



**Zambia Inks Smart City Deal With Mwale As Bezos-Backed Firm Eyes Copper Mining**  
Zambia's Industrial Development Corporation (IDC\_ has signed a deal with Kenyan tycoon Julius Mwale to support the development of smart cities, mining, infrastructure, and agriculture

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**News>> CoG Faults Plot To Revert Health Function To National Government**

P. 8. CoG has raised concerns over a fresh bid to revert the health function to the National Government



**News>> Unlocking The Full Potential Of The Floriculture Industry**

P. 12. The government is in the process of enacting the Carbon Credit Trading and Benefit Sharing Bill of 2023. This proposed legislation aims to create a robust regulatory framework for carbon credit trading and benefit-sharing.

# Gov't And Development Partners To Form Taskforce

**The Government and Development Partners have agreed to form a taskforce to look into hastening absorption of donor funds allocated to various programmes across the country. They will also work on enhancing the country's resilience against negative effects of Climate Change and other challenges hampering the nation's social-economic growth.**



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua addressing the forum yesterday

STORY ON PAGE 9

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# MPs Question Ongoing Demolition Of Structures Along Riparian Land

By: PSCU



Starehe MP, Amos Mwago

**Worth Noting:**

- Mwago alleged that the demolition process has been carried out using excessive force and without proper planning rendering the victims homeless and on the streets.
- He faulted the Government for not providing the displaced persons with alternative housing facilities while also questioning the compensation plans that were in place.
- “These demolitions are taking place without a clear and transparent compensation plan. The purported compensation appears to only target a few individuals.” Mwago informed the House.

Starehe MP, Amos Mwago yesterday raised alarm over the ongoing demolition of property on riparian land in his constituency.

“Hon Speaker, in May 2024 the Government directed that all structures put up on riparian land be demolished following the heavy rains that have caused flooding across the country,” stated Mwago.

“However the manner in which these demolitions are carried out are deeply concerning and raises and questions about the respect for human rights,” the MP added.

The Starehe Legislator requested for a statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Lands and the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee of Internal Security.

Mwago alleged that the demolition process has been carried out using excessive force and without proper planning rendering the victims homeless and on the

streets.

He faulted the Government for not providing the displaced persons with alternative housing facilities while also questioning the compensation plans that were in place.

“These demolitions are taking place without a clear and transparent compensation plan. The purported compensation appears to only target a few individuals.” Mwago informed the House.

Embakasi West MP, Mark Mwenje while contributing to the matter decried the distressing impact that the demolition was causing in society.

“The situation as it is Honourable Speaker is quite dire because the Government is creating Internally Displaced Persons instead of protecting and creating housing for society,” stated Mwenje.

He further urged the government to come clear on the policies that stipulate the distance from rivers that can be

considered as riparian land as it was not clear with different distances being implemented in different areas.

Ruaraka MP, TJ Kajwang on his part questioned the establishment of the Nairobi Rivers Commission which is spearheading the demolitions and restoration of riparian land by the President through a gazette Notice.

This Commission, he stated is unlawful and unconstitutional as only the Houses of Parliament have the powers of delegating legislation.

Kajwang also faulted the disparity in the way the Commission was going about demolishing property as only those living in the less affluent Eastlands region of Nairobi were affected by the demolition.

Dagoretti North MP, Beatrice Elachi also echoed Kajwang’s sentiments taking notice of the discrimination being used to undertake the demolition and compensation processes.

“The two Committee Chairpersons should furnish before this house a list of all the property on riparian land that is to be demolished as well as a list of all those who are to be compensated,” suggested Elachi.



Editor's Desk

**The Mt. Kenya Times**

**The Mt Kenya Times** is a Kenyan Newspaper that provides a unified view of Kenyan news, entrepreneurship, events, opinions, analysis, and a historical background to current affairs in a way that is both creative and innovative. It is published by **Exponential International Limited**, a Private Limited Liability company incorporated in Kenya to provide Communications and Media services.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF



Energy Cabinet Secretary Davis Chirchir and Principal Secretary for Parliamentary Affairs Aurelia Rono led a sensitization forum for the Vision 2030 Medium-Term Plan IV (MTP IV) in Bomet. The forum, attended by Bomet County Commissioner Dr. Omar Ahmed, heads of departments, and county officials, is a crucial step in advancing the government's agenda for sustainable development and economic transformation. The MTP IV serves as a blueprint for progress and a roadmap for sustainable development, aligning with the government's Bottom-up Economic Transformation model. It aims to foster economic turnaround and inclusive growth by adopting a value chain approach. The overarching objectives include reducing the cost of living, eradicating hunger, and promoting exclusive growth. The MTP IV is the cornerstone of the government's economic agenda, aiming to create 1.2 million new jobs annually and expand the tax base through targeted investments in key sectors.



Kericho Chief Officer Geoffrey Bett has urged parents of children with disabilities to accept them and provide them with education to enhance their productivity in society. Bett noted that many parents are reluctant to take their disabled children to school due to stigma and discrimination, which contributes to their unproductiveness. Bett encouraged parents to ensure their disabled children attend school to realise their independence and push them to their full potential. He also called on organisations and institutions to allocate job opportunities to the disabled, as they deserve equal opportunities in their chosen careers.



**Woman handed one year in jail term for stealing 13 pineapples**  
Sarah Nyambura, 25, was found guilty of theft and sentenced to 1 year imprisonment by a Kenol Court.

Senior Resident Magistrate, Sheila Nyaga heard the case, which involved the theft of 13 pineapples worth Sh1300 from a Delmonte Kenya farm.

The prosecution noted that Nyambura was a repeat offender, having been charged in the same court for the same offense in 2023.

The court also noted her tendency to recruit minors to assist her in the crime. Nyambura pleaded guilty and requested leniency, stating that she had stolen to pay school fees for her two school-going children.

The court sentenced her to 1 year imprisonment.

Busia woman representative Catherine Omanyo has launched a water harvesting programme in schools to address the problem of unstable water supply during the dry season. The initiative aims to reduce learners' time spent searching for water, promoting a culture of resourcefulness and sustainability. Omanyo is committed to ensuring all schools in the county have running water and seeks partners to drill over 20 boreholes by the end of this year. The water crisis is attributed to the prolonged dry spell, which has depleted water tables and rendered boreholes ineffective. Currently, water coverage in primary schools in Busia stands at 58 per cent, according to USAID Dumisha Afya, with at least seven schools urgently requiring water facilities.



Potato farming is a profitable business in Nyandarua County, with the most common varieties being the Shangi potato and the Kenya Karibu potato. The Shangi potato, known for its cream-white flesh and shallow to medium pink eyes, It grows in 90 days, so it can be harvested before it reaches full maturity. The Kenya Karibu potato, with its strong stems and dark green leaves, is known for its pink flowers and disease resistance. It grows tall, slightly above 1 metre in height, and is suitable for chipping, crisping, boiling, and mashing. Potato commercialization can provide farmers with income and economic welfare, enhancing their living standards and providing employment opportunities. They are used to make medicine for diabetes, high blood pressure, and indigestion. Potatoes also make pancakes, dumplings, soups, and salads.



# NEWS PAPER

IN BUSINESS

# The Mount Kenya Times

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# Let Us Integrate Art In Learning For Well-Rounded Individuals



By: Gladys Sigei

@themtkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- Typically, the Arts (Fine Arts, Drama, Music) are often taught as specific skills and abilities to help children with the development of motor skills, language skills, social skills etc. Lately teachers are weaving the arts into the curriculum to teach subjects such as Mathematics, History, Literature with excellent results.
- When children are younger, arts education helps develop their capacity for collaboration, for creativity, and even for asking questions.



Integrate Art In Learning

Art is one of the universal languages that all human beings understand and use to communicate. We use art to understand who we are, our places in the world, the meaning of our lives, to express ourselves and to speak to others across time and place.

Art in one form or the other is demonstrated in all cultures of the world making it a unifying factor in a very divergent world. The power of the Visual Arts to enrich human experience and society is recognized and celebrated throughout the world. Human beings have an essential drive to create and understand visual imagery.

This drive is one of the basic traits that make us human.

Integrating this intrinsic drive into the

learning curriculum can only improve the learning experience and produce well-rounded individuals. Using art creatively as a teaching medium can help learners visualize difficult concepts in various subjects making them easier to understand.

Typically, the Arts (Fine Arts, Drama, Music) are often taught as specific skills and abilities to help children with the development of motor skills, language skills, social skills etc. Lately teachers are weaving the arts into the curriculum to teach subjects such as Mathematics, History, Literature with excellent results.

When children are younger, arts education helps develop their capacity for collaboration, for creativity, and even

for asking questions.

As they get older, their executive function is much more developed, their ability to sustain attentional tasks is much greater. Arts education offers the chance to refine and polish a skill over time or revise a project until it is as good as it can be.

For students who have trouble expressing their thoughts and ideas through their writing, drawing and labelling pictures that represent their opinions can help them to organise ideas into a coherent concept. It can be an excellent in-between step for children that are just learning to write, or a way for older children who are more visually oriented to solidify their ideas before they write them down. Visual

prompts make it easier to understand texts and inject some creativity into 'dry' subjects.

Engaging physically with the educational material can help students ground new information in familiar experiences. It can also enable students to dig deeper into units of study and truly understand a concept.

Acting out a scene in a history book, making a musical, role playing, graffiti conversations and making models are all ways that provide an opportunity for children to be active participants in understanding a topic.

For many learners, rote memorization is challenging. People have used music to help them memorize since well before the invention of "The Alphabet Song."

Integrating the arts across subjects and having groups write small simple songs to remember different things for example, the stages of photosynthesis or our solar system's planets can help with memorization. These songs performed for the class provide a break in regular learning and is also a fun way of involving the entire class.

Despite the divergence between arts and sciences, research has shown that the learning of science may be enhanced by relationships with the arts. The "Art" in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) was added as a recognition of the ability of art to inspire creativity in scientific thinking, educate young learners in a holistic manner, and offer another pathway for making and communicating meaning.

Gladys Sigei, Arts Teacher at Crawford International School

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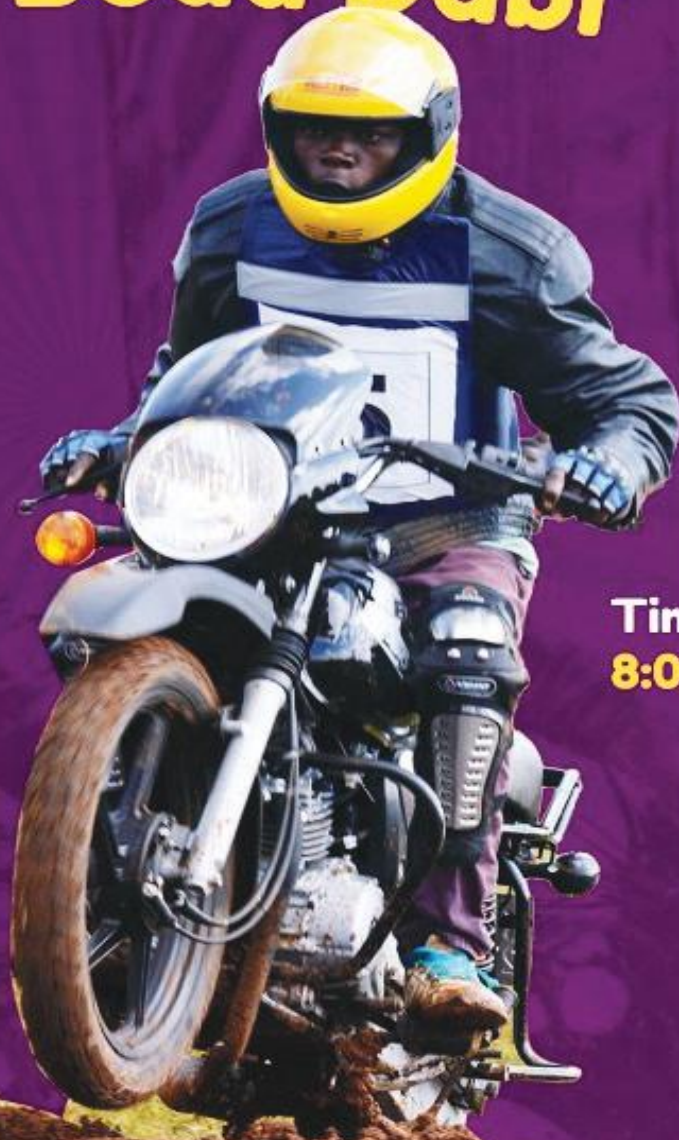


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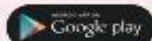
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# CoG Faults Plot To Revert Health Function To National Government

By: Mwenda Njeru  
 @themtkenyatimes

The Council of Governors (CoG) has raised concerns over a fresh bid to revert the health function to the National Government through what it terms a ‘calculated smear campaign painting the devolved units as incapable’.

The CoG is also accusing the National Government of denying them their equitable share now crossing the Sh100 billion mark, a few days to the end of the 2023/2024 Financial Year.

The CoG Health Committee Chairperson and Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki said that as it stands, counties have not received their equitable share from the National Government for three months, including June.

Responding to a series of questions from journalists as a follow-up to a sustained media campaign on counties’ non-remittance of debts to the country’s medicine supplies authority- KEMSA, Governor Njuki ques-



Council of Governors' Health Committee Chairperson and Tharaka-Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki addressing journalists

tioned the motive behind the push, yet it is the national government that has not released resources to coun-

ties. According to Governor Njuki, the messaging around the debts owed

by counties to KEMSA had the hallmarks of a well-thought-out and executed scheme, keen on painting coun-

ties in bad blood.

“If the National Government stuck to the law and gave us our resources on the 15th of every month, no county would have a single debt,” said the governor.

He continued; “A debt is not bad. The agreement we have with KEMSA allows counties a 90-day repayment period. Doesn’t that marry with the period counties haven’t received their equitable share?”

There has been a clamor by some officials at the national government to take over the health function and manage it from Nairobi as was before the advent of the 2010 constitution, but governors have stayed put, variously expressing gains made under devolution.

Njuki noted that counties would not hesitate to clear debts owed to KEMSA immediately after they receive their share of revenue, but also reminded the National Government to settle a Sh2 billion pledge to KEMSA to capacitate the medical agency. Counties owe KEMSA about Sh3 billion in arrears.

# Judiciary Committed To Enhancing Green Justice, CJ Koome

By: MKT Correspondent  
 @themtkenyatimes

Chief Justice Martha Koome has commissioned a multi-sectoral working group which aims to prioritise access to Justice on environmental and climate change related matters in Nairobi County.

The group aims to incorporate green justice principles, embed environmental sustainability into operations, procedures, and decision-making processes, including administrative and judicial actions.

The group comprises key stakeholders in the environment and planning sectors and is committed to putting people at the centre of all actions.

The CJ praised the working group for incorporating Alternative Justice Systems (AJS) in resolving disputes filed in the division, which has pro-

ven instrumental in deepening access to justice and promoting reconciliation.

The initiative was a direct outcome of the commitments made at the ELC@10 Conference held in December 2022.

The working group, headed by the Head of the EP Division Nairobi, aims to develop comprehensive guidelines and best practices for fair and efficient resolution processes, educate the public and stakeholders about their rights and responsibilities, and promote inclusivity by engaging with diverse constituencies such as women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, indigenous and minority communities, and residents of low-income areas.



Chief Justice Martha Koome

# Gov't And Development Partners To Form Taskforce On Donor Funded Programmes

By: DPCS



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua with some of the development partners representatives

## Worth Noting:

- The meeting was attended by the Co-chairs of Development Partnership Forum Sebastian Groth (German Ambassador to Kenya) and Dr Stephen Jackson (UN Resident Co-ordinator) were also present, Head of Public Service Felix Koskei, Cabinet Secretaries, Ambassadors and Heads of Missions, top Government officials and representative of various agencies.
- “We recognise that improving absorption rates of funds require addressing challenges on both sides in project implementation, and ensuring timely disbursement and utilisation of funds,” said the Deputy President.
- The taskforce, comprising government and development partner representatives, will be mandated to work on and address challenges such as absorption funds and grants.

The Government and Development Partners have agreed to form a taskforce to look into hastening absorption of donor funds allocated to various programmes across the country. They will also work on enhancing the country’s resilience against negative effects of Climate Change and other challenges hampering the nation’s social-economic growth.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua yesterday said the formation of the taskforce is part of steps being taken by the Kenya Kwanza administration to enhance government’s collaboration with the Development Partners and accelerate socio-economic growth.

“We encourage continuous engagement with our development partners. President Ruto administration modus operandi is continuous engagement with our partners and so far it has worked very well for us. We have removed the bottlenecks that frustrated our engagement. The President has spelt out the need to lessen bureaucracy and red tapes so that we can make progress in our partnership,” said Gachagua.

He spoke when he hosted the Second Development Partnership Forum at Official Residence in Karen, Nairobi.

The meeting was attended by the Co-chairs of Development Partnership Forum Sebastian Groth (German Ambassador to Kenya) and Dr Stephen Jackson (UN Resident Co-

ordinator) were also present, Head of Public Service Felix Koskei, Cabinet Secretaries, Ambassadors and Heads of Missions, top Government officials and representative of various agencies.

“We recognise that improving absorption rates of funds require addressing challenges on both sides in project implementation, and ensuring timely disbursement and utilisation of funds,” said the Deputy President.

The taskforce, comprising government and development partner representatives, will be mandated to work on and address challenges such as absorption funds and grants.

Asking the taskforce to move with speed in addressing the challenges, Mr Gachagua said he and Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi will continue meeting at the High Level Consultation Forum, which they co-chair, to deal with impediments that may be hindering expeditious implementation of the agreed development programmes.

A joint statement read by the Principal Secretary State Department for National Treasury, Dr Chris Kiptoo, after the meeting indicated that both Government and the Development Partners agreed that absorption of committed funds and loans has not been at its optimal level.

He said both parties have common desire to address the challenges and obstacles hindering the absorption

of funds.

At the Forum, the Kenyan Government and its development partners agreed to mandate the taskforce (comprising government and development partner representatives), which will work to identify concrete recommendations on how to address key challenges including those related to absorption capacities such as counterpart funding, human resource capacities and competencies, use of harmonized principles for more effective and efficient use of financial resources.

Further, they agreed that the taskforce will present these recommendations to Cabinet for approval and report back at the next Development Partnership Forum (DPF),” said Dr Kiptoo.

Both parties, he stated, also agreed to give more visibility and importance to Development Partners’ support; including support that does not flow in the form of direct budget,

and strive to align their projects with the Government core development priorities (Bottom-Up economic Transformation Agenda).

Dr Kiptoo added that both the Government and Development groups encouraged stepping up efforts to achieve concrete results towards enhanced resilience at the relevant levels in Kenya in an inclusive and gender-responsive manner.

This, he said, will include considering building of buffers and more flexible funding that allows reprogramming in response to potential risks or shocks.

He stated that the partnership embodies the vision of the Government of Kenya and that of the Development Partners to harness the potential to further strengthen and consolidate their joint comprehensive partnership in all areas of bilateral and multilateral endeavours.

In his remarks, the Deputy President urged Kenya’s Development Partners to support the Government’s efforts to consolidate information on all the support provided to Kenya, whether on or off-budget.

He said this will enhance efficient, fair allocation and distribution of resources across the various sectors.

“The Government is grateful for the emergency support provided by the development partners, private sector, civil society, and well-wishers during the recent devastating floods in the country,” DP Gachagua said.

He added that many of the partners provided their material and in-kind support through UN Agencies and the Kenya Red Cross, the Kenya Private Sector Alliance Foundation, and numerous community and religious organisations.

Co-chair of the Development Partnership Forum, Dr Stephen Jackson, who is also the UN Resident Coordinator in Kenya, commended the Government for working closely with the non-state development agencies and said the Development Partners are committed to continue supporting government and enhance transparency and accountability.



## The Sign Of Holiness Pt 2



By: Eric Musa  
EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

You want to cast out devils? Build yourself up and use your heavenly language (praying in new tongues). He gives it to you for several reasons: the first, to talk to Him with; and the second, to edify yourself, to build up yourself. If you do that, you will be doing what God says to do.

If you are sick, Jesus will heal you—every time for everybody—if they will receive it. But you have no right to judge God by how He deals with your friends. Once you refuse to do what Jesus tells you, refuse to trust Him and do your own thing, that is when you allow seducing devils and doctrines of devils to come in and cause you to believe all sorts of things. Faith is not seen. I do not cast out demons because I see or smell

or feel something. I cast them out because the Word of God tells me to cast them out. It is by faith that you do things for God. When you depart from faith, you open the door for seducing spirits. Your mind is in danger of being sucked up by the devil.

Because you are not believing the right thing, you will accept the wrong thing. There is great power in the right believing. God does not honor wondering. He honors faith. If Jesus tells you to do something, you had better do it. Right before Jesus went to heaven, He said, ...they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover... (Mark 16:18). Then He went right on to heaven. Yet there are ministers who will tell their congregations, "That's not the way we do things around here."

I know God does not think too highly of that attitude. If you refuse to obey Jesus, you are in trouble with God already. It does not matter what is involved. Get started in obedience. Nothing is too difficult or too hard for the Lord.

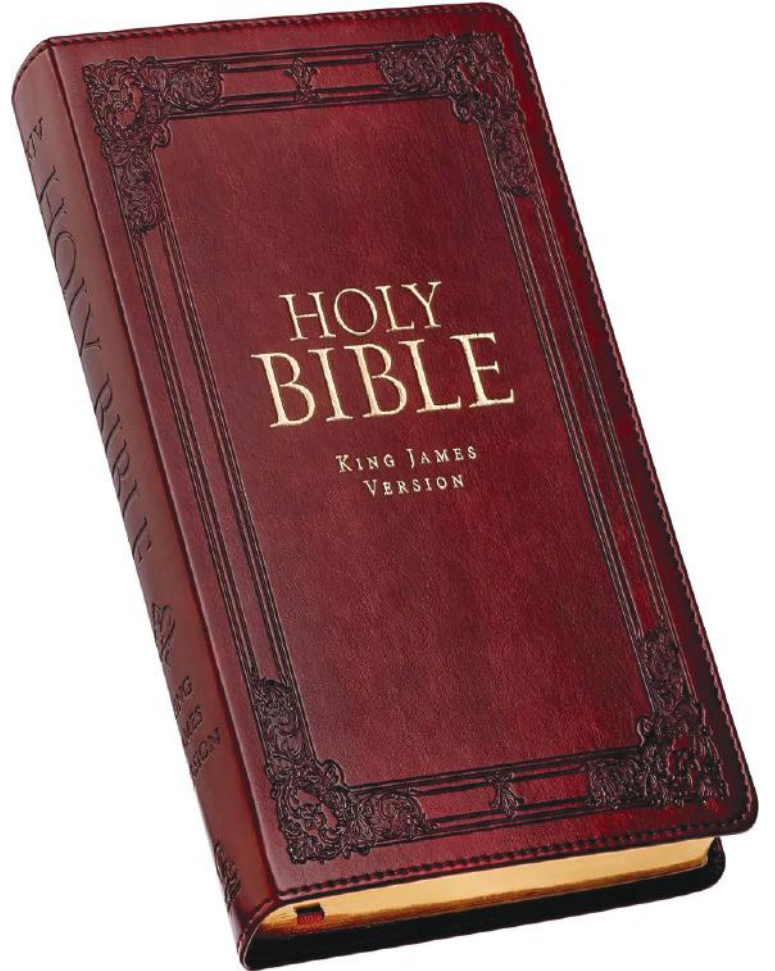
Submit to God, surrender to the Holy Spirit; to His counsel, guid-

ance, strengthening, Christening/ sanctification, righteousness and help. The Almighty God promised us the gift of the Holy Spirit, WHO will always be with us( John 14:16, John 15, Romans 8 :26-28).

BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE LIVING GOD: HALELUJAH.

### 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.*



## The Mt. Kenya Times



# National Assembly Education Committee Questions Higher Education PS On University Funding Model

By: Our Reporter  
 @themtkenyatimes



The National Assembly Committee on Education has questioned Ministry of Education officials over the implementation of the University Funding model and the state of University admissions.

In a meeting chaired by Tinderet MP Julius Melly, Committee members met with Dr. Beatrice Muganda Inyangala, PS, State Department for Higher Education and Research, Dr. Agnes Wathome, Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service (KUCCPS) CEO, Mr. Geoffrey Monari, Universities Fund, and Mr. Charles Ringera, CEO, Higher Education Loans Board.

Lawmakers raised concerns about the the University Funding model's reliance on data sources including KRA, NHIF, and mobile network providers could disadvantage students from rural areas and those in informal employment sectors where formal registration might be limited.

"How accurate is the means-testing instrument?" asked Kibra MP Peter Orero.

The committee questioned the accuracy of the data collected for the funding model, particularly for students in rural areas with limited access to formal employment and social programs.

"Does this funding model take into account people who don't have NHIF or KRA or even IDs, People in rural areas

don't have these documents," stated Lugari MP Nabii Nabwera.

He was echoed by Kasipul Kabodo MP Eve Obara who raised alarm over the accuracy of the needs assessment process used to determine student financial aid eligibility.

"This funding model that the Ministry is using, are the variables verifiable?" asked Obara.

According to submissions by PS Inyangala, in the new funding model, students are assessed and placed in financial aid bands that determine the percentage of their university fees covered by scholarships, loans provided by the Higher Education Loans Board, HELB, and household contributions.

On his part, Mr. Charles Ringera, CEO, Higher Education Loans Board, informed the Committee that multiple data sources are used to verify applicant information and in the funding model,

including the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), National Integrated Population Registry Service (NIPRS), Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), and National Employment Authority (NEA).

Education committee members further put the Ministry to task over its poor communication to University learners regarding the tuition fees expected.

The committee noted that parents had received admission letters without a clear breakdown of government scholarships, HELB and their contribution as per the funding model.

"The University admission letters with huge figures are causing panic in parents and students," stated Melly, criticizing the lack of clear communication by the Ministry and calling for the withdrawal of the University admission letters.

The Members of Parliament directed that the University admission letters should be withdrawn and new ones is-

sued with detailed breakdown of exact tuition fee including government scholarships, HELB and contribution per household

Members of the Education Committee, recounted details of parents, particularly those representing the most vulnerable students, were discouraged from applying for funding due to this lack of clarity on whether they will receive aid.

Committee members also highlighted instances where students were placed in funding bands beyond their families' means, leading to university rejections.

Speaking on the Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service (KUCCPS) application portal, legislators further pointed out challenges with the KUCCPS application portal.

"Is the KUCCPS portal operational?" asked Clive Gisairo of Kitutu Masaba constituency, following reports of delays in the application process that have

locked out students.

"The portal is not working," remarked committee Vice Chair and Malava MP Malulu Ijendi, pointing to technical glitches encountered by users during the application process on the KUCCPS platform.

Dr. Beatrice Muganda Inyangala PS, State Department for Higher Education and Research acknowledged the concerns raised by the Committee and pledged to address them.

"We acknowledge they are done gaps in this process that is why we have an appeals process," PS Inyangala stated.

The Principal Secretary for Higher Education, CEO Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service and the HELB CEO are expected to appear before the Committee on Tuesday next week.

The committee on Education has demanded a demonstration of the KUCCPS portal and the University funding model from the Ministry officials at the next meeting.

"At the next meeting we want you to physically demonstrate the portal application process and the use of the university funding model. We also want a proper fees structure for students inclusive of subsidies offered" stated the committee chairperson while concluding the meeting.

The committee has also directed the Ministry to provide details on funds allocated to Public Universities.

# Prison Farms And Enterprises Set For Revamp

By: John Kariuki  
 @themtkenyatimes

serving their respective sentences.

"The fact that 8,500 inmates were trained in various vocational trades where 25 borstal boys and 5 borstal girls were trained and tested with a further 56 borstal boys waiting for trade tests exam in December 2024 series is testament, that our correctional facilities are more than just places of confinement, but also avenues for rehabilitation and personal development." She observed.

In efforts aimed at ensuring self-sustenance amid budget constraints, the PS said the State Department is working on modernizing Prison industries to enhance their capacity and competitiveness.

This even as she urged those tasked with managing the enterprises to improve standards and improve production to sustain operations across prison farms and industries.

"How can we be better organized to produce more and do things better?" she posed.

On environment and climate change



The government has prioritized the regeneration of prison industries and farms as part of ongoing efforts to revamp the enterprise.

Speaking at the Prison Staff Training College in Ruiru during a meeting with Kenya Prisons Service farm managers and in charge of industries, Correctional Services Principal Secretary Dr Salome Beacco said restoration of the enterprises remain at the heart of ongoing reforms targeting correctional facilities.

According to the PS, the envisaged reforms within prison industries and farms, will ensure inmates benefit from vocational and agricultural training resulting in comprehensive rehabilitation and reformation of offenders with the aim of easing their integration back into the society after

mitigation, the PS urged farm managers to work towards achieving the target of planting 100 million trees annually, expand orchards and produce more tree seedlings.

"In pursuant to the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda the farming programs are designed to support food production," observed the PS.

Under the National Landscape and Ecosystem restoration to grow 15 billion trees by 2032, there are current-

ly 2,747,095 seedlings in the Kenya Prisons Service nurseries of which 1,232,660 are mature for planting while some 670,072 seedlings have been planted within prisons' land in the last three months.

The enterprise has also initiated programs to produce potato in Nyanjira, Maize milling at the Naivasha prison, Rice milling in Mwea as well as the establishment of orchards in Kamiti, Ngeria, Nakuru Main prison, Makueni and Maranjau prisons.

In aligning with the government digital payment platform (e-citizen) the PS announced that the prison enterprise has amalgamated all 210 pay bills to one government pay bill 222222 for all revenue collection with all payments now cashless through eCitizen, EFT and corporate cheques.

The PS was accompanied by the Commissioner General of Prisons Brig (Rtd) John K. Warioba

# Unlocking The Full Potential Of The Floriculture Industry

By: Wangari Ndirangu  
 @themtkenyatimes

**Worth Noting:**

- “The theme of this year’s Expo is Sustainability resonates deeply with the government’s commitment to nurturing Kenya’s floriculture,” the PS said.
- “Sustainability is not just a buzzword; it is our shared responsibility. We protect both our industry and our environment,” Dr Dakota added, noting that the government is actively promoting eco-friendly practices such as integrated pest management, water conservation, and organic fertilisation as well as encouraging farmers to adopt renewable energy sources and minimise their carbon footprint.
- He said that Kenya’s floriculture sector has propelled the country to become a global leader in floriculture, contributing significantly to the economy, creating jobs, and enhancing the livelihoods of over 2 million Kenyans.



State Department for Cabinet Affairs Principal Secretary Dr Idris Salim Dokota and other stakeholders yesterday.

The government is in the process of enacting the Carbon Credit Trading and Benefit Sharing Bill of 2023.

This proposed legislation aims to create a robust regulatory framework for carbon credit trading and benefit-sharing.

It will also establish an Authority to oversee legislative measures that significantly benefit the floriculture sector providing for the registration and regulation of carbon trading businesses, and setting up a Carbon Credit Trading Tribunal to address disputes.

Speaking yesterday when opening the 11th International Floriculture Trade Expo (IFTEX) at the Oshwal Centre, State Department for Cabinet Affairs Principal Secretary Dr Idris Salim Dokota said that the amended Climate Act now establishes a national carbon registry in Kenya and regulates the trade in carbon credits.

“This framework will ensure transparency and accountability in our carbon trading endeavours and with this, our flower farms can also generate additional revenue by engaging in carbon credit projects,” he added.

He explained that Kenya’s flower farms can generate additional revenue by engaging in carbon credit projects and by adopting sustainable practices and reducing their carbon footprint, they can earn carbon credits that can be traded internationally.

Representatives from 75 countries are participating in the week-long 11th International Floriculture Expo that has begun today guided by the theme “Sustainability”.

“The theme of this year’s Expo is Sustainability resonates deeply with the government’s commitment to

nurturing Kenya’s floriculture,” the PS said.

“Sustainability is not just a buzzword; it is our shared responsibility. We protect both our industry and our environment,” Dr Dakota added, noting that the government is actively promoting eco-friendly practices such as integrated pest management, water conservation, and organic fertilisation as well as encouraging farmers to adopt renewable energy sources and minimise their carbon footprint.

He said that Kenya’s floriculture sector has propelled the country to become a global leader in floriculture, contributing significantly to the economy, creating jobs, and enhancing the livelihoods of over 2 million Kenyans.

The PS noted that the government has implemented policies that facilitate a conducive business environment, has streamlined export processes, created investment opportunities, and offered support for small and medium-sized enterprises within the floriculture value chain.

“By reducing bureaucratic hurdles and promoting fair trade practices, the government as one of the key priorities outlined in the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) aim to enhance the competitiveness of our flowers in the global market,” he said.

Dr Dakota added that the government has also invested in modernising transportation networks, including roads, railways, and airports to enhance efficient logistics that are essential for successful floriculture exports.

“This infrastructure has facilitated

the seamless movement of flowers from our farms to international markets, preserving their freshness and quality,” he noted, adding that the government has also negotiated favourable trade agreements with various countries, opening doors for Kenyan floriculture exports.

The agreements, he explained, have eliminated trade barriers, promoted fair pricing, and created a level playing field for our flowers in the global market.

Dr Dakota gave an example of the Kenya-EU Economic Partnership Agreement, signed in December last year 2023 which has now been ratified by both the National Assembly of Kenya and the European Union in Brussels.

Additionally, he added that collaboration with the UK has resulted in the suspension of the 8 percent duty on cut flowers from Kenya, further demonstrating the successful partnerships.

Christopher Kulei, Chair, Board of Directors, Kenya Flower Council (KFC) said that with around 5,000 hectares dedicated to flower cultivation, the industry exports over 200,000 tonnes of flowers annually, valued at KSh117 Billion, bringing in vital forex revenues to the economy.

The floriculture sector, he explained, accounts for more than 70 percent of total horticultural exports, employing over 200,000 workers, most of them in rural areas.

Additionally, he added that it indirectly provides employment to 1 million people involved in the supply of goods and services and affects over 4 million people.

Kulei however said that the gov-

ernment however needs to create a conducive business environment by streamlining its processes, reviewing its regulations, and providing incentives for growers and exporters.

“If we have to unlock the full potential of the floriculture industry, more investment will mean more jobs, more forex income and solidifying Kenya’s position in the global flower trade,” he added.

He re-affirmed KFC’s dedication to sustainable floriculture saying they have invested significantly in reducing and recycling water usage, implementing biological pest management systems, utilising solar energy, and adopting greener logistics to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

“We have embraced various carbon measurement tools, which have enabled us to accurately assess our emissions and identify areas for improvement,” Kulei said.

He noted that Sustainability has evolved from an exterior concern and considering the effects of calamities of the recent floods that has seen loss of hundreds of lives, saying that it is imperative and important for sustainable business practices in curbing the effects of climate change.

This year’s expo has seen an increase of 20 percent in exhibitors showcasing their finest blooms and will also provide a unique platform for sharing knowledge, forging partnerships, and exploring new opportunities.

According to the Horticultural Crops Directorate (HCD) data, cut flower exports fetched Sh73. 45 billion in 2023, marking a steep decline from Sh104. 25 billion in 2022.

The decline was informed by a significant drop in export volumes, which went down to 116,270 tonnes from 202,850 tonnes that were exported in 2022.

# Some Nyeri CBD Businesses And Matatus To Relocate To A New Site In Two Weeks

By: Paul Mwangi  
@themkenyatimes

The relocation of some businesses from Nyeri's Central Business District (CBD) to the newly constructed Field Marshal Muthoni Kirima Market and Bus Park, commonly known as Asian Quarters, is gaining momentum.

In two weeks' time, thousands of businesses in the town, primarily from the transportation sector and market vendors, will begin moving to the new market, about a kilometer away.

According to Nyeri County's Lands and Physical Planning CEC, Ndirangu Gachunia, all long-distance vehicles will operate from the new bus park cum market to free up space in the town centre.

Also to be relocated are mechanics that currently repair vehicles in open areas within the town, which is the county headquarters.

The plan which has been in the works for a long time is aimed at expanding the town which has been congested

for years.

The CEC revealed that the balloting process among traders has been completed successfully, and only final touches from the Trade Department are needed before the relocation begins.

Gachunia noted that Nyeri County has been ranked third in terms of revenue contribution to the national government, and the plan is to expand the town as new investors are coming in.

He also noted that all Matatu sacco (matatu cooperatives) have agreed to move to Asian Quarters, with their space allocations already ready.

To facilitate the relocation process, market traders have been allocated space, making way for other traders to join the project. The county government expects to be collecting a total of KSh1million daily once the process is complete.

There have been some resistance among a number of stakeholders over the move with claims that it is far away from the town centre and that some businesses will be adversely affected.



Nyeri County Lands and Physical Planning CEC Ndirangu Gachunia addressing journalists outside his office yesterday. Photo/ PAUL WANJIRU.

# NCBA Group Partners With Automotive Distribution Company, Inchcape

By: Lilian Mwikali and Judy Totari  
@themkenyatimes

NCBA Bank Group and Inchcape Kenya have signed a partnership agreement which will see the financial institution finance customers to acquire vehicles from the automotive distributor.

NCBA Group director, Asset Finance and Business Lenox Mugambi and Inchcape Kenya Managing Director, Yulia Vershnskaya sealed the agreement yesterday at Inchcape Changan showroom along Lusaka Road.

According to Mr Mugambi the partnership is designed to offer exceptional benefits specifically tailored for those looking to acquire Jaguar, BMW, Land Rover and Changan vehicles.

"As we navigate through the complexity of vehicle financing, our goal remains clear to simplify the process and make it more accessible and advantageous to our customers," he reiterated.

He added that the partnership will allow customers to drive away with their dream cars with minimal cost where they will be financing 90 percent for new and 80 percent for refurbished vehicles.

He emphasized that the repayment period was designed with the customer in mind to have a maximum repayment period of five years.

"This will allow the customer to have flexible repayment especially during these challenging times," Mugambi commented.

Nevertheless, they will offer a 60 days repayment moratorium to enable the customer to settle with the vehicle and navigate without pressure.

"All vehicles under this scheme will be insured under NCBA bank insurance intermediary offering our customers peace of mind and comprehensive vehicle protection," he elaborated.

Mugambi emphasized that the scheme will also feature competitive yet accessible interest rates for very good discounts as well as processing fees providing an unmatched vehicle financing experience.



NCBA Group director, Asset Finance and Business Lenox Mugambi and Inchcape Kenya Managing Director, Yulia Vershnskaya, sealing the agreement yesterday.

"Together we are creating a way for our future where vehicle ownership is within reach, offering buyers a space to achieve their dreams and aspirations," concluded Mugambi. Inchcape Kenya Managing Director

Yulia Vershnskaya admitted to having worked to bring the partnership to fruition for a long time. "Marketing is a challenge these days, this partnership will make sure that Kenyan customers have access

to a great product both automotive and financing enabling them to enjoy," Vershnskaya said.

# Happiness Is Success And Love



Without success and love nothing is possible.

These things are important and favourite of a person.

These things motivate and give pleasure.

Real pleasure is success in love, Friendship, career, education.

Happiness is Friends.

Happiness is success.

Happiness is love.

Happiness is having a beautiful lovely mother!

Happiness is being always true,

Happiness is Freedom.

Happiness is real heavenly peace.

Happiness is life.

Happiness is available everywhere if we find it properly in real life not in Fantasy.

Happiness is different from Fantasy. Happiness comes from inside also with true heart.

Parul Alok

# Learning Foreign Languages



We know that nowadays attention is paid to learning foreign languages. Learning foreign languages and their importance. What foreign languages give us and why they are important.

Why are young people trying to learn foreign languages?

First of all, it gives access to a different environment, and it also allows you to travel around the world and study in foreign countries. Language plays a very important role in the life of every person. There is a saying among our people, Tilgan

- the one who knows knows

Knowledge of foreign languages opens the way to the future and helps to know the career, that is, it helps to find a job. Wherever you go to look for a job, they will definitely ask about your level of knowledge of a foreign language. Knowing a foreign language of life gives an opportunity to communicate easily in many areas of society by learning a foreign language. When a person has more memory to learn the culture and traditions of other nations and peoples, the thinking and culture of the people will be more developed.

8 important reasons to learn foreign languages:

1. Encourages positive thinking, broadens one's world view and makes many other friends.
2. Helps improve memory. Bilingual children are more gifted than monolingual children with better mental arithmetic and reading skills.
3. Allows you to make many friends. Learning a foreign language opens up the opportunity to make friends. You can meet new and interesting people, and establishing friendships between other countries allows you to exchange ideas with them.
4. Increases the opportunity to work. Nowadays, people who know a foreign language are considered lucky people. Because it is very important for everyone to know a foreign language. In the increasingly globalized world, knowing two languages is not just an interest, but

a need of the hour. Knowing a foreign language is the key to a wide range of job opportunities. It's no secret that learning a foreign language can improve your employment prospects.

5. Knowing new values and cultures. It allows people who learn a certain language to learn the values and cultures of that particular country. For example, by learning the language of that country as well as its culture and traditions. It helps to know more countries. In a word, learning a language is one goal means killing two birds with one stone. On the one hand, we learn languages, and on the other hand, we get to know the countries closely.

6. Increases mental capacity. The size of our brain increases as we learn new words and every innovation. This means that knowing many languages is also necessary for health.

7. Increases scientific achievements. Language learning supports academic achievements.

8. Travel becomes cheaper and easier. Of course, many people like to travel, after all, who doesn't like to travel? Knowing the language will help you a lot when you go to a foreign country. You can simply explain the food you want when you go out to eat, and you can also ask for directions from local people without difficulty. If you take a guide with you, it will be very expensive.

In conclusion, knowing a language is the key to opportunities for everyone. The more languages you know, the more doors open. Learning foreign languages. Many opportunities have been created for it, there are also online classes without leaving home. I would like to mention that the Ibrat children's platform allows you to learn easily and for free. Through this platform, you can learn many languages easily, free of charge and effectively. Language is a bridge between these nations.

Khajiyeva Dilfuza, daughter of Marimbay, on December 21, 2004, Urganch district, Khorezm region. 2012-2021 School No. 8, Urganch city

In 2021, I was admitted to the UrDu academic lyceum under the Urganch State University. I graduated from the 2021-2023 lyceum now.

1st year student of Foreign philology department of Urganch State University

# He Remembers Great Places



(Baliqliq) Sultan Uwais ibn Amir al-Qarani is a very respected person in Islam and Sufism. He lived during the time of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). This holy man spent his whole life traveling around the world and propagating Islam. The life and death of Sultan Uwais Qarani caused many legends. It is said that after his death in the battle of Siffa, the seven sultans could not decide who should bury Qaraniyu. Every sultan prepares a coffin and sees that a saint is lying in each of them. There are several places where Qarani is buried in the Muslim world.

One such place is located in Chortoq district of Namangan region. According to legend, he came here to spread Islam. In addition, it is said that Karani's mother is also buried here. When he was dying, the saint could not find water to wash him for a long time, so Qarani asked God for water and hit the dry ground with his hand, and a holy spring appeared at the place where he hit. Mazar in this place, in the 12-13 centuries, was established and over time, a large architectural complex including a mosque, a mausoleum and a museum appeared here. That is, the village of Baliqlikol of Sultan Uwais Qarani (Baliqlikol) Chortok district, a place that has caught the attention of many. In recent years, large-scale reconstruction works have been carried out here. The territory of the complex and the adjacent part were beautified, a library and even a hotel were built. Today, the complex has all the conditions for performing pilgrimage rituals. The main entrance is decorated with

a symbolic gate. In the central part, there is a water reservoir, and the buildings of the mosque and the mausoleum are so skillfully decorated.

For several centuries, the shrine attracts pilgrims from all over the world. Many guests come here not only from our region but also from neighboring countries. There are no number of pilgrims every year. According to scientists, 140 liters of water per minute are released from this lake. What kind of industry is it that the fish do not reproduce. It does not decrease. No one knows the number of hams. The most amazing thing is that the water temperature is almost the same in winter and summer.

The description of the spring, which has been supplying water to an entire village for centuries, is long. Therefore, there is no end to the steps of the pilgrims. According to the statements of those who have lived in this place, there are 3-4 years old in the arches under the very big trees at the top of the spring, there were fish the size of a child. They came to the surface of the water at quiet night and at calm times. Today, it has become the most beautiful complex, a place of solitude and peace. Pilgrims visit this place from early spring to late autumn. Nurse of the 51st family polyclinic.

Obidakhon Kholikova.

I was Obidakhon Khalikova, born on February 14, 1999 in Chortok District, Namangan Region. Currently, I am a nurse midwife at the 51st family polyclinic of the city of Koroskon. I have had a great interest in artistic creation since I was young. I write many poems and articles. In 2016, my first book, Koroskonim sharfim shonim, was published. Until now, I have published many of my poetry articles in popular newspapers and magazines of Uzbekistan. I have set big goals for the future. I am moving towards these goals. You know that my goal is to move forward even if I fall.

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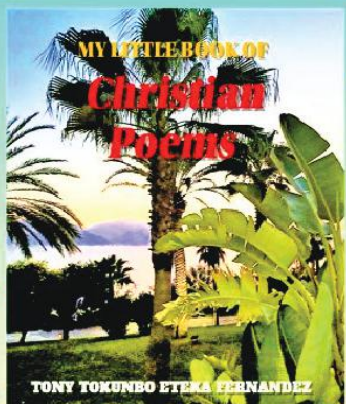
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# Government To Provide Enabling Environment To Support Realization Of Vision 2030

By: David Nduro  
@themkenyatimes

The government is committed to ensure it provides an enabling environment to support realization of the vision 2030 across the country.

Agriculture and Livestock Cabinet Secretary Mithika Linturi said the government will ensure that all players in the sectors that will drive the economy to achieve its objectives easily get the necessary and real time support.

The CS made the remarks during the launch of the Fourth and the last Medium-Term Plan phase as anchored in the Vision 2030 development agenda in Isiolo town.

He said that all National and County programmes are now aligned towards improving the lives of Kenyans as envisioned in the national development blueprint.

He added that the two-tier government has a responsibility to ensure that they create employment for



Agriculture and Livestock Cabinet Secretary Mithika Linturi.

numerous youth and women with a view to improve their livelihood.

Mr. Linturi observed that the aligned flagship projects in Isiolo that include, International Abattoir, Market, Road infrastructure and the Airport would open the region

and elevate economic returns which would largely benefit the local population.

He underscored the importance of the abattoir saying the livestock keepers from the region would benefit from sale of their animals since

the government will have established local and external markets for meat and other products.

He added that tipped the farmers to work hard and take advantage of the upcoming projects which the government planned to eradicate pover-

ty among residents.

The CS called upon the local people to diversify their agricultural and economic activities like indulging in the lucrative camel milk business that has higher returns compared to cattle milk.

During the occasion Mr. Linturi was accompanied by Petroleum Principal Secretary Mr. Mohamed Liban, Deputy Governor Dr. James Lowasa and Isiolo County Commissioner Geoffrey Omoding among other leaders.

The leaders gave tips on how the government would turn around agriculture to increase production and feed the population with ease.

These tips include export of value-added products to increase the balance of trade and establishment of numerous small and medium enterprises through key value chains in the production sector.

The Vision 2030 development strategy started in 2008 and was to be implemented in four five-year medium term plan phases scheduled for years; 2008-2012, 2013-2017, 2018-2022 and finally 2023-2027.

# Parliamentary Committee On Transport And Infrastructure Seeks Responses From PS Road On Status Of Roads' Projects

By: PSCU and MKT  
Correspondent  
@themkenyatimes

The Departmental Committee Transport and Infrastructure yesterday received responses to statements raised in the House by several lawmakers from the Principal Secretary, State Department for Roads, Eng. Joseph Mbugua.

Among these statements is that of Ki-gumo MP Joseph Munyoro who had requested for information regarding the status of Mau Mau roads in his constituency.

Munyoro had sought to know the reasons for the delay in completion of Mau mau roads in his constituency.

He further enquired on the plans the Ministry had put in place for resumption of works.

The lawmaker further wanted to know the mitigation measures rolled out to ensure roads are passable during the rainy season, as well as when the contractor would resume work on Ikumbi - Karinga - Gacharage road.

In his submission, Mbugua attributed the delay to inadequate budget allocation and delayed disbursements from the National Treasury to facilitate timely payment of the contractors.



Eng. Joseph Mbugua when he appeared before the parliamentary committee yesterday.

Additionally, he submitted that the project is fully funded by the government adding that the ministry would liaise with the National Treasury to expedite the release by the exchequer.

The PS urged the Committee members to consider reinstating their budget allocation to the initial request made to the National Treasury, to facilitate the completion of several stalled projects including the Mau Mau roads.

The PS also submitted a response to a statement raised by Rael Kasiwei of West Pokot County who had sought to know the status of Kapenguria- Lodwar Road, following the recent heavy rains that had swept a section of the road.

The legislator further sought to know the measures the Ministry had put in place to rehabilitate the road, and the long-term measures put in place to ensure the safety of residents during the heavy rains.

In response, the PS noted that KeNHA had mobilised a contractor under an Emergency Framework to construct temporary diversions around the damaged road section.

He further pointed out that a temporary diversion had been dug out to allow vehicles to bypass the affected section and enable resumption of traffic movement.

He noted that the maintenance team had been able to complete the installa-



Some of the members of the committee Mwangi Kiunjuri and Jhanda Zaheer during yesterday's session.

tion of culverts and rebuild the embankment and pavements, which had been washed away.

The PS informed members that the government had secured support from development partners towards the reconstruction of the Kitale- Kapenguria-Lokichar road.

"The German development agency KfW will support reconstruction of Kitale- Mopus Section, while the African Development Bank will support Mopus- Lokichar section", he explained.

Members however called for a different sitting to seek clarity on the partnership, from the PS. They questioned whether the funds had been issued as grants or

loans.

"Is the partnership funding a grant or a loan that the government will have to pay back? If so, there is a need to interrogate further the financial implications to shield Kenyans from the already ballooning tax burden", Ruaraka MP Tom Kajwang' stated.

His sentiments were echoed by other members led by the Committee Chair, G. K. Kariuki who assured the lawmakers that the matter would be addressed during the upcoming retreat with the Ministry.

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# Zambia Inks Smart City Deal With Mwale As Bezos-Backed Firm Eyes Copper Mining

By: Capital Correspondent

**Worth Noting:**

- The discovery of the vast copper deposits could help the global race to secure a supply of minerals critical to the energy transition. Copper, a key component for batteries used in renewable energy and electric vehicles, has high demand globally.
- Zambia and DRC have plenty of minerals critical for manufacturing batteries for domestic power use and for Electric vehicles.
- Mwale's foray into Zambia positions him as a key player in the industry as MMTC expands into developing 18 smart cities in 12 countries in Africa by 2050. The cities will be powered by batteries like MMTC in Kenya.
- "We will start immediately in July and work to fulfill the agreement," said Norbert Mugeni, a chemical engineer and assistant project manager in the energy division of MMTC.



IDC chaired by President Hakainde Hichilema of Zambia signed the deal after seven months of negotiations between the consortium led by the tycoon and the government of Zambia..

Zambia's Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) has signed a deal with Kenyan tycoon Julius Mwale to support the development of smart cities, mining, infrastructure, and agriculture.

IDC finalised a wide-ranging deal with the US-based Kenyan investor and founder of Mwale Medical and Technology City (MMTC) Julius Mwale in Lusaka, Zambia.

The signing came even as a Jeff Bezos-backed firm discovered large copper deposits committing resources for mineral exploration and processing.

IDC chaired by President Hakainde Hichilema of Zambia signed the deal

after seven months of negotiations between the consortium led by the tycoon and the government of Zambia.

Mwale led a delegation to the State House in Zambia in October 2023 at President Hichilema's invitation after Zambia's government delegation visited Mwale Medical and Technology City (MMTC) in Butere, Kenya in September 2023 for benchmarking.

The newly signed deal will help IDC fulfill its mandate of developing Zambia's domestic industrial capacity and creating jobs.

It comes after a US firm KoBold Metals discovered large copper deposits at its Mingomba copper project in Zambia near the border with DRC.

KoBold Metals, backed by billionaires including Bill Gates and Jeff Bezos, discovered one of the world's biggest high-grade large copper mines early this year. It said it had raised \$150 million for the exploration process in Zambia.

The discovery of the vast copper deposits could help the global race to secure a supply of minerals critical to the energy transition. Copper, a key component for batteries used in renewable energy and electric vehicles, has high demand globally.

Zambia and DRC have plenty of minerals critical for manufacturing batteries for domestic power use and for Electric vehicles.

Mwale's foray into Zambia positions him as a key player in the industry as MMTC expands into developing 18 smart cities in 12 countries in Africa by 2050. The cities will be powered by batteries like MMTC in Kenya.

"We will start immediately in July and work to fulfill the agreement," said Norbert Mugeni, a chemical engineer and assistant project manager in the energy division of MMTC.

He noted the mining is in Nickel, Cobalt and Copper adding: "We want to use cobalt and nickel for building battery manufacturing plants for EVs in the Kasempa region of Zambia".

Jack Chadukwa, the CEO of Afri-technics in Zambia, another consortium member said that the idea is to create industries in Zambia that create value addition and thousands of jobs.

"We are glad to be part of Mwale's consortium so that we can replicate what we saw at MMTC in Kenya here in Zambia," he said.

He said that they will build smart cities, roads, and deploy mineral resources for new factories that will employ thousands of Zambians. The consortium will also invest in healthcare and agriculture. He said the consortium has so far secured US \$ 2.4 billion for the Zambia projects.

Zambia is Africa's second-largest producer of copper after DRC. It also has large deposits of nickel near the border with DRC attracting global investors.

The electrical battery market is estimated to be worth about US \$43 trillion between last year and 2050 according to industry estimates.

MMTC has committed to building 18 smart cities in Africa by 2050 banking on batteries to power the smart cities.

MMTC, a US \$ 2 billion sustainable city founded by Mwale, is built around Hamptons Hospital in Kakamega which treats thousands of Kenyans and medical tourists. Locals with NHIF are treated without copayments.

The city has 5 districts and has seen visits from many African leaders and businessmen for benchmarking purposes.

Mwale received a social infrastructure award from Africa Prosperity Network in Ghana in January, awarded by President Nana Akuffo-Addo for his work on MMTC.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# A Call To Action For Our Planet On World Environment Day 2024



The world community is at a turning point, as we approach June 5, 2024, which is designated as World Environment Day. The year's theme of "Restore Our Earth" emphasizes the critical need to stop the unrelenting environmental degradation that endangers our future. Unprecedented floods and raging wildfires are just two of the distress signals that our planet is sending out.

The most urgent problem is climate change. The alarm about the sharp acceleration of global warming, which is mostly due to human activity, has been raised time and time again by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The effects of rising sea levels, melting polar ice caps, and more extreme weather events are all clearly visible as a result of the world's

highest level of carbon dioxide. Record-breaking heatwaves that ravaged agriculture and exacerbated water shortages swept across continents just a year ago.

Deforestation continues to be a serious issue. The lungs of our world, the forests, are disappearing at a startling rate. The Amazon, sometimes called the "lungs of the world," is still severely deforested for mining and agriculture. Massive volumes of carbon dioxide are released into the atmosphere as a result of this destruction, endangering biodiversity and possibly leading to the extinction of numerous species.

Pollution from plastics is another emerging threat. Our oceans are overflowing with plastic debris despite growing awareness of the issue. From the highest mountain peaks to the

deepest ocean trenches, microplastics have found their way into the world and are now entering the food chain, posing serious health risks to humans.

Furthermore, air pollution continues to be a silent killer, causing millions of premature deaths every year. Cities all over the world, from New Delhi to Los Angeles, struggle with smog and poor air quality, which are made worse by exhaust from cars and factories. The effects are severe, as the prevalence of respiratory illnesses and other conditions rises.

Nevertheless, hope persists despite these obstacles. On World Environment Day, we are reminded that we can steer the direction of our destiny. It takes cooperation between businesses, governments, and individuals to put sustainable practices and policies into

effect. Eco-friendly energy sources like hydroelectricity, solar energy, and wind provide a good substitute for fossil fuels. Investing in environmentally friendly technologies can boost the economy and save the environment.

Additionally, conservation and reforestation initiatives can restore important ecosystems. The benefits of coordinated action are exemplified by projects like the Great Green Wall in Africa, which attempts to prevent desertification and advance sustainable agriculture. The plastic crisis can be lessened by cutting back on plastic use and enhancing waste management practices.

Little things can have a big impact on an individual basis. Together, lowering energy use, using public transportation, buying eco-friendly products,

and getting involved in neighborhood conservation initiatives can have a big impact.

World Environment Day 2024 is a call to action as well as a day on the calendar. It pushes us to consider how we interact with the natural world and to make significant progress in the direction of a sustainable future. Even though the environmental problems we face are severe, we can still salvage our planet for coming generations if we work together and are determined. Since our planet is our only home, let's answer this call and make a commitment to its protection.

**PERPETUAL K JOHN**  
KITUI COUNTY.

## How Social Media Uses Dark Humour To Criticize The Kenya Kwanza Government

Kenyans in trouble will always react either by speaking or keeping silent. If they do any of the above, Kenyans from other dimensions or regions will also either speak for them or also keep quiet. In their doing of these, they will definitely use humour to spark the discussions surrounding a particular issue. In a letter dated 28th May 2024, "An Open Letter to President William Ruto," Ngugi wa Thiong'o takes the pain of crafting a sort of a reminder to the president of Kenya, after his visit to the U.S.A. He uses the sitting arrangement symbol where the president of Kenya was sitting on a chair and Biden was standing behind him, his face beaming with satisfaction. This is a pictorial symbolism. Ngugi uses this symbol to lecture president Ruto on historical lessons of Kenya and the black nations across the world, teaching him about the previous massacres such as that of Muammar Gaddafi and reminding him what awaits Kenya. This symbol is a burlesque, a high-end humour.

In Kenya, humour is ubiquitous on social media. We consume this humour from memes on WhatsApp status to posts on Facebook and Twitter (X) timelines and all those other social media platforms. Humorous

content is indicative of independent thinking and creativity, causing contemplation, confronting hegemonic power of the oppressor and challenges fear and apathy. As such, it is a protest action that brings laughter, order and truth closer to the hearts of the people in their real world. This enables humour to reach wider audience even those disinterested in a particular topic.

This is a wake-up call that artists, activists and social media influencers are trying to send to Kenyans and especially, the Kenyan government. Many social media influencers have resorted to using dark humour as a way of keeping the government on toes. In the recent times, there have been statements that have been made on social media to criticize the government.

For instance, a statement such as, "I don't regret selling my grandmother's wheelchair to buy bundles" is a sarcastic statement. The statement is a critic on the social and economic paradigms of the day today. A wheelchair is supposed to help the needy lame people in their movements but because of the hard economy, it is assumed that it is better to sell such stuffs for one to go to online and see some drama that will

make them happy. This hard economy comes amidst what Kenyans believe it is as an aftermath of heavy taxing. In a comic mimic interview of Kafengo posted on Facebook by the account Mr. KK Mwenyewe on 21st May 2024, the taxes are nonsensical. In the interview, it is asked, "why are you taxing the bread mheshimiwa?" and the answer is, "we are not taxing the bread but we are taxing the paper to discourage importation." This is dark sarcasm.

In the same interview, the interviewee comments, "we are working very fast and you might not see. You see when we are working very fast things move very fast hwa... hwa... hwa... and that is why the sun is rising in the morning as usual. In the past governments the sun did not rise normally." Again, this is satirizing the government's shift of blames.

Many other people have settled on using dark humour in various activities to criticize the government and check on the awareness of the people. This humour is used in skits, plays, drama, videos, posts and comments that are done on social media platforms. Taking the example of Gabriel Oguda on the X app, he is known for his humorous statements while criticizing the government. A statement

such as "in politics as in science, the arrow points to the eater," posted on his X on 29th May, 2024, he is alluding to corruption and the predatory nature of politics as it was seen in the alleged fallout between the president and the deputy president.

Yet in another skit, Aineah Nabwera and Victor Namani (Ujinga za Victor) role played P.K Salasya and Atwoli respectively in a visit to a mock Ruto immediately after coming from the United States. In the drama, the two are only given biscuits to take home and for Salasya to take to Parliament. This is symbolic of the ruling government. The skit can be looked at from two different angles. One, Atwoli being the representative of workers, and Salasya being a representative of citizens as a member of Parliament, this could mean that the trip to the U.S had nothing for the workers nor the citizens. Equally, looking at it from the political spectrum, one could analyze it as political theatrics of the different leaders. In the skit, a lady who acts as the first lady firmly says that she only came with prayers from abroad. Here, many Kenyans have referred to the first lady as the praying mantis, a statement that Gabriel Oguda comments, "si hapa umekuja sana." Which can contextually mean

your oversight is welcomed.

When someone does a good job, the humour we use in Kenya is, "they are doing the Lord's work." This too is attributed to Oguda. Kenyans have mastered the art of using comedy and activism to help create awareness, a force for change and to remind leaders of the oath of office they took to serve Kenyans.

Through this angle, I argue that the present Kenyan government is the quintessential theatre of absurd. We are led by the obsequious incongruities that need to be checked frequently, not in a very serious manner for fear of severe repercussions but in a manner that is so sentimentally lucrative to their ears. Let Kenyans from all walks of life be encouraged to talk!

*By Enos Odera.*  
*Literature analyst and critic*  
*M.A Literature student.*

# Gakuya Vows To Lead UDA Defections If He Loses Nairobi UDA Chairperson Seat

By: Capital Correspondent

Embakasi North MP James Gakuya has vowed to lead defections from the United Democratic Alliance (UDA) if he loses Friday's vote for party chairmanship in the city.

Gakuya, appearing on Kameme FM yesterday, said his camp would form a new political outfit and chart a path away from President William Ruto's UDA which has seen increasing hostilities following the emergence of a camp advancing Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua's clamour to unite the Mt Kenya region.

"If I lose this seat, it will be obvious that we have no place in this Party as a community. We shall go ahead and join a new party," Gakuya said referring to the Kikuyu community he hails from.

The Embakasi North legislator further urged his community to join

hands to elect him as a Party Chairperson in the city saying it is by doing so he will safeguard their interests.

"We have been sidelined for long, our people's houses are being demolished every day," he said referring to a government campaign to demolish structures on riparian land.

He alleged a plot to "cripple" the community.

240 delegates behind Sakaja Gakuya is facing Nairobi Governor Johnson Sakaja in the race for UDA chairmanship in Nairobi. The Nairobi Governor has secured 240 delegates slots out of the available 340.

Sakaja, who met elected delegates on Monday, urged them to shun divisive politics which he said would impede the city's growth.

"Let us not let tribal politics divide us. We need to create an environment for everyone to thrive regardless of their tribe," Sakaja stated.

Gakuya's remarks came even as President Ruto's maintained his national unity campaign in his Madara-



Gakuya urged his community to join hands to elect him as a Party Chairperson in the city saying it is by doing so he will safeguard their interests/FILE

ka Day address on Saturday.

Ruto appeared to pour cold water on Gachagua's warning to a group of "young politicians" against interfer-

ing in Central Kenya politics.

In an apparent response to Gachagua's call for lawmakers to limit their activities to their respective constitu-

encies, Ruto told legislators to venture outside their constituencies to effectively discharge their mandate.

# Driver Filmed Assaulting Police Officer Charged In Court

By: Ruth Wamboi @themtkenyatimes

Ian Ngige Njoroge, the 19 year old captured on video assaulting a police officer along Kamiti Road has been formally charged.

Njoroge was charged at Milimani's Magistrates Courts for causing actual bodily harm, resisting arrest and robbery with violence.

He was also produced before a Traffic Court where he faced three counts of causing obstruction and carrying excess passengers.

Appearing before Trial Magistrate Ben Mark Ekhubi, Ian denied two counts of robbery with violence against a police officer Jacob Ogen-do.

According to the prosecution Njoroge is charged with robbing a Police Officer a police communication gadget and a phone, a Samsung brand worth Ksh 50,000.

However, his defense Counsels Dan-

cun Okatch, Ken Echesa and Vincent Lempaa strongly opposed the charge of robbery with violence saying the ODPP has applied a non-existent law in charging the young man.

Prosecuting Counsels led by Virginia Kariuki and James Gachoka had applied for the accused to be held for three more days but they were granted only one day.

His counsel argued that the accused has been tortured by the police and requires urgent medical attention.

Ian Ngige Njoroge was also produced before a Traffic Court where he denied the traffic charges before Senior Principal Magistrate Susan Nanzushi.



19-year-old Ian Ngige Njoroge was filmed assaulting a Police Officer on video along Kamiti Road

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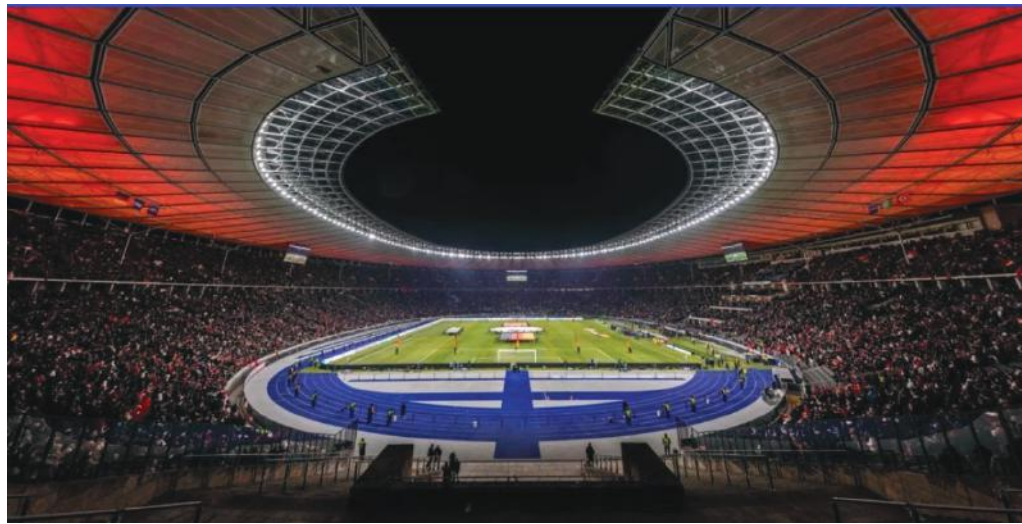
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**EXPONENTIAL  
INTERNATIONAL**

Sports >> \*Ten stadiums across Germany have been chosen to host matches at Euro 2024. From past and future Champions League final venues to the homes of second division sides

# The 10 Stadiums To Host Euro 2024 Games



The Olympiastadion Berlin will stage the UEFA EURO 2024 final. Photo/ Courtesy

Ten stadiums across Germany have been chosen to host matches at Euro 2024. From past and future Champions League final venues to the homes of second division sides, here is a summary:

**Berlin**  
Original name: Olympiastadion Berlin  
Capacity during the Euros: 71,000  
Resident club: Hertha Berlin  
Usual capacity: 74,500  
Inauguration: August 1936, main renovation 2000/2004  
In the past: Berlin Olympics host venue 1936; World Cup 2006, including the final; World Athletics Championships 2009; Champions League final 2015  
Euro 2024: Three group-stage matches, one last 16, one quarter-final and the final

**Munich**  
Original name: Allianz Arena  
Capacity during the Euros: 66,000  
Resident club: Bayern Munich  
Usual capacity: 75,000  
Inauguration: May 2005  
In the past: World Cup 2006, including the opening match; Champions League final 2012; Euro 2020; (to come) Champions League final 2025  
During Euro 2024: four group-stage matches, including the opening match, one last 16 and a semi-final

**Dortmund**  
Original name: Westfalenstadion  
Capacity during the Euros: 62,000  
Resident club: Borussia Dortmund  
Usual capacity: 81,365  
Inauguration: April 1974, main renovations 1992, 1999, 2003 and 2006  
In the past: World Cup 1974; UEFA Cup (C3) final 2001; World Cup 2006  
During Euro 2024: Four group-stage matches, one last 16 and a semi-final

**Stuttgart**  
Original name: Neckarstadion  
Capacity during the Euros: 51,000  
Resident club: VfB Stuttgart  
Usual capacity: 60,500  
Inauguration: July 1933, main renovations 1951, 1993, 2004, 2011 and 2024  
In the past: Champions League final 1959; World Cup 1974; Champions League final 1988; Euro 1988; World Athletics Championships 1993; World Cup 2006  
During Euro 2024: four group-stage matches and one quarter-final

**Hamburg**  
Original name: Volksparkstadion  
Capacity during the Euros: 49,000  
Resident club: Hamburger SV  
Usual capacity: 55,000  
Inauguration: July 1953, main renovations 1998-2000, 2006, 2010 and 2024  
In the past: World Cup 1974; Euro 1988; World Cup 2006; Europa League final 2010; Vladimir Klitschko and David Haye for the reunification of the boxing heavyweight titles in 2011  
During Euro 2024: four group-stage matches and a quarter-final

**Duesseldorf**  
Original name: Duesseldorfer Arena  
Capacity during the Euros: 47,000  
Resident club: Fortuna Duesseldorf  
Usual capacity: 50,000  
Inauguration: January 2005  
In the past: Final eight of the Europa League 2020; opening day of Euro 2024 men's handball  
During Euro 2024: three group-stage matches, one last 16, one quarter-final

**Cologne**  
Original name: Muengersdorfer Stadion  
Capacity during the Euros: 43,000  
Resident club: FC Cologne  
Usual capacity: 50,000  
Inauguration: September 1923, main renovations 1975 and 2004  
In the past: Euro 1988; Confederations Cup 2005; World Cup

2006; Last eight and final of the Europa League 2020  
During Euro 2024: Four group stage and one last-16 game

**Frankfurt**  
Original name: Waldstadion  
Capacity during the Euros: 47,000 spectators  
Resident club: Eintracht Frankfurt  
Usual capacity: 55,000 places  
Inauguration: May 1925, extensions 1937 and 1953, renovations 1974 and 2005  
In the past: World Cup 1974, including the opening match; Euro 1988; Confederations Cup 2005; World Cup 2006; 2011 Women's World Cup final; (to come) 2027 Europa League final  
During Euro 2024: four group-stage games and one last-16 match

**Leipzig**  
Original name: Zentralstadion  
Capacity during the Euros: 40,000  
Resident club: RB Leipzig  
Usual capacity: 47,069  
Inauguration: November 2004, extension in 2021  
In the past: Confederations Cup 2005; World Cup 2006; (to come) Europa Conference League final 2026  
During Euro 2024: three group-stage games and one last-16 match

**Gelsenkirchen**  
Original name: Arena AufSchalke  
Capacity during the Euros: 50,000  
Resident club: Schalke 04  
Usual capacity: 62,271  
Inauguration: August 2001, main renovation in 2005  
In the past: Champions League final 2004; World Cup 2006; opening match of the 2010 Ice Hockey World Cup; last eight of the Europa League 2020  
During Euro-2024: three group-stage games and one last-16 match

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# SPORTS NEWS

- PHOTOS
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GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>>** \*The first time Real Madrid showed an interest in signing Kylian Mbappe was in December 2012 -- although he was only approaching his 14th birthday the Spanish giants knew they were looking at a prodigious talent.

# Profile: Mbappe Fulfils Destiny With Real Madrid Move



France's forward Kylian Mbappe (C) poses with young players before taking part in a training session with them during the team's preparation for upcoming UEFA Euro 2024 European football championships in Clairefontaine-en-Yvelines on June 1, 2024. (Photo by FRANCK FIFE / AFP)

The first time Real Madrid showed an interest in signing Kylian Mbappe was in December 2012 -- although he was only approaching his 14th birthday the Spanish giants knew they were looking at a prodigious talent. Mbappe, who was living at the French Football Federation's academy at Clairefontaine at the time, was invited to Madrid for a week, taken to a game at the Santiago Bernabeu and to the club's training ground where he met Zinedine Zidane and Cristiano Ronaldo. The young Kylian idolised Ronaldo, decorating his bedroom with posters of the Portuguese superstar. There is a famous picture of Ronaldo with his arm around the youngster, who only comes up to his hero's shoulder. On Monday, he posted on X that the move was "a dream come

true", yet it has taken more than a decade for Mbappe to make it back to Madrid to play for the 15-time European champions. Madrid tried again to sign Mbappe in the summer of 2017, but Paris Saint-Germain lured him away from Monaco. Real made a further attempt to buy him in 2021 and to sign him in 2022, before he agreed to extend his stay at PSG. Now, however, Real have their man. He leaves PSG at the age of 25, after seven prolific years in which he became his hometown club's all-time top scorer but never managed to win the Champions League. It has been a slow goodbye to Paris, but things have usually moved fast for Mbappe in his career, almost as fast as the player himself in full flight. There are few more thrilling

sights in modern football than Mbappe racing at an opposition defence. His pace is astonishing. He is a voracious goal-scorer and is still a player who can dominate the sport for years to come. Even though PSG had already started the process of building for a future without Mbappe, his departure is a monumental blow for the club.

**- Bondy boy -**  
It is significant move too for Mbappe, the boy brought up in Bondy, the commune in the deprived Seine-Saint-Denis department which makes up the inner north-eastern suburbs of Paris. Bondy is immensely proud of Kylian, whose father Wilfried coached him at the local club and whose mother, Fayza, was a handball player.

After Mbappe signed for PSG a mural appeared on the side of an apartment block overlooking the canal that runs from central Paris up through Bondy. It was accompanied by the slogan: "Bondy, Ville des Possibles" -- the town where anything is possible. Mbappe's upbringing was unlike most in Bondy. He went to a private school, for example. But he is an icon there, and throughout France.

Yet he always wanted to go to Madrid one day, just as they were desperate to sign him. "Real wanted Kylian but we wouldn't really have had our bearings there had we gone," recalled Mbappe's father, who helped his son, and many other budding players, develop as a youth coach in Bondy.

Instead, the youngster joined Monaco in 2013, Wilfried moving down to the Mediterranean with him.

**- Ballon d'Or one day? -**  
His arrival in the principality did not go unnoticed, with Le Parisien dedicating an article "to one of the great hopes of his generation", who was photographed holding

a Monaco shirt with the number seven on the back. Mbappe, it said, had already signed a deal with Nike. He revealed his plan to the newspaper, "to one day win the Ballon d'Or". He was still 16 when he made his first-team debut for Monaco in December 2015, beating Thierry Henry's record to become the principality side's youngest ever player. Soon he became their youngest ever goal-scorer, and in the following 2016/17 season he starred in a Monaco team that reached the Champions League semi-finals and netted 15 times as they won the Ligue 1 title.

A sensational 180 million-euro transfer to PSG followed at the age of 18. The next year he won the World Cup, becoming the first teenager since Pele in 1958 to score in the final, as France beat Croatia 4-2 in Moscow.

There was also his stunning hat-trick in the 2022 World Cup final, which France lost on penalties to Lionel Messi's Argentina. He has just finished as Ligue 1's leading scorer for a sixth straight season. He has won the French title seven times, but now he will hope a move to Madrid can finally see him win the Champions League and the Ballon d'Or.

Before that he will be aiming to lead his country to glory at the European Championship in Germany.

AFP

# SPORTS NEWS



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# Librarian Degree And Course Concerning The Reforms That Are Implemented In Our Country



By: Abduraimova Farzona Abdurasulovna  
@themkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- publishing high-quality books that meet the spiritual-educational, artistic-aesthetic requirements of the population, first of all, supporting the activities of publishing houses and creators, supporting the publication of children's literature;
- translation of the best examples of national and world literature, promotion of reading culture, development of reading culture in remote areas of the republic and age-related;
- Streamlining the procedures for organizing book trade, improving the system of delivery of newly published books and distribution of information sources;

Annotation. This article is about the level of reading and promotion in our country opportunities, reforms, decisions, choices, laws are explained.

Key words: book, selection, reading, opportunity, achievement, promotion, organization, promotion.

## INTRODUCTION

In recent years, in our country, the quality of work on promoting reading culture among young people has increased. Implementation of the State Program on the implementation of the Strategy of Actions on five priority areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021, approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PF-5953 dated March 2, 2020, in the "Year of Development of Science, Enlightenment and Digital Economy" the Cabinet of Ministers decides to provide.

### 1. The following:

National program for development and support of reading culture in 2020-2025 (hereinafter - Program) in accordance with Appendix 1;

The "roadmap" for the implementation of the national program for the development and support of reading culture in 2020-2025 in 2020-2021 should be approved in accordance with Appendix 2.

2. The following should be designated as priority areas for the implementation of the Program:

publishing high-quality books that meet the spiritual-educational, artistic-aesthetic requirements of the population, first of all, supporting the activities of publishing houses and creators, supporting the publication of children's literature;

translation of the best examples of national and world literature, promotion of reading culture, development of reading culture in remote areas of the republic and age-related;

Streamlining the procedures for organizing book trade, improving the system of delivery of newly published books and distribution of information sources;

adapt book suppliers to modern social needs, improve infrastructure,

fill information and library centers with printed publications and their electronic copies, create electronic books, digitize books and create and systematically update electronic catalogs;

To order foreign works online, to bring them to the territory of the republic, and to expand the system of distribution and international cooperation on the development of reading culture.

3. It should be noted that the Program will be implemented in three stages, which include the following:

The first stage - implementation of measures to improve organizational and legal mechanisms for the development of reading culture in 2020-2021;

The second stage - strengthening of the reading infrastructure in 2022-2023;

The third stage - in 2024-2025, intensive development of Chinese culture of young people, improving the quality of human capital due to the growth of their intellectual potential.

4. The following should be designated as sources of financing for the implementation of the Program:

Budgetary and extra-budgetary funds of responsible executives;

Sponsorship donations of individuals and legal entities;

Loans (debts), grants and technical assistance funds from international financial organizations, foreign countries and other donors.

## DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Due to the President's special attention to raising the reading culture of our country, "Young Reader", "Festival of Book Readers" canceled in general schools, higher education institutions, all educational institutions, book contests, modern bookstores opening in recreation areas and rural villages. Libraries play an important role in satisfying the spiritual and intellectual needs of the young generation, in getting to know the book, the essence of the book is eternal... This essence makes thinking eternal. It ensures that he has the characteristics of reading culture and being able to evaluate it.

Reading a book directs a person to take direct action, harmonize with

life, and receive spiritual benefits. The word "mutolaa" means reading in Arabic, and today it has a broader meaning than reading books. Books convey the masterpieces of human thought to many generations. Indeed, no other source can enhance human maturity like books. Every reader can read artistic works or scientific works from a young age, and it becomes possible to understand the ideas covered more deeply. For this, the child's interests should be thoroughly organized in cooperation with parents, kindergarten, and school. As they say, parents have seven neighborhoods for one child, everyone is equally responsible for raising children, for their spiritual and cultural development. It is not for nothing that they say that a family that does not read books is a spiritually poor family. Therefore, not only parents, but also library workers, to become mature masters of their profession, librarians, their pedagogy, depending on their age, are divided into the following stages:

Childhood 6-9 years; from childhood to adolescence 10-11 years; adolescence 12-13 years old;

14 years is considered the age from childhood to adolescence. The age limit of this category is flexible, that is, depending on the socio-psychological conditions of the reader, a 10-year-old child can be classified as a teenage reader, and a 14-year-old child can be classified as a teenage reader.

In order for flow to enter the child's spiritual life firmly, it is necessary to have an impressive aesthetic preparation in advance.

Currently, various competitions, prize quizzes, book talks are being organized to develop reading skills of people of all age groups. This opens up a great opportunity for the development of reading in our country. A library with all amenities was established for children in Toshken. This shows that attention is paid to children's reading. During the holiday, in order to meaningfully organize children's time and develop reading skills, contests of pictures, stories, and video clips are organized on the topics of "What book

did I read on vacation", "My favorite writer", "My book is my sun". In higher education institutions, a reading club has been established and its activities are carried out based on the principle of "One book per week". Roundtable discussions are organized, and students' interest in books is increased by conducting questions, quizzes, and debates about certain books. Such attention encourages young people to work on themselves to read books.

In particular, a reading club has been established in our higher education institution, and 5 coordinators are active in it. Within one faculty, more than a hundred bookish young people organize book talks together. We can clearly say that this is not only the achievement of higher education for the whole society. We can learn from the opportunities and attention given to readers that every path traveled by a book is honorable and bright.

The Ministry of Preschool and School Education organizes the "Book Festival" every month throughout the year in order of regions throughout the republic in order to form a culture of reading among students and to increase their interest in reading books. On March 15, 2024, the "Festival of Books" will be held in Fargona region.

## CONCLUSION

In short, developing a system for evaluating the effectiveness of the measures being implemented in the field of reading development, introducing ratings such as "The best reading area", "The best reading neighborhood", "The best reading educational institution" and an important task have been set. It deepens and allows him to have an independent opinion.

*Abduraimova Farzona Abdurasulovna No. 12 classes in which some subjects are taught in depth current general secondary school student.*