



Entries Flow For The Africa Concours D'elegance
The organizers of the 52nd Africa Concours d'Elegance report a steady flow of entries for the event which will mark the anniversary of the Alfa Romeo Owners Club. This will be held at the Nairobi Racecourse on September 29th and is rated as the classiest event on the Kenya motorsport calendar. Page 18

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News>>TVET Centenary Celebrations To Promote Technical Education

P. 8. The State Department for Technical, Vocational Education, and Training Principal Secretary, Esther Thaara Muoria, has said that the government is capitalising on TVET-at-100 to bring out its key plans



News>>Koome Promises Court-Specific Security Protocols Following Makadara Incident

P. 12. Chief Justice Martha Koome has promised a comprehensive review of the security architecture around courts to address emerging security threats. In a statement following a shooting incident at Nairobi's Makadara Law Courts where an unassigned police officer stormed the courtroom and shot a Magistrate

3.99T Budget With Major Spending Cuts

The National Treasury and Economic Planning has announced a total expenditure amounting to Ksh 3.99 trillion for the 2024/25 financial year beginning July 1, 2024.

While presenting the budget statement before the National Assembly yesterday, National Treasury and Economic Planning Cabinet Secretary Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u said the government plans to raise a total of Ksh 3.34 trillion equivalent to 18.5pc of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) through revenue collection and appropriations-in-aid. Of this amount, the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) is expected to collect a total of Ksh 2.92 trillion in ordinary revenue.



, National Treasury and Economic Planning Cabinet Secretary Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u

STORY ON PAGE 9

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Kenya Benefits From Land Digitalisation

By: Catherine Muindi
@themtkenyetimes

Worth Noting:

- The CS noted that the introduction of the National Land Information System (NLIMS) to address land management records that were held in paper form and managed manually for a long time has proven very successful and timely.
- Wahome added that inefficient and time-consuming old management could not support timely decision making in the land governance sector.

Lands, Public Works, Housing, and Urban Development Cabinet Secretary Alice Wahome has said that the country is reaping massive benefits of digitalization in the land sector.

Wahome said that the digitalization of land records and automation of land administration and management processes that have been going on in Nairobi and Murang'a have already greatly benefited the country.

"Digitalization has helped us in embracing improved ease of doing business, increased accessibility of land services, and enhanced transparency in day-to-day land transactions," Wahome said in a speech read on her behalf by Acting Secretary of Lands, Sarah Maina, during the opening of the third regional research conference on land and natural resources.

Speaking at the Kenya School of Government in Nairobi, she noted that, like other nations and agencies, Kenya is also fast moving away from old methods of doing business by embracing data innovation and technology, which are vital elements in efficient governance and management of different sectors, including the land governance sector.

The CS noted that the introduction of the National Land Information System (NLIMS) to address land management records that were held in paper form and managed manually for a long time has proven very successful and timely.

Wahome added that inefficient and time-consuming old management could not support timely decision making in the land governance sector.

She said that NLIMS, dubbed the "Ar-dhisasa" system, has made land transactions more convenient and reduced time-consuming physical visits, especially to land offices.

The official said that land transactions that were handled through paper forms and files have today turned into e-systems, while physical visits to land offices have been reduced as services are delivered at the touch of a button from somewhere else.



Lands, Public Works, Housing, and Urban Development Cabinet Secretary Alice Wahome

She said that Kenya is committed to making land information available in a language that can be understood by populations.

Wahome noted that land claimed by minority groups, pastoral communities, disputed land, and land identified to have been irregularly allocated is being accurately classified and mapped in the land information system to reduce conflicts.

She said that Kenya plans to establish a comprehensive, computer-based, user-friendly, accessible, affordable, transparent, and gender-sensitive land information management system.

Wahome revealed that Kenya is currently developing national guidelines on land

information to govern matters on land information standards, security, dissemination, and pricing.

The Ministry of Lands, she said, has gone cashless by embracing FinTech in the collection of revenue, which has replaced conventional cash payments with Mpesa mobile money payment services.

Mr. Gershom Otachi, Chairman of the National Land Commission (NLC), noted that Kenya, like other nations, endeavours to harness the transformative power of data, innovation, and technology in solving multifaceted challenges in land governance.

Mr. Otachi said that data and technology tools are not only essential for modernis-

ing land governance systems but also for ensuring transparency, accountability, and inclusivity by addressing matters to do with land tenure security, land use planning, environmental sustainability, and equitable resource distribution.

He added that Kenya is adopting the use of block chain technology, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), remote sensing, and drone technology to enhance land registration, title management, create detailed and interactive maps, and provide high-resolution imagery and real-time data.

Editor's Desk

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Group Executive Chairman
M. Danson

Our Contacts
P. O. Box 101 675 - 00101 Nairobi, Cell: 0700 161 866, 0705 215 262
Editorial Desk: editorial@mountkenyetimes.co.ke, **Adverts:** ads@mountkenyetimes.co.ke,
News Desk: news@mountkenyetimes.co.ke, **Web:** www.mountkenyetimes.co.ke

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NEWS IN BRIEF



African Development Bank Group recently conducted a successful supervision mission for projects under the jurisdiction of Tana Water Works Development Agency and Northern Water Works Development Agency. The mission started with a detailed briefing on the progress of projects under the Kenya Towns Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation Program (KTSWSSP). This provided valuable insights into the strides made, highlighting significant advancements in various projects, enhancing clean water, and improving sanitation services across various towns. The mission was concluded yesterday with a thorough inspection of the Mandera Water Supply and Sewerage Project. The team's on-ground assessment aimed to monitor the progress and ensure the projects were on track to meet their objectives.



In commemoration of the Day of the African Child, 2024 whose theme is 'Education for all children in Africa: the time is now', the Office of Directorate of Prosecution's Children division carried out a sensitization at the Kamiti Youth Corrective Training Centre (YCTC). The team took stock of the pending cases and addressed issues raised. They sensitized the children on the ODPP mandate, Diversion, plea bargaining and the importance of education. The team was joined by the ODPP clinicians who engaged the boys on peer pressure and drug abuse. The team donated essential items to the children.



The Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology Enterprises (JKUATES) has conducted a three-day training workshop on mushrooms in Juja, to empower farmers with the knowledge and resources needed to venture into mushroom farming successfully. The workshop, the first ever conducted in Juja, aimed to educate farmers on various aspects of mushroom farming, including production, value addition, marketing, and utilisation of mushroom products. The initiative is part of JKUATES's broader objective to strengthen community livelihoods through improved food security, nutrition, and health resilience. The workshop provided valuable information and practical insights into mushroom cultivation techniques, the economic benefits of mushroom farming, and the potential for mushrooms to contribute to a healthier diet and sustainable income. The long-term impact of the initiative is expected to catalyse a positive transformation in the agricultural landscape of Juja, promoting self-sufficiency and resilience.



A Resident Magistrate Court in Narok convicted and sentenced Simon Githaiga Kimani to a fine of Ksh50,000,000 in default serve 10 years of imprisonment for trafficking in narcotic drugs, contrary to Section 4(a)(II) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Control Act No. 4 of 2022. The prosecution, led by Ms. Peninnah Mwaniki presented facts and documentary exhibits after the suspect pleaded guilty. After careful consideration of the evidence, the Bett Ngayo found the prosecution's evidence credible, substantial, and consistent, thereby eliminating any reasonable doubt regarding the accused person's culpability. This court verdict serves as a clear warning that perpetrators of such heinous crimes will be held legally liable.

The Government is set to exempt pensioners from tax payouts at retirement. According to Treasury Cabinet Secretary Njuguna Nduing'u, early retirees with contributions for over 20 years are set to benefit from the initiative. Currently, only retirees who are 65 years and older are exempt from taxation when receiving their pension.

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Boda Ni Life

Chagua usalama, chagua kuwa hapo kwa ajili ya familia yako



Nairobi Convening Champions United Front Against Cervical Cancer

By: Cynthia Masibo and Aoma Keziah

@themtkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- The convening concluded with a series of key outcomes and commitments aimed at propelling Africa towards the WHO's ambitious 90:70:90 targets for cervical cancer elimination by 2030. These include:
- Enhanced Collaborative Networks:** New partnerships were formed, and existing ones strengthened among faith-based organizations, health authorities, and community groups to amplify the reach and effectiveness of cervical cancer prevention efforts.



Members of the Acha Alliance being well represented at the Nairobi convening for the cervical cancer and HPV vaccination.

The Nairobi Cervical Cancer Elimination and HPV Vaccination Convening, held from June 11th to 13th, has brought together a diverse assembly of faith leaders, health professionals, community advocates, and policy-makers under the theme "Uniting Faith and Science against Cervical Cancer." This landmark event aimed to confront the scourge of cervical cancer, which claims the lives of approximately 81,000 African women annually, with about 126,000 new cases reported each year (Globocan).

Recognizing the Burden

The convening highlighted the devastating impact of cervical cancer on the social and economic fabric of African communities. Participants emphasized the urgent need for multi-faceted

strategies that span behavioral change communication, HPV vaccination, screening, treatment, palliative care, and survivorship. Despite the availability of these interventions, many African women still face barriers to accessing essential health services due to cultural, logistical, and informational challenges.

Harnessing the Power of Faith Leaders

Faith leaders hold significant sway in African communities, often shaping health behaviors and decisions. The convening underscored the influential role these leaders can play in promoting cervical cancer prevention and care. Through workshops and sessions, faith leaders were equipped with knowledge and resources to ad-

vocate for behavioral change, HPV vaccination, screening, and comprehensive cervical cancer care.

Key Outcomes and Commitments

The convening concluded with a series of key outcomes and commitments aimed at propelling Africa towards the WHO's ambitious 90:70:90 targets for cervical cancer elimination by 2030. These include:

Enhanced Collaborative Networks: New partnerships were formed, and existing ones strengthened among faith-based organizations, health authorities, and community groups to amplify the reach and effectiveness of cervical cancer prevention efforts.

Capacity Building for Faith Leaders: Sessions and workshops were conducted to empower faith leaders with the necessary tools to advocate for cervical cancer prevention and care.

Ramping Up Vaccination Efforts: The convening emphasized leveraging faith networks to significantly increase HPV vaccination rates. Efforts will focus on expanding access and enhancing public awareness to ensure widespread vaccine uptake.

Expanded Screening Initiatives: Utilizing faith networks, the convening aims to broaden behavioral change activities and screening initiatives across Africa. Advanced diagnostic technologies and improved infrastructure will be employed to reach remote and underserved areas, making screening a routine part of women's healthcare.

Strengthening Service Delivery and Guidelines: Discussions highlighted the need to enhance access to treatment protocols for pre-cervical and cervical cancer. This includes upgrading local health facilities, offering continuous

training to healthcare professionals, and ensuring the availability of essential medical supplies and equipment.

Policy Engagement and Advocacy: Strategic discussions with policy-makers were proposed to advocate for comprehensive cervical cancer care policies that align with the WHO 90:70:90 targets.

Integrated Sustainable Healthcare Models: Recommendations were made for sustainable healthcare models that incorporate cervical cancer prevention and care into primary healthcare systems, ensuring lifelong access to critical services for girls and women.

Community Engagement and Education: Participants committed to engaging communities and increasing public awareness about the importance of behavioral change, HPV vaccination, and regular screening.

Moving Forward

The collaborative spirit of the Nairobi convening exemplifies the potential of unified efforts in the fight against cervical cancer. By combining the influence of faith leaders with scientific and medical expertise, Africa can make significant strides towards a future free from cervical cancer. The commitments made during this event mark a crucial step in ensuring that women across the continent have access to the prevention, treatment, and support they need.

As the world moves closer to the 2030 targets, the lessons learned and partnerships forged in Nairobi will play a pivotal role in realizing the vision of a cervical cancer-free Africa.

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Government Is Committed To Supporting Farmers, President Ruto

By: PCS

The government has kept its promise to farmers by revitalising the agriculture sector, President William Ruto has said.

He said the government has allocated huge budgets to the sector aimed at increasing agricultural productivity and enhancing farmers' earnings.

The President said the subsidised fertiliser programme has met the expectations of farmers by enhancing agricultural productivity, leading to a reduction in food costs and the overall cost of living.

Speaking during the Meru Cooperative Union 9th Annual Dairy Farmers Field Day at Gitoro Showground in Meru town yesterday, President Ruto said maize production has subsequently increased from 44 million

bags in 2022 to 67 million bags last year, adding that the rise in productivity has been consistent in all regions.

"The production of maize, coffee, tea, avocado and macadamia has also increased. That was the plan we agreed on because you wanted us to manage our agricultural sector prudently," he said.

President Ruto said the government will continue to support farmers and implement more measures that increase productivity and earnings.

Present were Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, Governors Kawira Mwangaza, Cecily Mbarire and Mohamed Adan Khalif, Cabinet Secretaries Mithika Linturi, Simon Chelugui, and Kindiki Kithure, MPs and MCAs.



President William Ruto, his Deputy Rigathi Gachagua and Meru County governor Kawira Mwangaza in Meru yesterday.

TVET Centenary Celebrations To Promote Technical Education

By: Justus Anzaya
@themkenyetimes

The State Department for Technical, Vocational Education, and Training Principal Secretary, Esther Thaara Muoria, has said that the government is capitalising on TVET-at-100 to bring out its key plans and priorities in the TVET sector.

Speaking at the Kabete National Polytechnic during the TVET @100 meeting held to sensitise development partners, industry partners, and education stakeholders on why the government is preparing the celebrations, the PS noted that the Government is set to use the TVET centenary celebrations scheduled for July 31 at the Kabete National Polytechnic to clearly point out its key plans and priorities in the TVET sector.

The PS underscored that the government is banking on the TVET sector in order to spur industrialization in Kenya.

Dr. Muoria noted that despite the milestones that the TVET sector has achieved over the last 100 years, there still exist inadequacies to enable the

sector to realise its full potential.

She pointed out the challenges of low awareness of TVET programmes, low perception, low financing, and low involvement of the private sector as well as development partners in the TVET sector.

Muoria said that the government is set to use TVET centenary celebrations in order to reposition TVET so that it can fully achieve its mandate.

Currently, TVET @100 celebrations are going on across the 47 counties by making sure that the TVET torch that was lit by President Dr. William Ruto on March 26 at the Nyeri National Polytechnic, touches all the counties in Kenya.

The TVET torch roadshow in the 47 counties across the country is aimed at demystifying the narrative that TVET is for failures, spreading a message of hope to the youth and parents, as well as promoting employability.

"The celebrations aim to promote employability, mobility, decent work, entrepreneurship, and lifelong learning among the youth and adults," echoed the TVET PS.

The TVET @100 celebrations are themed, "If education is the key to employability, TVET is the master



The State Department for Technical, Vocational Education, and Training Principal Secretary, Esther Thaara Muoria.

key."

In 1924, colonial masters saw a need for semi-skilled labour, and as a result, they started the Native Industrial Training Depot, currently called the Kabete National Polytechnic, so that they could get semi-skilled labour for the maintenance of Kenya-Uganda Railways.

Since 1924, the TVET sector has grown tremendously and witnessed key breakthroughs ranging from recruitment of TVET trainers, equipping of TVET institutions, adoption of Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET), retooling of TVET trainers, digitization of TVET institutions through Virtual Digital

Infrastructure (VDIs/Jitume Labs), the launch of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), reinstatement of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Curriculum Development, Assessment, and Certification Council (TVET-CDACC), infrastructure development, among many other areas.

Treasury Announces Ksh 3.99T Budget With Major Spending Cuts

By: Ronald Owili

The National Treasury and Economic Planning has announced a total expenditure amounting to Ksh 3.99 trillion for the 2024/25 financial year beginning July 1, 2024.

While presenting the budget statement before the National Assembly yesterday, National Treasury and Economic Planning Cabinet Secretary Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u said the government plans to raise a total of Ksh 3.34 trillion equivalent to 18.5pc of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) through revenue collection and appropriations-in-aid. Of this amount, the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) is expected to collect a total of Ksh 2.92 trillion in ordinary revenue.

Ministerial appropriations-in-aid will amount to Ksh 426 billion while the government expect a total of Ksh 51.8 billion or 0.3pc of GDP in grants from development partners.

Out of the total budget, Prof Ndung'u said recurrent expenditure will amount to Ksh 2.84 trillion while development expenditure including

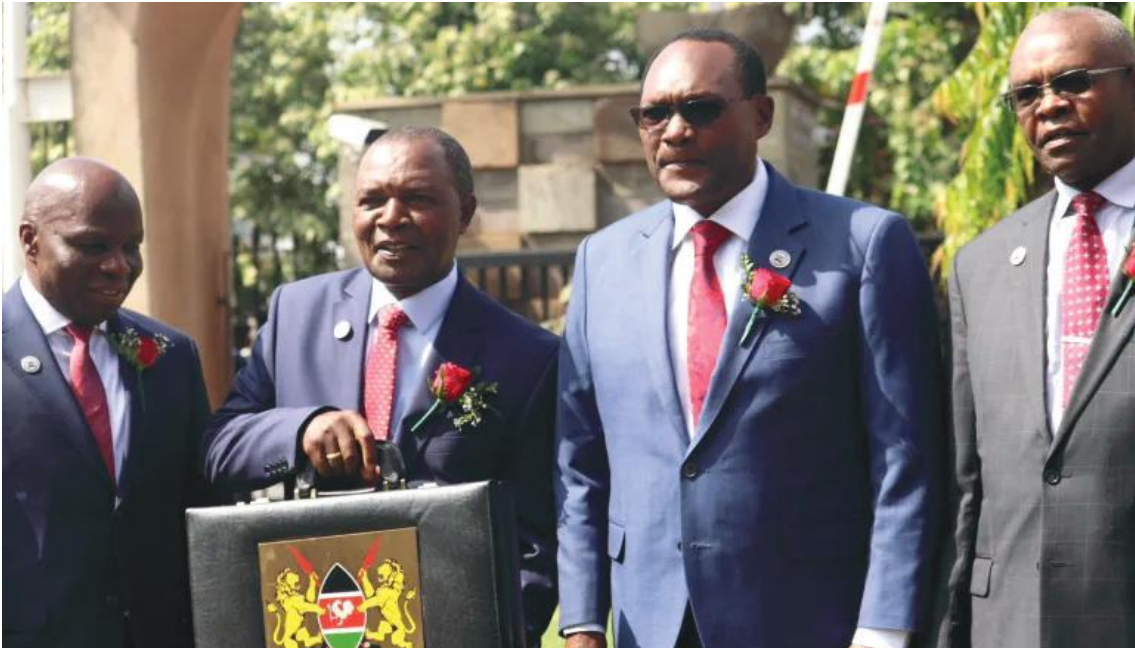
allocations to domestic and foreign financed projects, contingency fund and equalization fund will amount to Ksh 707.4 billion equivalent to 3.9pc of the GDP.

Counties are also expected to receive a total of Ksh 444.5 billion out which equitable share will amount to Ksh 400.1 billion.

In the second budget cycle under the Kenya Kwanza administration, Prof Ndung'u said the government has undertaken measure to rationalize spending to ensure the country cuts on commercial borrowing that has driven the country's debt to the tune of Ksh 11.6 trillion.

"Mr Speaker given the projected revenue, grants and revenues against the projected expenditures, the fiscal deficit including grants is projected at Ksh 597 billion equivalent to 3.3pc of GDP and this is down from Ksh 925 billion or 5.7pc of GDP in 2023/24. In this respect, the primary balance will improve to a surplus of 2.3pc of GDP from a deficit of 0.4pc of GDP in the current financial year," said Prof. Ndung'u.

To bridge the fiscal deficit in the next financial year the government will turn to external creditors to raise Ksh 333.8 billion while Ksh 263.2 billion will be raised from domestic



National Treasury and Economic Planning Cabinet Secretary Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u holding briefcase.

sources. This comes as government seeks to turn to concessional borrowing, undertake debt swaps and other innovative ways to finance the budget.

"Kenya meets its obligations promptly and no debt arrears have been accumulated. Public debt is projected to remain within sustainable levels on account of fiscal

consolidation path that reflects the decline in the ratio of debt to GDP in present value terms over the medium term. To improve Kenya's debt sustainability and boost our credit rating position, the government will continue to implement measures to enhance growth of foreign exchange earnings," said the CS.

Treasury further plans lower cost

and risks of its debt portfolio in the medium term debt strategy by slowing down uptake of new external commercial debt. Kenya will explore raising new debt in the international bond market targeting Panda Bond, Samurai Bond and Sukuk Bond.

Blow To DP Gachagua As Gov't Freezes Renovation Of Public Offices

By: Olive Burrows

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua may have to make do with his Harambee House Annex office in its current state for another year.

This after Treasury Cabinet Secretary Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u, in his budget speech on Thursday, announced measures intended to reduce government spending, which include a freeze on refurbishment of government offices.

The move follows criticism from Kenyans who haven't taken too kindly to repeated admonishments by President William Ruto to tighten their belts and live within their means while leaders live large, occupying swanky offices and parading the latest fuel guzzlers.

CS Ndung'u, in an effort to demonstrate that the Kenya Kwanza administration does not preach water and drink wine, announced mea-

sures intended to curb government spending.

These include tackling of a bloated wage bill with suspension of all new recruitment for the next one year and an audit and cleansing of all public payrolls with a view to eliminating ghost workers and enforcing payment of salary scales.

Other measures that would affect allowances earned are a reduction on spending on foreign travel and training expenses, with all training restricted to government institutions and use of Wi-Fi and emails for efficient communication.

Those in the public service, police and prisons will also have their insurance schemes reviewed and aligned to the Social Health Insurance Fund (SHIF).

The measures also include a suspension of all refurbishments of government offices and a suspension of the purchase of furniture for a period of one year.

The move may affect DP Gachagua who had sought to renovate his Harambee House Annex Office and



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua .

his official residence in Karen and Mombasa at a cost of Ksh.300 million.

Having expressed frustration at provisions made for his air travel, the Deputy President may also fall victim to the government's plan to cut spending on motor vehicles, with his office having requested a budgetary

allocation of Ksh.100 million for vehicles.

Other measures include consolidation of public procurement for common user items, suspension of the policy of semi-autonomous government agencies investing surplus funds and will instead be expected to surrender excess funds to the ex-

chequer.

There will also be a review of regional development authorities with a view to removing duplication of roles with those of county governments and ministries, departments and agencies.

The Holy Spirit Knows How To Get Victory In Every Instance



By: Eric Musa
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

The devil cannot stand against God’s power. And remember: Where the devil has been before and done damage, he will try to come back. If you are cured of alcoholism, but you used to love whiskey, the same demon will return and again and try to tempt you to just take one drink. He will tempt you with the sin that he knows is your weakness. I admire anyone delivered from the world of society. I know what social drinking is like. It is not easy to get delivered from all of that. I made up my mind I would not go back into that kind of life after I got saved, it is costly but worth it.

Pastor Hayes gives his testimony: “Some people will not give up the world of cocktails and social

life because they want to be with the “big shots.” Porterhouse steaks, cocktails, and dirty jokes—that’s what I was delivered from (not the steaks, but the rest of it). PRAYING IN TONGUES WILL KEEP YOU STRONG ENOUGH IN GOD that the devil cannot drag you back.”

It is written, meditate and live by this: Acts 1:8 “But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends (the very bounds) of the earth.”

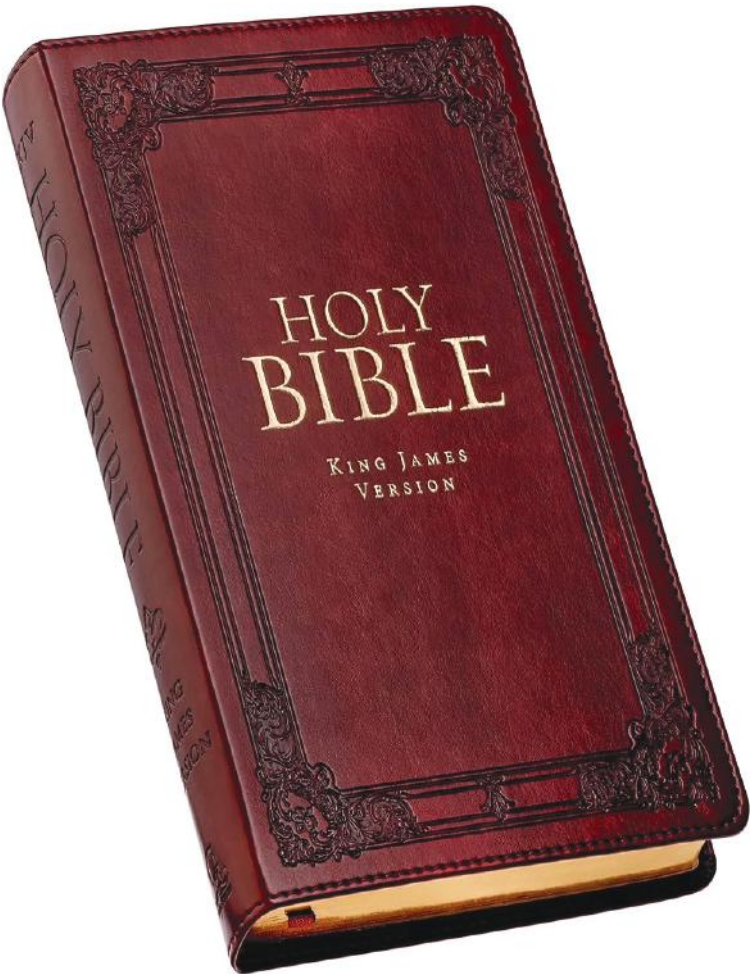
The things you cannot figure out, call out to God and pray in tongues. The Spirit of God knows how to get victory in every instance. If you will let Him come through you and pray in tongues, He knows how to get the will of God in every situation. You can be sick in any form or fashion, and the prayer of faith in Jesus’ name will get you your healing.

The Bible is more powerful than Satan and all of his demons. The devil cannot stand against the Word of God. The Word will put the devil

on the run. The Word will bring the presence of the Holy Spirit onto a person, and when His presence goes on a person, the devil has to leave. The Word of God is powerful enough to set free the demon possessed. The Word of God is powerful enough to heal the sick. His Word will never fail. His Word is not weak; it is strong and powerful. The Word of God will set people free.

HALELUJAH: PRAISE BE TO THE HIGH GOD FOREVER : AMEN.

Evangelist Eric Musa:
(My message continuously: The best decision in this earthly life is to receive Christ Jesus as your personal Saviour: Believe and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit: AMEN). As it is written; “NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2 Cor 6:2”. For prayers, devotion; to support Evangelism contact Ev. Eric Musa on +254722157300 (Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Remember; God Loves you unconditionally, perfectly and forever.



Medical Interns Allocated Ksh.3.7B In 2024/25 Budget

By: Citizen Reporter

The government of Kenya has allocated the Ministry of Health Ksh.3.7 billion to support medical interns during the fiscal year 2024/25. Treasury Cabinet Secretary (CS) Njuguna Ndung'u made the announcement when he delivered the 2024/25 budget at Parliament Grounds in Nairobi on Thursday.

This comes just a month after health practitioners called off their 56-day nationwide protest spurred by the non-payment and non-posting of medical interns, among other grievances.

"To strengthen the capacity of medical personnel, I have proposed Ksh.3.7 billion for Medical Interns; Ksh.406 million for training of Health Personnel; and Ksh.8.6 billion for the Kenya Medical Training Centres," Ndung'u said.

The Treasury CS likewise allocated Ksh.127 billion to the health sector to support various activities and programmes in line with Kenya's



KMPDU officials lead medical interns in protesting their delayed posting on February 29, 2024. PHOTO | COURTESY.

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) agenda.

"This includes: Ksh.4.2 billion for Universal Health Coverage Coordination and Management Unit; Ksh.2 billion for Free Maternity Health Care; Ksh.3.6 billion for the Man-

aged Equipment Services; Ksh.861.5 million to provide medical cover for the orphans, elderly and severely disabled persons in our society; Ksh.4.6 billion to cater for the Stipend and acquisition of Specialized Medical Equipment for Community Health

Promoters; and Ksh.4.1 billion for Primary Healthcare Fund," said Ndung'u.

"To lower cases of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, and enhance vaccines and immunization programme in the country, I have pro-

posed Ksh.28.7 billion for the Global Fund; and Ksh.4.6 billion for Vaccines and Immunization Programme, respectively."

The state has also allocated Ksh.1.1 billion to improve cancer management at Kenyatta National Hospital and Level 5 Hospitals, with the aim of enhancing early diagnosis and treatment of the killer disease.

Additionally, they State has allotted Ksh.2 billion to the Emergencies, Chronic, and Critical Illness Fund.

"Mr. Speaker, to improve health service delivery, I have proposed a sum of Ksh 29.7 billion for Kenyatta National Hospital and Moi Teaching and Referral Hospitals. This includes Ksh 2.6 billion for the construction of Kenyatta National Hospital Burns and Paediatrics Centre," said the Treasury CS.

"I have also proposed: Ksh 5.2 billion for Kenya Medical Supplies Agency; Ksh 2.5 billion for the Kenya Medical Research Institute; Ksh 1.0 billion for procurement of family planning and reproductive health commodities; and Ksh 760 million for procurement of equipment at the National Blood Transfusion Services."

Kenyan Youth, Creatives Allocated Ksh.16.3 Billion In 2024/2025 Budget

By: Citizen Reporter

The youth in the digital superhighway and creatives industry are set to benefit hugely from this year's budget after the government allocated Ksh.16.3 billion to boost them.

Treasury Cabinet Secretary Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u, speaking during the reading of the 2024/2025 budget statement in Parliament on Thursday, said the allocation would go a long way in creating job opportunities for the youth in the creative economy, theatre and graphic design sectors in line with the government's digitization agenda.

Other categories which will also benefit from the youth budget include digital animations, fashion and craft, and ICT.

"Investment in digital superhighway and creative economy continues to play a critical role in enabling the

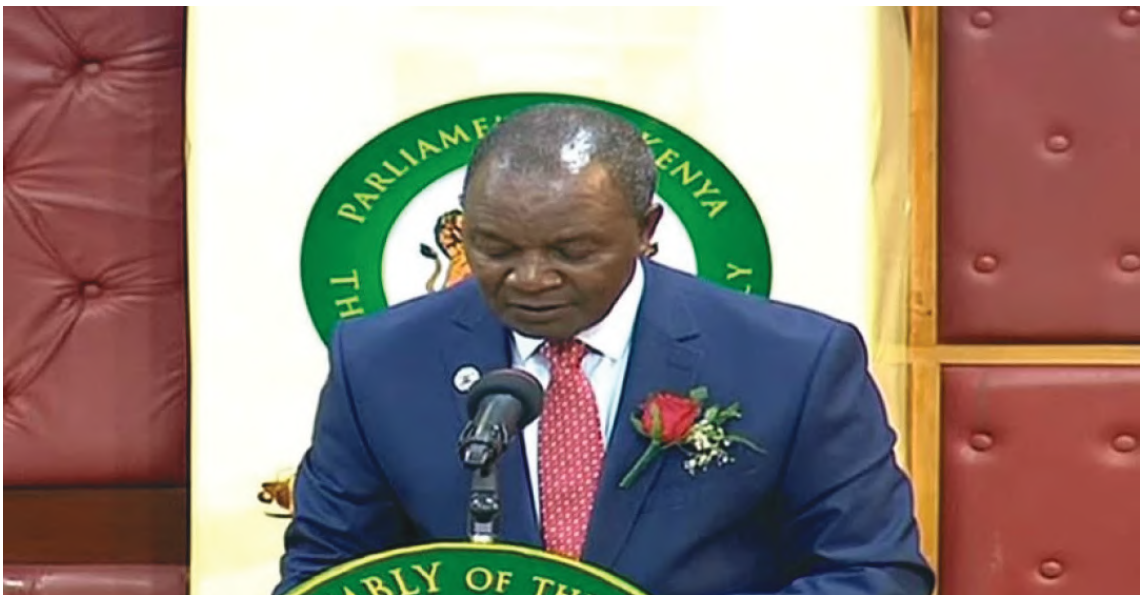
government to achieve the objectives of the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) through increased productivity and competitiveness," he said.

"To support the growing digital superhighway and creative economy, I have proposed Ksh.16.3 billion to fund the initiatives in the ICT sector specifically."

The CS issued a breakdown of the amount saying that government-shared services would get Ksh.1.1 billion, digital superhighway would be allocated Ksh.704 million, while Ksh.2.3 billion would go to the construction of Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) at Konza Technopolis City.

Further, a whopping Ksh.2.8 billion was set aside for the Kenya Digital Economy Acceleration Project as maintenance and rehabilitation of the Last Mile County Connectivity Network will benefit from Ksh.2.8 billion.

CS Ndung'u underscored the role of the Konza Technopolis City in the



Treasury CS Njuguna Ndung'u reads the budget statement in Parliament on June 13, 2024.

ICT development in the country and the creation of digital jobs.

He hence proposed an allocation of Ksh.1.5 billion for fast-tracking the horizontal infrastructure phase one, and another Ksh 5.2 billion for the

Konza data Center and Smart City Facilities.

This year's budget has also factored in the role of the youth in manufacturing and entrepreneurship to grow the economy, with an allocation of

Ksh.89.5 billion disbursed to empower them and support businesses owned by young people and women as special category groups.

Koome Promises Court-Specific Security Protocols Following Makadara Incident

By: Capital Correspondent

Chief Justice Martha Koome has promised a comprehensive review of the security architecture around courts to address emerging security threats.

In a statement following a shooting incident at Nairobi's Makadara Law Courts where an unassigned police officer stormed the courtroom and shot a Magistrate, Koome said the Judiciary will institute urgent security measures aimed at bolstering the safety of judicial officers and court users.

During Thursday's incident, a senior police officer shot at Principal Magistrate Monicah Kivuti, and three police officers who responded to the incident, causing them varying degrees of injuries.

"The Judiciary Police Unit, in consultation with the Office of the Inspector General, will ensure that persons are not allowed to access



Chief Justice Martha Koome/CFM/Moses Muoki

court premises while armed, with the exception of officers properly accredited to provide security at specified court stations," Koome declared.

She said the Makadara Law Courts will remain closed until Monday, June 17, to facilitate security reinforcement.

In the interim, all matters will be heard virtually, with those requiring physical appearance relocated to the Milimani Law Courts.

Koome said the closure underscores the immediate need for a review of security protocols and infrastructure.

The Chief Justice also emphasized the importance of secure infrastructure, considering Makadara Law

Courts was operating from a makeshift structure, which lacked adequate space and facilities.

"We continue to call upon the National Assembly and the National Treasury to prioritize adequate funding to facilitate the development of appropriate court infrastructure across the country," she said.

Chief Justice Koome called for an urgent meeting of the National Council on the Administration of Justice (NCAJ) to discuss the incident and adopt measures to prevent future threats.

She praised police officers who responded to the attack for their swift response.

"We thank the gallant officers who responded to this attack and were injured in the process," Chief Justice Koome said.

Koome restated the Judiciary's commitment to ensuring the sanctity of courtrooms is upheld and that the rights of Kenyans to access justice are protected.

Education Sector Gets Lion's Share Of Ruto's Ksh.3.9 Trillion Budget

By: Tonny Ndungu
@themkenyaintimes

Kenya's education sector has emerged as the largest beneficiary in the national budget for the fiscal year 2024/25, receiving Ksh 656.6 billion.

This proposal, put forth by National Treasury Cabinet Secretary Njuguna Ndung'u, during the reading on Thursday, represents an increase over the Ksh 628.6 billion allocated in the fiscal year 2023/24.

The Teachers Service Commission (TSC) will receive the largest portion of the budget, totaling Ksh 358.2 billion.

This sum is further subdivided across various sectors. Notably, Ksh 13.3 billion is set aside for the conversion of junior secondary school teachers to permanent and pensionable status, while Ksh 1.3 billion is set aside for teacher training in the Competency

Based Curriculum (CBC).

The Free Primary and Secondary Education Programme has been allocated Ksh 71.5 billion, while Junior Secondary School Capitation has received Ksh 30 billion.

The school feeding programme will receive Ksh 3 billion, down from Ksh 5 billion last year.

Additionally, Ksh 5 billion has been proposed for examination fee waivers.

According to CS Ndung'u, Ksh 6 billion will be allocated for infrastructure development in primary and secondary schools.

Furthermore, ICT integration in schools is set to receive Ksh 150 million, and research, science, technology, and innovation are projected to receive Ksh 700 million.

Ksh. 71.9 billion has been allocated for university education, with Ksh.62.8 billion going to the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) and other scholarships.



Treasury CS Njuguna Ndung'u reads the budget statement in Parliament on June 13, 2024. PHOTO | COURTESY | NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

Metropolitan Notorious House Breakers Arrested, Again

By: The DCI

Detectives from DCI HQS Crime Research and Intelligence Bureau (CRIB) augmented by their DCI Kabete counterparts have arrested two notorious suspects believed to be behind the spate in housebreaking incidents in Kiambu and Nairobi Counties.

Lavender Akinyi Ogillo, 37 and Vincent Odhiambo Otieno, 27 were arrested in connection with two housebreaking and theft incidents that took place on April 1 and 19, this year.

On the material date, police at Kibiku Police Station received a report that suspected housebreakers (maybe burglars) had broken into house No.17 of the opulent Kitisuru Terraces located in one of the prolific and prime suburbs of Nairobi at Kitisuru in Gathiga, by removing a window pane from the kitchen door and mastering the padlock.



From therein, a 55” TCL TV, 40” Samsung TV, wrist watches, an iPad, computer monitor, a MacBook laptop, wall paintings, carpets among other items had been stolen.

In the second incident on April 19, 2024, another house at Oak Valley

Apartments located along Mvuli Road in Kileleshwa was broken into, by six perpetrators who mastered the lock of the main door.

Luckily, the homeowner interrupted the invaders’ party after returning home earlier than expected, although

they managed to beetle off with thousands of cash.

Though slightly injured, the victim was also able to spot the hoodlums hop into a waiting white vehicle Reg. No KDG 305C whose make was not immediately established, which then

drove away.

Following days of persistent manhunt, the two earlier mentioned suspects, who are neither new to the underworld dealings nor courtrooms were yesterday nabbed and ushered into police cells.

Lavender Akinyi was ejected from her four bedroom house located within Kiamumbi while her partner in crime was flushed from a Kasarani base.

A black Mercedes Benz T733 DTP used by the suspects in their criminal activities has also been impounded, and efforts to round up the remaining four accomplices are ongoing.

Notably, the two arrested suspects were among a gang of six members nabbed and arraigned for a violent robbery by Kilimani detectives on May 18, 2019, with warrants of arrest in force against Lavender for absconding court and jumping bail.

Activist To Spend Five More Days In Custody

By: MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyetimes

The Milimani Law Court granted the Prosecution five days to detain activist Nuru Maloba Okang’a.

He will be detained at the Muthaiga Police Station to allow the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) to complete investigations into allegations of Publication of false information, contrary to Section 23 of the Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes Act No.5 of 2018.

The vocal activist is also under investigation for Cyber harassment contrary to Section 27 of the Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes Act, among other offences.

The suspect was arrested on Tuesday at his home in Kayole estate, a Nairobi suburb, and taken to the DCI headquarters for interrogations before his arraignment.

The Investigating officer informed the court that initial investigations had revealed suspicious accounts allegedly managed by the suspect, which posted malicious and false information about the Republic of Kenya and its leadership, advocating for public disturbance.

Prosecution Counsel Virginia Kariuki told court that police are investigating continued dissemination of detrimental comments posted online by a number of social media platforms including TikTok and YouTube, alongside some websites linked to the suspect, which are considered a threat and may contribute to disturbances affecting peace, order, and public safety.

Police has identified the suspect as a serial offender in relation to this investigation.

The case will be mentioned on Tuesday next week.



Activist Nuru Maloba Okang'a

My First Love



Translation Of Abdulla Oripov’s “My First Love” Poem

Last night when the moon was fading
 When the star Venus smiling, twinkling
 Misery, in my soul, silence when farming
 I recall you my first love
 I recall you my first love

Passed childhood with war and delight
 Sometimes nice and with fight
 Sometimes it came down with faith and heart
 I just lose you my first love
 I forgot about you my first love

The world is such a mystery like
 incomprehensible
 Sometimes it is a holeless castle,

sometimes it is a wide
 But a person is always sensible
 I didn't know why before, my first love
 I didn't care before my first love

However, I haven't parted from dreams, until now
 I didn't shine like a star, like a moon until now
 I haven't turned like a yellow flower in early morning until now

While I recall, I cry for you my first love
 My geart hurts when remembering you my first love

If you lose your way, lean on love
 If you are angry, lean on love
 If you are helpless, lean on love
 Who do I lean on, my first love
 I cry only remembering my first love

Cry out, it's okay, I listened to the ghost
 After sweet dreams I forgot my earth
 I finished this poem for yours
 My heart is my first love
 Only God is my first love.

Inogomjonova Robiya, Student of Tashkent State Transport University

Climate Change



Climate change varies geographically and is practically difficult to predict accurately. Researchers have warned that current economic modeling seriously underestimates the effects of climate change and the potential damage.

The health impacts of climate change are felt worldwide, but disproportionately affect disadvantaged populations, exacerbating their vulnerability to climate change, particularly in developing countries. The health effects of climate change are a growing concern of the World Health Organization.

Climate change will increase the likelihood and frequency of wildfires. Climate change is causing land temperatures to rise, and impacts include earlier snowmelt, more fire-prone days, increased summer droughts, and longer dry seasons.

The Director General of the World Health Organization, T. Gebreyesus, while assessing this situation, compared the climate crisis to the deterioration of health.

The causes of climate change are not only global warming, but also the human factor. People increase the concentration of substances such as carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxide, methane, chlorofluorocarbon in the air. All of these will ultimately lead to an increase in the greenhouse effect, and the consequences may be irreversible.

Every day, industrial enterprises release a lot of dangerous gases into the air. It pollutes the atmosphere with waste. Burning oil and coal produces large amounts of carbon dioxide. Greenhouse gases make up about 14 of the gases released into the atmosphere.

No one can predict how much our planet will change due to global climate. Scientists are developing ways to prevent symptoms. Another of them is the release of large amounts of sulfur into the atmosphere. This is caused by the effects of a massive volcanic eruption and causes the planet to cool due to the blocking of sunlight.

Tragic events around the world should provide a strong enough impetus to develop additional measures to ensure environmental safety. Failure to take action may lead to negative consequences later.

Autor: Negov Ixtiyor

Dad



Taking a little time
 Looking through your eyes,
 He says I love you
 Sorry, I couldn't tell you.

He slowly looked at my little eyes
 My daughter said happily
 Taking my hands and taking a step
 If I'm happy, laugh and be my companion.

My small achievement was recognized
 by a huge one
 I feel incomparable love for the world
 There is soul in my blood, Dad
 I just love you.

Everything went away from me when
 I stumbled
 I'm not sure if I'm wrong

I am surrounded by fake people
 But you stayed in my difficult moment.

Was my career better than me?
 True friends are gone
 There is no way to stand up
 Dad, your presence is a great honor.

My mother made big mistakes
 You stood next to me, a huge support
 He says that I am always with you
 You filled my life with joy and happiness.

Illo, the trust you gave will be justified
 One day, this power will rose forever
 All the fertilizer you give are worth a dime
 He is destined to light my way.

So much loyalty, so much love
 Text message address rule
 The address is single, the Father is like a mountain,
 Be happy, always together.

Asila

Zarafshon



My umbilical cord is spilled,
 You are welcome, Zarafshan.
 Located in Navoi,
 You are from Zarafshan.

You are rich in gold,
 Take care of yourself.
 You are the best in the city.
 My perspective is Zarafshan

Forget your history
 Think about the future.
 Your descendants,
 Create as a poet.

Your sons are brave, brave,
 Your daughters are Zulfia.
 Violet on your shores,
 A bird in your deserts.

Ilhomova Mohichehra is a student of the 8th grade of the 9th general secondary school of Zarafshan city, Navoi region.

toshpulatovazimjon274@gmail.com

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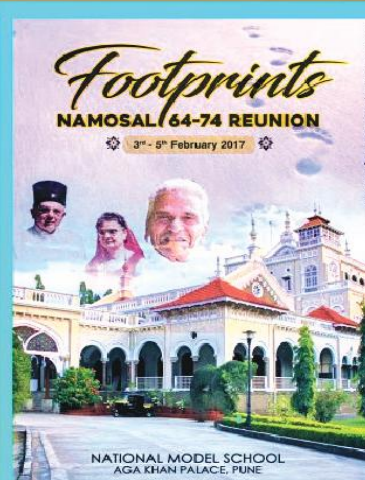
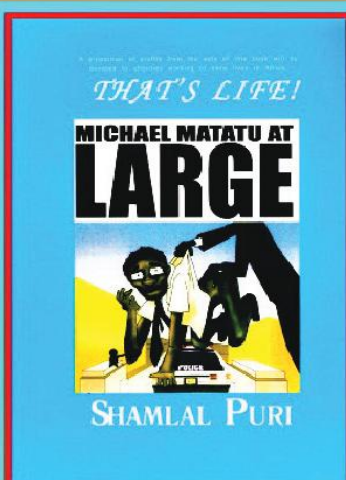
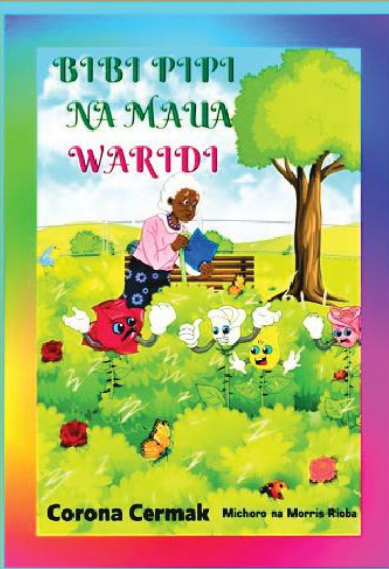
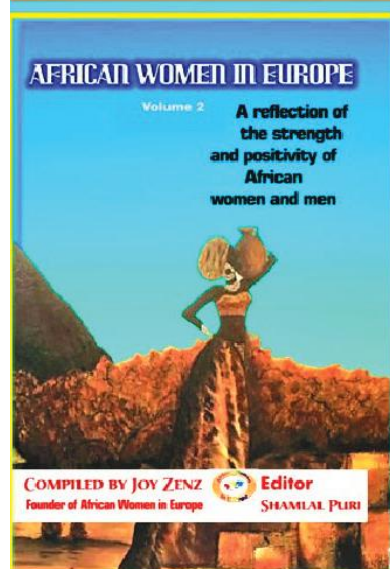
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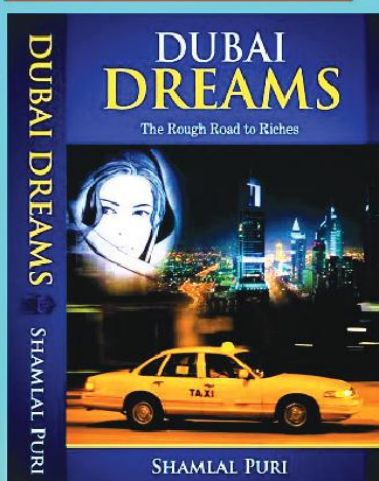
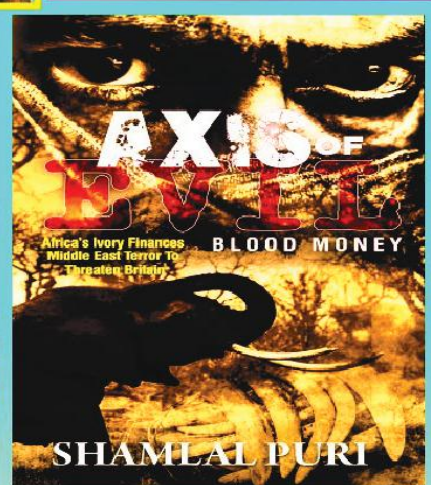
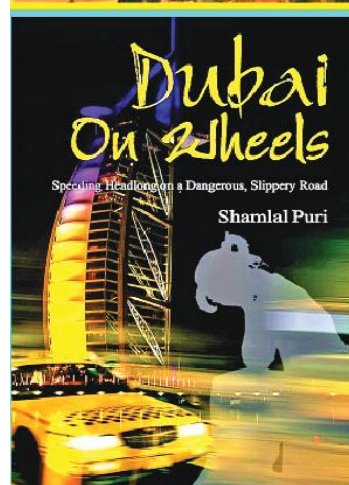
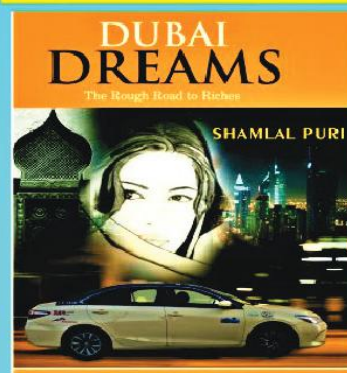
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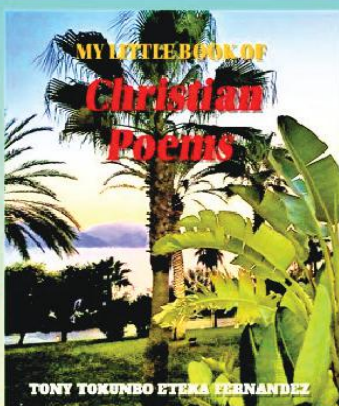
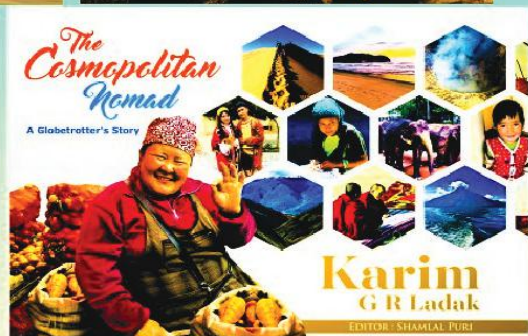
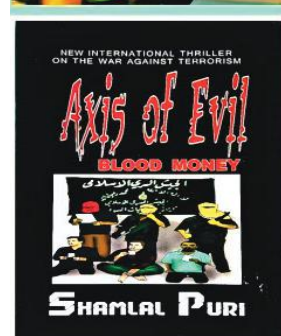
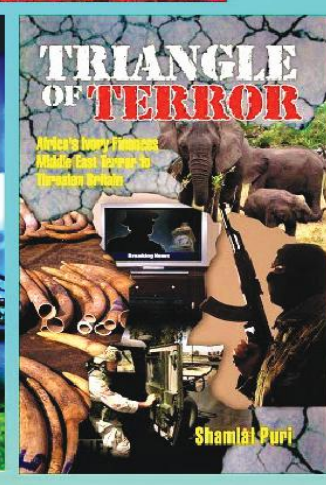
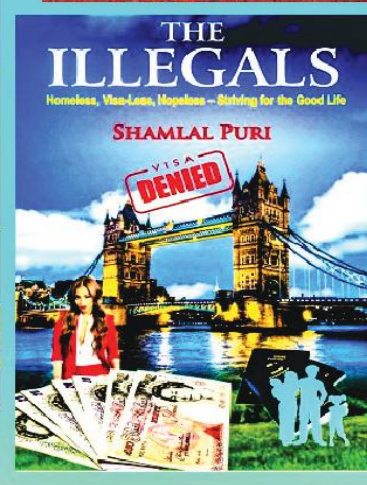
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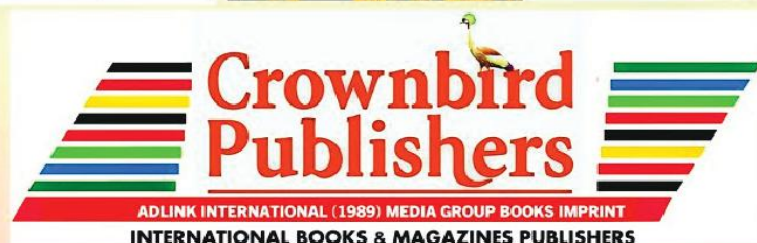


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BUSINESS

ABSA Bank Kenya Partners With The International Trade Centre To Host 10,000 Women Entrepreneurs For The Absa InspireMe Conference 2024

By: John Kariuki
@themtkenytimes

Worth Noting:

- This year's conference brings together women entrepreneurs from Absa participating countries, which include Kenya, Ghana, Zambia, Mauritius and Uganda, as well as participating countries under SheTrades Hubs in Africa, that is, Mauritius, Rwanda, South Africa, Ghana, The Gambia and Nigeria.

- Concurrent to the Absa InspireMe Conference and as part of the Kenya—UK Trade Mission, select women-led businesses from the agrifood, textiles and apparel, handicrafts, and accessories sectors will participate in a series of one-to-one business meetings with potential buyers from the UK delegation and African corporations. Representatives from participating SheTrades Hubs will also discuss potential collaboration with the three participating UK delegates from the Greater Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Chamber International, and West and North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry as well as export opportunities available through the UK Developing Countries Trading Scheme.



Absa Bank Kenya Business Banking Director Elizabeth Wasunna and International Trade Centre SheTrades Hub Regional Coordinator for East and South Phyllis Mwaura during the launch of The Absa InspireMe conference scheduled to take place from June 18th to 19th. The conference will bring together over 10,000 women entrepreneurs from Africa to deliberate on business and leadership to strengthen women-led SMEs.

Absa Bank Kenya and the International Trade Centre (ITC) SheTrades Kenya Hub is set to host the biggest meeting of women entrepreneurs in the continent, targeting over 10,000 women entrepreneurs across Africa.

The Absa InspireMe Conference is an initiative under Absa Bank's women in business proposition, launched in 2021. The conference is organized annually to facilitate market linkages, business-to-business networking, and business mentorship for women entrepreneurs. The theme of this year's conference is "Empowering Your Story for Growth," which is in line with Absa's new brand promise launched earlier this year—Your Story Matters—which shifts the bank's purpose to a more deliberately customer-centric business.

Addressing the media during the launch event held at Absa Headquarters, Absa Bank Business Banking Director Elizabeth Wasunna, said, "We thrilled to once again be hosting the conference in Nairobi. Our mission is to create a platform that brings together prominent African women in business and entrepreneurs to share ideas, empower one another and discuss emerging trends and skills necessary to transform their institutions and propel them to various levels of growth."

The Absa InspireMe Conference 2024 is proud to partner with the In-

ternational Trade Centre SheTrades Kenya Hub. As a result, on the sidelines of the knowledge-sharing and inspirational sessions from global and local business titans, an exhibition of products and services and industry-specific trade visits, we will also have a delegation from the United Kingdom in a bid to connect our women entrepreneurs to UK buyers to build new business linkages and expand economic opportunities for women-led businesses from across the continent."

This year's conference brings together women entrepreneurs from Absa participating countries, which include Kenya, Ghana, Zambia, Mauritius and Uganda, as well as participating countries under SheTrades Hubs in Africa, that is, Mauritius, Rwanda, South Africa, Ghana, The Gambia and Nigeria.

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Commerce and Industry, Chamber International, and West and North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry as well as export opportunities available through the UK Developing Countries Trading Scheme.

Speaking on behalf of International Trade Centre (ITC) Ms. Phyllis Mwangi, SheTrades Hub Regional Coordinator for East and South said "The African market represents a 1.4 bn market opportunity for Kenyan SMEs to conduct business with the African Continent. In addition, this

conference will bring 11 UK buyers and 20 large corporations from the SheTrades Hubs countries to explore new opportunities with the women entrepreneurs at the conference."

The Inspire Me Conference will welcome a prestigious line-up of successful entrepreneurs, government representatives, regulators, Absa senior executives and managing directors from Kenya, Ghana, Zambia and other key stakeholders, including Kenya Association of Manufacturers. The event will feature various separate panel discussions covering various topics aligned with the main theme of 'Empowering Your Story for Growth.'

Notable personalities participating in the conference include the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Investment, Trade, and Industry Rebecca Miano, the President's Advisor on Women Rights Hon Harriette Chiggai KAM CEO Mr. Anthony Mwangi, Visa Country Lead Eva Ngigi, Catherine Muraga – MD Microsoft Africa Development as well as Dr. Afua Asabea Asare, CEO-Ghana Export Promotion Authority.

Other official partners for the conference include Finance in Motion and Africa Guarantee Fund and APA Insurance. Over the last three years, this conference has united over 8,000 women across Africa, offering them the chance to learn from mission-driven women business leaders in Ghana, Zambia, Uganda, and Kenya.



Finance-in-motion representative Maureen Njeru, Absa Bank Kenya Business Banking Director Elizabeth Wasunna and International Trade Centre SheTrades Hub Regional Coordinator for East and South Phyllis Mwaura during the launch of The Absa InspireMe conference scheduled to take place from June 18th to 19th. The conference will bring together over 10,000 women entrepreneurs from Africa to deliberate on business and leadership to strengthen women-led SMEs.

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Entries Flow For The Africa Concours D’elegance

By: MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyetimes

The organizers of the 52nd Africa Concours d’Elegance report a steady flow of entries for the event which will mark the anniversary of the Alfa Romeo Owners Club.

This will be held at the Nairobi Racecourse on September 29th and is rated as the classiest event on the Kenya motorsport calendar.

The first Concours was limited to Alfa Romeo Owners Club members with their cars and was held in the grounds of a hotel. Over the years the event has grown greatly and has gained international recognition.

Since 2006 the Concours has been recognised and sanctioned by FIM Africa and now has full Africa Continental status for cars and motorcycles.

Entries already listed include the 1991 Mercedes-Benz 300 SE of Doctor Joseph Aluoch who is a strong supporter of the event.

Among the newcomers is Pablo

Kengara who will also be driving a Mercedes along the judging line in front of the Racecourse grandstands.

The regulations for the twelve car and eight motorcycle classes have been circulated to regular and potential entrants. The assessment of the competing cars and bikes is based entirely on the standard of cleanliness and preparation and originality is not taken into account.

Recognising the increasingly high cost of living the Alfa Romeo Owners Club has retained entry fees at last year’s level.

The regulations are available from the event website www.concourskenya.com and from the Concours office which is located on the second floor of the Jubilee Exchange building in Mama Ngina Street.

The assessment of cars will be carried out in front of the main Nairobi Racecourse grandstands with competitors driving on the giant Quartz inspection ramp for the check of the underside. Subsequently cars will be rated for exterior finish, the interior and boot and the engine, motorcycles will be marked in a similar way at Racecourse parade ground.



This beautifully prepared 1957 Chevrolet pick –up of Gary Farrant won the class for Utility vehicles made before 1970 at last year’s Africa Concours d’Elegance.

While the cars are in front of the grandstands captain David Mwaura will be riding round the Racecourse parade ring for judges to rate the bike entries. A big influx of motorcy-

cles from Uganda is expected from Pearl Bikers Africa.

Last year 24 bikes were ridden from Kampala to the Nairobi Racecourse. It is anticipated that a similar num-

ber of Uganda riders will participate on September 29th.

Kenya Airways To Lead Sustainable Aviation Fuel Initiative In Africa

By: Capital Correspondent

Kenya Airways (KQ) has been chosen as the only African airline to spearhead the International Air Transport Association (IATA)’s Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Registry, marking a significant milestone in the continent’s aviation industry.

This comes on the backdrop of the national carrier being awarded the Most Impactful Breakthrough award for pioneering the use of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) on a long-haul flight from Africa to Europe in October 2023. The pilot flight was the first pathway to testing the use of SAF within Africa generating valuable data and insights that are to inform policy decisions, regulatory frameworks, and industry best practices.

“By playing a crucial role in the development of the registry, KQ contributes significantly to building trust and confidence in SAF as a

viable solution for minimizing aviation’s environmental impact,” notes Kenya Airways Group Managing Director and CEO Allan Kilavuka.

SAF is expected to account for up to 65% of the total carbon mitigation needed to achieve net zero carbon emissions in air transportation by 2050. The SAF registry that is to be rolled out in the first quarter of 2025 will enable airlines worldwide to buy sustainable aviation fuel regardless of where it is produced and have certainty they can claim the environmental benefits of the SAF they have purchased for regulatory compliance purposes.

“SAF is key to aviation’s decarbonization,” says Willie Walsh, IATA’s Director General. “Airlines want more SAF and stand ready to use every drop of it. The SAF Registry will help meet the critical needs of all stakeholders as part of the global effort to ramp up SAF production.”

The IATA’s Director General also notes that Governments need a trusted system to track the quality and quantities of SAF used. “SAF producers need to accurately account



Kenya Airways plane taking off at JKIA/FILE.

for what has been delivered and effectively decarbonized. Corporate customers must also be able to transparently account for their Scope 3 emissions. And airlines must have certainty that they can claim the environmental benefits of the SAF they purchased,” he reiterated.

The development of the registry is being supported in a pilot phase by seventeen national airlines; IAG airline group, six national authorities,

Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) Airbus, Boeing and GE Aerospace, and fuel producer World Energy.

These collaborations serve the specific purpose of ensuring compliance with the regulations set by civil aviation authorities such as ICAO’s CORSIA scheme and the EU ETS, as well as ensuring compliance with SAF mandates and providing transparency to authorities regarding

emissions reductions.

With its focus on compliance, transparency, and government collaboration, the registry will pave the way for a robust and accountable system that accelerates the use of SAF and facilitates a more sustainable future for the aviation industry.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Nurturing Innovation: The Future Of Kenya's Economy Lies In TVET Support

The recent National TVET Fair held at Nakuru's Nyayo Gardens provided a vivid glimpse into the future of Kenya's technical and vocational education and training (TVET) landscape. As I walked through the bustling grounds of the fair, I was struck by the sheer talent and creativity on display. Students from various TVET institutions across the country showcased an array of innovative projects that ranged from robotics to practical skills applications, leaving me with an indelible impression of the immense potential that lies within these young minds.

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) has long been touted as a crucial component for economic development, especially in a country like Kenya, which is striving to build a robust manufacturing sector and reduce unemployment rates. The fair served as a testament to the pivotal role that TVET institutions play in harnessing and nurturing the talent of the youth, ultimately equipping them with skills that are not only relevant but also necessary for the demands of the modern job market.

One standout exhibit was a robotics

project developed by a group of students from a local technical college. Their creation, an autonomous agricultural robot, was designed to assist small-scale farmers in planting and harvesting crops. The robot, capable of navigating uneven terrain and performing tasks with precision, demonstrated a clear understanding of the challenges faced by the agricultural sector and offered a practical solution. This innovation, if supported and scaled, could revolutionize farming practices in Kenya, enhancing productivity and efficiency.

Similarly, another group of students showcased a water purification system that utilized locally available materials. This system was not only cost-effective but also environmentally friendly, addressing the critical issue of clean water access in many rural areas. The ingenuity and practicality of these projects underscored the fact that TVET students are not just learning technical skills; they are applying them to solve real-world problems.

The government's role in supporting such innovations cannot be overstated. By investing in TVET programs and

providing adequate resources, the government can ensure that these bright minds continue to develop and refine their ideas. One of the primary ways the government can support TVET students is by increasing funding for these institutions. Enhanced funding would allow for the purchase of state-of-the-art equipment and materials, providing students with the tools they need to bring their concepts to life.

Moreover, creating a supportive ecosystem for innovation involves more than just financial investment. It requires the establishment of partnerships between TVET institutions and industries. Such collaborations would enable students to gain practical experience and exposure to the latest technological advancements. Industries, on the other hand, would benefit from the fresh perspectives and innovative solutions offered by the students. This symbiotic relationship could drive the growth of sectors like manufacturing, agriculture, and technology, positioning Kenya as a leader in these fields.

Another critical aspect of supporting TVET innovations is fostering a culture of entrepreneurship among

students. While some students may go on to work for established companies, others may choose to start their own ventures. Providing mentorship programs, business incubation centers, and access to funding can help these budding entrepreneurs turn their ideas into viable businesses. Encouraging entrepreneurship not only creates job opportunities but also stimulates economic growth by fostering a spirit of innovation and self-reliance.

The government should also focus on raising awareness about the importance of TVET education. Despite its significant potential, TVET is often undervalued compared to traditional academic paths. Changing societal perceptions through targeted campaigns and success stories can help attract more students to these programs, thereby expanding the pool of skilled professionals in the country.

The National TVET Fair was a clear indication that Kenya's future is bright, provided that the government and other stakeholders take the necessary steps to support and nurture this talent. The innovations showcased at the fair were not just impressive; they were solu-

tions tailored to address some of the most pressing issues facing the country today. From agriculture to clean water, these projects have the potential to make a significant impact on society.

The government's role in supporting TVET innovations is crucial for the country's advancement. By providing adequate funding, fostering industry partnerships, encouraging entrepreneurship, and changing societal perceptions, the government can create an environment where TVET students thrive. The talent and creativity displayed at the National TVET Fair in Nakuru's Nyayo Gardens are a testament to what can be achieved when young minds are given the opportunity to innovate and excel. With the right support, these students could very well be the driving force behind Kenya's progress and development in the years to come.

DAISY MORAA
RONGO UNIVERSITY

Crisis On School Feeding Programs

Ministry of Education complains about budget reduction from 5 billion to three 3 billion which may hinder school meal programs leading to concerns about nutrition in schools and the food programs may stop.

Education Ministry officials communicate on the program being slashed due to limited resources.

These feeding programs have benefited more than 2.6 million students. These programs are of importance from the students to their families back at home.

Families may strain to provide food for students who were being previously being provided for by the government which may lead to food

insecurity back at home.

Studies also show that school meal programmes are linked to better school attendance and academic performance. Cutting off the food programme will surely reduce the attendance of students in schools.

Immediately the school food programmes are stopped this may lead

to cancellation of such programs in some parts of the country leaving many students without meal support. These school meals should also not be looked down to because they play a crucial role as sources of nutrition to students.

The budget reduction can have a dangerous effect that impacts nutri-

tional well being of students and also educational outcomes.

Adrian Martin
Rongo university

Junior Secondary School Teachers' Contract Termination Is Undermining Government Plan To Curb Unemployment Crisis

Barely two days after obeying government call to end strike, are the Junior Secondary School teachers now jobless after Teachers Service Commission terminated their contract in what they mentioned as professional misconduct.

The JSS teachers had called for strike demanding better terms of employment including provision of permanent jobs.

In the letters of their termination

the TSC cited they were absence in working days without any reason.

The call to end strike came when the JSS teachers came into deliberation as they looked forward to national budget to be passed pending their recruitment on permanent deal.

Decision to sack these teachers not only affects their families but dragging back government plan to minimise unemployment by creating more jobs to Kenyans.

Recruitment of JSS teachers even though in contract basis had reduced the number of joblessness in the country which now has increased.

It's so unfortunate for employees to loose jobs while fighting for their rights besides they had agreed to resume work on Monday.

Instead of improving terms so as to motivate the JSS teachers deliver best services to millions of students, the commission is looking down on

them.

The big question is , how will students cope having in mind the number of JSS teachers on contract did not meet the requirement by schools.

It's time for President to intervene bearing in mind he is the one rallying the move to curb unemployment crisis. President should correct TSC and ensure JSS teachers not only get back their jobs but also recruitment on permanent deal.

By doing this government will meet its goals in minimising unemployment crisis in Kenya.

Willy Kiplangat, media student

UDA Party Holds Successful Grassroots Election Sensitization In Tharaka Nithi County

By: Mwenda Njeru
@themkenyentimes

The United Democratic Alliance (UDA) party held its second successful sensitization campaign in Tharaka Nithi County ahead of the second phase of polls scheduled for 28 and 29 this month in 13 counties.

The meeting held at Kajuki Eco-Lodge in Chuka/Igambang'ombe constituency witnessed a big turnout of enthusiastic aspirants among them elected leaders led by Deputy Governor Nyaga Muisrael and Ms Diana Mbuba who has already announced her bid for the Women Representative position in the 2027 polls.

The UDA party elections team led by the National Elections Board Vice-Chairperson Ms Veronica Chebet clearly explained the aspirants the election regulations and also agreed on the ground rules well before the elections.

Ms Gladys Chebet, a trainer explained that an aspirant has to apply for one position starting from a polling centre unless the elected leaders

can start from the level of their elective position.

She said those who will win at the polling centre will proceed to the ward elections and the same process will continue to the county level.

"The UDA Members of County Assembly can start at the ward level, Members of Parliament at constituency level and Senators, Women Representative, Deputy Governor and Governors can wait up to the county level," said Ms Chebet.

She noted that the UDA party is keen on gender balance, youth and people living with disabilities representation and urged the categories to apply in good numbers.

While calling for peaceful elections, Ms Chebet said aspirants who will not be contented with the election results will have to challenge within 48 hours else the outcome will be upheld.

Mr Muisrael and Ms Mbuba promised the party leadership of peaceful campaigns and grassroots elections.

"In 2022 elections, we were number two out of the 47 counties on the percentage of voters who voted for President William Ruto and that shows how much we value him and



Ms Diana Mbuba, Tharaka-Nithi County 2027 elections Women Representative hopeful speaking during UDA grassroots elections sensitisation meeting at Kajuki-Eco-Lodge. Photo/Mwenda Njeru

the UDA party," said Mr Muisrael.

Ms Mbuba assured President Ruto that even in 2027 the county residents will be solidly behind him and the county UDA candidates.

"We are ready for the grassroots elections and we assure our President of peaceful polls," said Ms Mbuba.

Also present was Ms Wanjia Karuku, a nominated MCA who asked the residents to continue supporting the Kenya Kwanza government and to join the UDA party.

Floriculture Transforms The Landscape Of Laikipia, With Economic And Aesthetic Benefits

By: Kenya News Agency

Over 500,000 people, including over 100,000 flower farm employees, depend on the industry, which has become a significant source of income for households in Manguo village, Nyahururu.

The demand for Kenyan flowers in European markets has led to major export opportunities, influencing flower farming both large-scale and small-scale.

Local farmers, like Margaret, are embracing sustainable practices and generating substantial revenue from the sale of flowers.

The industry has also positively impacted the environment and social fabric of Manguo, using organic farming practices to maintain soil health and reduce chemical runoff.

Floriculture has fostered community cohesion and women's empowerment, with women's groups benefiting financially and connecting with other women.

However, challenges such as poor working conditions and market insufficiency pose challenges for small-scale flower farmers.

The government need to focus on the responsible and safe production of cut flowers by considering workers' welfare and environmental protection.



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Sports >> *In President William Ruto’s second year in government, Treasury has allocated Ksh 16.5 billion to the sports industry for the financial year 2024/25

Massive Increase As Sports Fund Allocated Ksh 16.5 Billion In 2024/25 Financial Year



Sports Cabinet Secretary Ababu Namwamba with PS Peter Tum appearing before the National Assembly Committee on Sports. PHOTO/Timothy Olobulu.

In President William Ruto’s second year in government, Treasury has allocated Ksh 16.5 billion to the sports industry for the financial year 2024/25 read by Cabinet Secretary Prof. Njuguna Ndung’u in Parliament yesterday. Sports got the Lion’s share of the Ksh23.7 billion allocated to Sports and Tourism, where the Tourism Fund got Ksh4.9 billion and Ksh 2.2 billion given to Tourism Promotion Fund. This is a massive increase bud-

get allocated to the Sports, Arts and Social Development Fund compared to last year’s Ksh 6.4 billion. “We are also cognizant of the brand value of Kenyans participating and excelling in international sports arena, I propose an allocation of Ksh16.5 billion to the Sports, Arts and Social Development Fund,” Prof. Njuguna read. The monies will come in handy especially in facilitating of the construction and renovations

of the stadia that are underway as the Ministry of Sports rush against time to beat the Confederation of African Football (CAF) deadline ahead of the inspection of the facilities marked to host the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations. The funds will also be available to facilitate national teams and sports activities slated in the financial year including the hosting of the iconic 2025 WRC Safari Rally, World Athletics Championships slated for Tokyo,

Japan and local events.
Citizen Sport

Sports >>> *Recently-minted world 10,000 metres record holder Beatrice Chebet and fast-rising Daniel Mateiko will lead a stellar cast of Kenyan athletes in the 25-lap race at next month's Paris Olympic Games.

Chebet, Mateiko To Lead Kenya's 10,000m All-Star Cast For Paris Games



Beatrice Chebet of Team Kenya wins the women's 10,000-meter run with a world record during the Wanda Diamond League Prefontaine Classic at Hayward Field on May 25, 2024 in Eugene, Oregon. Steph Chambers/Getty Images/AFP

Recently-minted world 10,000 metres record holder Beatrice Chebet and fast-rising Daniel Mateiko will lead a stellar cast of Kenyan athletes in the 25-lap race at next month's Paris Olympic Games.

The two, who ruled the Prefontaine Classic last month to automatically book slots in Team Kenya, were part of the team unveiled by Athletics Kenya on Thursday at Riadha House in Nairobi ahead of the Games set to kick off on July 26.

The women's roster also includes Lillian Kasait and Margaret Chelimo while the men's line up will also comprise of Nicholas Kimeli and Bernard Kibet.

Chebet, who is also the World

Cross Country champion and World 5km record holder, obliterated the women's 10,000 metres world record by nearly seven seconds with a time of 28 minutes 54.14 seconds during the Prefontaine Classic, where Athletics Kenya used the event to select its team for the Summer Games.

She pulled away with three laps to go, then poured herself into the final lap as she beat the previous record of 29:01.03 set by Ethiopian Letesenbet Gidey three years ago.

Kasait took third in 29:26.89 behind Ethiopian Gudaf Tsegay who timed 29:05.92 to finish second while Chelimo placed fourth.

Mateiko, who is also the reigning Ras Al Khaimah Half Marathon

champion, stunned a star studded field to win the men's 10,000m race at the Prefontaine Classic in a world lead of 26:50.81.

Kimeli was second at 26:50.94 with a personal best on track while Kibet completed the podium in 26:51.9.

AK decided to stick with Kibet after bigwigs stumbled during the trials including Kibiwott Kandie, Stanley Waithaka, Benson Kiplangat, Bethwel Kurgat and Daniel Simiu, who was the pre-trials favourite.

The six selected athletes have their work cut out as they hunt the 10,000metres' elusive gold medal at the Summer Games.

Kenya last won gold medal in the men's category in 1968 during the

Mexico City Games through late Naftali Temu but the country is yet to win the women's title since the 25-lap race was introduced in the Games in 1988.

Only Sally Kipyego and Vivian Cheruiyot came close when they settled for silver medals at the 2012 London and 2016 Rio Games respectively.

Citizen Sport

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New Uzbekistan - In My Eyes



By: MOHLAROYIM
Haydarova
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- From the markets, I'm fine Uzbek to mosques, from pilaf to intricate sozani fabrics every aspect of their culture speaks to me and is in my being resonates deeply. I am proud to be an Uzbek child one aspect is our sense of community and hospitality.
- In Uzbekistan, guests are treated with great respect, with open arms welcome. The concept of "hotel" or "friendship" is deeply embedded in our culture, hospitality and reflects our tradition of generosity. This is the spirit of hospitality I have compassion, empathy and solidarity with others taught me the importance and that I grew up in such a warm and welcoming environment I am grateful.

A look at the lively streets of Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan as I throw it, I see a changing scene. Central The changes that are being implemented in this Asian country amazing, of course, and I, as a young Uzbek girl, "New I am proud to witness the birth of "Uzbekistan".

Many reforms are being implemented in Uzbekistan. That's it along with this; there is also a period of cultural revival. Traditional traditions and values are celebrated and preserved. Me as a proud Uzbek, inspired by the rich history and heritage of my country, seeing how it is interpreted and revived in the 21st century, I'm excited.

From the ancient cities of Samarkand and Bukhara, Across Uzbekistan up to the Solim Mountains of the Tien-Shan range while traveling, my heart was filled with feelings of hope for the future.

With historical monuments, colorful markets, warm hospitality the beauty of my country is to build a more prosperous and peaceful society inspires work on the way.

I am a vibrant and colorful city with a rich history dating back centuries that I am an Uzbek child who is part of a different culture I am proud since I grew up in Uzbekistan, the traditions, customs and values that shaped my identity and outlook I am surrounded by a unique harmony.

From the markets, I'm fine Uzbek to mosques, from pilaf to intricate sozani fabrics every aspect of their culture speaks to me and is in my being resonates deeply. I am proud to be an Uzbek child one aspect is our sense of community and hospitality.

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our culture, hospitality and reflects our tradition of generosity. This is the spirit of hospitality I have compassion, empathy and solidarity with others taught me the importance and that I grew up in such a warm and welcoming environment I am grateful.

As I mentioned above, it is the first in New Uzbekistan one of the most vivid changes taking place is the economy attention to development and modernization has increased again.

Foreign in our country under the leadership of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev investment attraction, infrastructure improvement, tourism and agriculture a number of reforms aimed at improving sectors such as the economy is being implemented. As a result, young people like me can achieve our dreams and contribute to the development of our country opportunities are emerging.

Moreover, in today's rapidly developing world the importance of education and science cannot be overestimated. Complicated as we navigate global challenges and technological advances, nurturing a passion for learning and innovation in our youth very important.

To introduce them to the fields of education and science motivation is not only knowledge and skills for success not only to arm themselves with, but also for themselves and the whole society gives strength to form a better future.

The main development of interest in education and science among young people One of the strategies is "early" exposure. Children of the natural world to introduce their miracles, encourage them to ask questions, practical providing them with experiences that instill in them a thirst

for knowledge formation of interests plays an important role.

Mentorship and example in instilling love for education and science in young people display is also important. Students in various fields connect with experts, showcase different career paths, and providing hands-on learning opportunities in education and real life helps to bridge the gap between implementation.

Coaching relationship development and guidance and support by inviting young people to explore their interests, to achieve their goals and fully reveal their potential can be given.

Let's pay special attention to "New Uzbekistan" special attention is paid to education and innovation let's talk about. Universities and scientific institutions are international cooperating with organizations, we have experts in various fields created new opportunities for learning and cooperation.

A woman in a traditionally male-dominated society as I received it to pursue my education and goals

Thank you for your support and encouragement. We to the youth the possibilities are endless. Some may say, "No opportunities are not for me", "I can't use them, I can't use them". You have already been given a chance.

You feel it you may not be doing it. For example, the most given to me a great opportunity opened in 2017 in the city of Gulistan, Sirdarya region I was accepted to the art school named after Halima Khudoiberdiyeva.

Years passed, and I realized that I had entered the creative school the greatest opportunity I have been given to achieve my goals it is. Of course, I gave myself this opportunity.

ty. You don't stop with study, action and aspiration. Waiting for an opportunity to be created is - is stupidity. You create a chance for yourself.

Only then our country, our President will hand you a magic key and through those keys you will achieve your goals. Of course it's you is the key to the door of opportunities created.

The development of the country is in the hands of the youth. Every day, every hour, we have to live by asking ourselves questions every moment. "I am the Motherland what am I doing, what have I done." The only question is you that you do not stop on the path of difficulties and are worthy of the Motherland will help you become a child. "I am a patriotic person."

To say it all, first of all, we have a job worthy of these words we should be doing. 100 years ago to Germany "By studying in Germany, I will bring science and innovation to my country" the young people who left and those 70 who were shot dead when they returned to their homeland students are true patriots.

From his peace and comfort, the hearts that left their families and called for the Motherland are always in our memory. Bringing reforms to science in modernizing Uzbekistan we are the ones who enter, promote and take it to the world level - today's youth. A wave in an era of rapid development we must swim together.

It's time to think not about yourself, but about our Motherland!

MOHLAROYIM Haydarova,
11th grade student of creative school named after Halima Khudoiberdiyeva.