova Nafosat is the head of the department, Ganjayeva Mashhura is a specialist in the fund storage and processing department;

In the act department, Rahmonova Zulfizar is the head of the department, Boltayeva Nodira is a specialist;

- In the user service department, Bobojanova Rayhon is the head of the department, Khojaniyozova Nilufar, Khojaniyozova Intizor, Ruzmetova Nazokat, Boboniyozova Zulayha have been providing service to 12,000 readers in the positions of specialists and assistants.

In addition to book lovers and book readers, every year students of higher education are sent to libraries to study books, use scientific literature, carry out scientific research, and mainly to study the scientific research works, dissertations and exemplary paths of professors and doctors of science who have contributed to the development of science.

In this place, adhering to this tradition, a group of aspiring students of the Faculty of Philology of the Urganj State University are undergoing qualification-practice at the information-resource center located in Bogot district. The purpose of the practice is to increase students' scientific potential by forming the content and essence of scientific research work and the skills of using scientific literature.

During the internship, students get the necessary and necessary information, which they have accumulated using the literature on agriculture, medicine, political science, music, sports, linguistics, literary studies, encyclopedias and dictionaries. Sincere and loving words of the library staff pleased not only the readers, but also the practicing students.

In conclusion, in other words, in order to gain knowledge and apply it in practice, it is necessary to study and sleep first! In this way, the role of libraries, which are equally necessary for all of us and the source of books, is invaluable! After all, the book is a real treasure!

Kuziyeva Shahrizoda is a Urganj State University Student of the Faculty of Philology. Alisher Navoi state scholarship holder.

