



### Invisible But Not Forgotten: Senators Challenge Government On Inclusion Of Persons With Invisible Disabilities

A fiery Senate session convened by the Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare laid bare the cracks in Kenya's social protection fabric as Senators, stakeholders, and top government officials clashed over the country's commitment to recognising and supporting persons living with invisible disabilities.

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### NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL CONFERENCE, 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ROADSHOW

Gala Dinner

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WHEN: 17-21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025

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### News > Mudavadi: Kenya Committed To Upholding Constitutional Doctrines And The Rule Of Law

P. 8. Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has reassured the diplomatic partners and investors globally that Kenya remains a nation anchored in strong institutions and a progressive Constitution.



### News > Parliamentary Investment Committee Probes Moi Teaching And Referral Hospital Over Auditor General Report

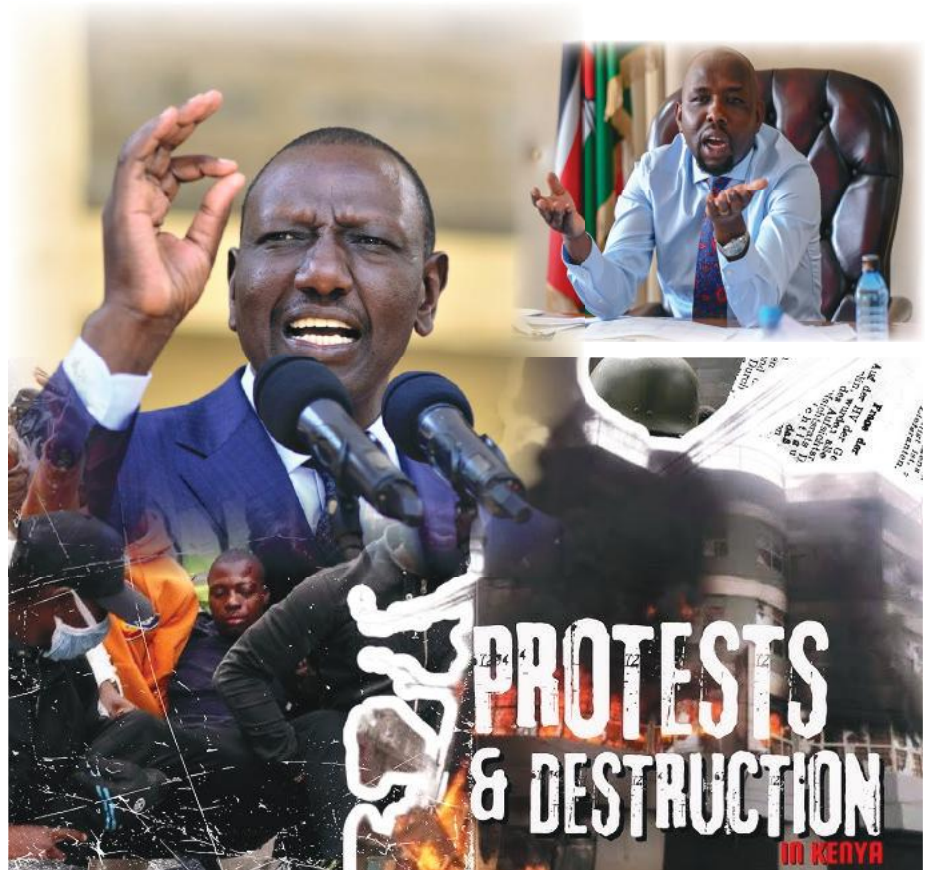
P. 12. The PIC-SSAA team yesterday met with the Chief Executive Officer of Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH), Dr. Philip K. Kirwa to scrutinise the Auditor-General's reports on the hospital's financial statements from 2019 to last year.

# Rule Of Jungle

A total of 42 people were killed and 1,500 others so far arrested across the country in connection with the violence and destruction witnessed during the June 25 and July 7 demonstrations, Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen has announced.

Murkomen described the two days of unrest as "pure, premeditated criminality: deliberate, dangerous, and deeply disturbing," noting that what occurred was not a protest but a co-ordinated campaign to subvert public order and the Constitution.

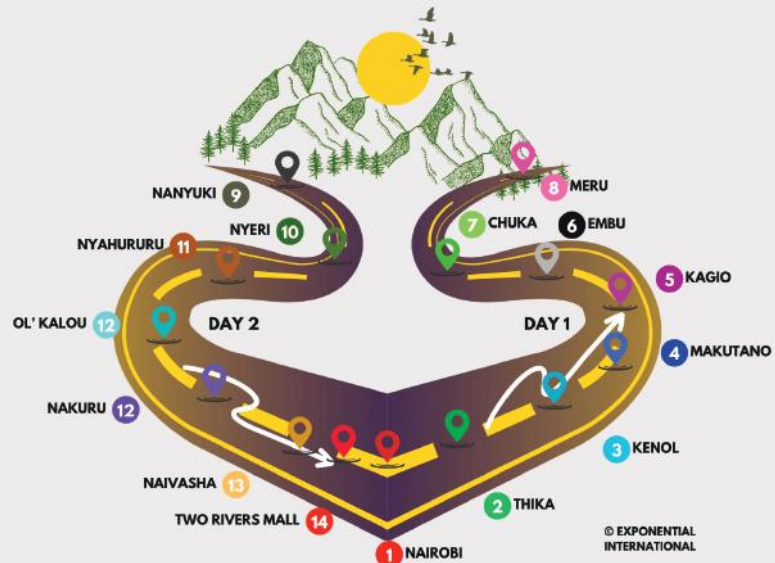
Addressing the press yesterday, the CS termed the scale of violence and destruction as unprecedented, revealing that another close to 600 people were injured, among them 496 police officers.



President William Ruto, Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen and destruction during protests

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### NAIROBI - MT KENYA CIRCUIT ROADSHOW ROADMAP (17-18 SEPT 2025)



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### NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL CONFERENCE, 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ROADSHOW

Gala Dinner

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# IG Kanja Hosts National Volleyball Champions; General Service Unit (GSU)

By: MKT Reporter  
@themtkenyatimes

## Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

Inspector General of Police, Mr. Douglas Kanja yesterday hosted the Kenya Volleyball Federation (KVF) Men's National League champions; the General Service Unit (GSU) volleyball team at his Jogoo House office.

The team presented their league trophies to the IG who was flanked by the Deputy Inspector General (Administration Police Service), Mr. Gilbert Masengeli.

Formed in 1987, the GSU Volleyball Team has consistently dominated the national volleyball scene. On 8 June 2025, they clinched the KVF Men's National League title after a commanding straight-sets victory over Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) at the Moi International Sports Centre, Kasarani Gymnasium.

The team's triumph continued last Sunday when they lifted the inaugural Kenya Cup for the 2024-2025 KVF season, marking a historic double win.

Also present at the ceremony were the Principal Assistant to the Inspector General of Police, Mr. Mathew Kutoh, SAIG; Commandant of the Security of Government Buildings (SGB) Unit Mr. Lazarus Opicho, SAIG and the Personal Assistant to the IG, Mr. James Murithi, CP; among other senior officers.



Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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## NEWS IN BRIEF



Korea has donated 23,258 metric tonnes of rice, valued at KSh2.3 billion, to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) to support refugees in Kenya. The consignment, handed over at the Port of Mombasa, is intended to alleviate food shortages in refugee camps amid growing funding constraints. During the handover ceremony, Korean Ambassador to Kenya Kang Hyung-shik reaffirmed Korea's commitment to global humanitarian efforts, noting that this is the largest rice donation the country has made to Kenya to date. WFP Kenya Deputy Country Director Bai Mankay Sankoh welcomed the donation, describing it as timely, especially as food rations for refugees have been reduced over the past five months due to budget shortfalls. Kenya currently hosts approximately 875,000 refugees, primarily in the Dadaab and Kakuma camps. The Korean donation also supports the government's Shirika Plan, which seeks to transition refugees from aid dependency to self-reliance through inclusive social and economic development. United Nations World Food Programme



The Ministry of Health yesterday convened a strategic meeting with Johnson & Johnson Global Health Equity and its implementing partners in Community Health, Mental Health, and Nursing to explore key areas of collaboration. The partnership seeks to strengthen the health workforce by empowering nurses with enhanced clinical and leadership skills to improve the quality of care. It also aims to build stronger linkages between nurses, community health promoters, and the broader health system, thereby advancing access to care and accelerating progress towards Universal Health Coverage. The collaboration will further support the expansion of mental health services and the reinforcement of community health systems as a cornerstone for delivering equitable and sustainable health outcomes.

Environment and Climate Change Principal Secretary Festus Ng'eno yesterday held a bilateral meeting with a team from the IPCC, led by Chair Prof. Jim Skea, to discuss Kenya's interests and strategic priorities in AR7. During the meeting, the two parties deliberated on key issues, including inclusive participation — particularly for Kenyan scientists, timeline considerations, partnerships, and maintaining process integrity. Both parties agreed on the importance of diverse and regionally balanced participation. The PS was accompanied by Director Climate Change, Pacifica Ogolla, Kenya's IPCC National Focal Point, Patricia Nying'uro and Ms. Maiyani Saino, Deputy Director MEAs.



Uasin Gishu County has taken significant steps to empower local residents through sustainable livelihoods by distributing 220 modern beehives and 22 harvesting kits to cooperative societies in Kipsomba Ward. This initiative, under the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action (FLLOCA) Programme, aims to boost honey production while promoting climate resilience. Area County Assembly Member Mary Goreti encouraged beneficiaries to embrace beekeeping for its profitability and environmental benefits. Additional support was also given to youth groups and boda boda Saccos, including motorcycles, tents, and incubators.



The Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) yesterday participated in the National Council on the Administration of Justice (NCAJ) forum, bringing together key actors in Kenya's justice sector. The meeting provided a platform to reflect on the current state of justice in the country, with particular emphasis on the recent protests, protection of human rights, and promotion of national cohesion. The justice actors deliberated on strategies to uphold the rule of law in the face of growing public concerns and civil unrest. They emphasized the collective responsibility of all justice institutions to steadfastly fulfill their constitutional mandates, thereby reinforcing public confidence in the justice system. Speaking at the event, the DPP underscored the importance of proactive engagement by all actors in the justice sector and urged institutions to remain committed and fully dedicated to delivering justice to mwananchi and the nation at large.





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# Experts Push For Tech-Driven Agriculture In TVETs

By: Esther Mwangi and Mary Ochieng

[@themtkenyatimes](#)

## Worth Noting:

Acting Chairperson of the Department of Agricultural Education and Extension at the Faculty of Education and Community Studies at Egerton University, Dr Miriam Kyule, said it was time the vocational institutions leveraged technologies like digital twins, virtual commissioning and smart automation to prepare students for the modern workforce and enhance their learning experiences.

A digital twin is a virtual representation of a real-world object, system, or process. It's essentially a digital replica that mirrors its physical counterpart, allowing for simulation, monitoring, and analysis of the real-world entity.

Scholars and agricultural experts have emphasised the urgent need for Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET) Institutions and Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) to integrate digital and technological tools into their agricultural training programmes.

They argue that doing so will not only enhance students' learning experiences but also equip them with the practical skills required in today's technologically driven agricultural sector.

The experts argued that by TVETS and VTCs modernising their training modules and bridging the digital skills gap, Kenya would be firmly on the path of equipping its youth with the skills needed to thrive in the evolving global agricultural landscape and contribute to the country's economic growth.

Acting Chairperson of the Department of Agricultural Education and Extension at the Faculty of Education and Community Studies at Egerton University, Dr Miriam Kyule, said it was time the vocational institutions leveraged technologies like digital twins, virtual commissioning and smart automation to prepare students for the modern workforce and enhance their learning experiences.

A digital twin is a virtual representation of a real-world object, system, or process. It's essentially a digital replica that mirrors its physical counterpart, allowing for simulation, monitoring, and analysis of the real-world entity.

On the other hand, Virtual commissioning is the process of using digital simulations to plan, test, and validate manufacturing systems before they are physically built.



Dr Kyule explained that digital and technological integration should involve utilising technology to transform teaching and learning processes, manage educational institutions more effectively and foster stronger connections with industries and communities. Integrating digital and technological tools in TVET and VTCs is not just about adopting new technologies; it's about transforming the entire learning ecosystem to prepare students for the future, the don elaborated.

She said by harnessing the potential of digital technologies, TVET institutions could empower students with the skills and knowledge they needed to succeed in the 21st-century workforce and contribute to economic and social development in the country.

The Don, who is also a scholar un-

der the 5th cohort of the Alliance for African Partnership (AAP), pointed out that use of digital tools in agricultural training programmes could simulate real-world scenarios, personalise learning experiences, and create engaging, practical-oriented environments.

Dr Kyule made the remarks in her presentation during a stakeholder engagement forum on the agricultural training and education sector in Kenya held at Egerton University's Njoro Main Campus.

The forum explored several themes, including the relevance of current TVET and VTC training programmes to the job market, the integration of digital and technological tools in teaching and learning within the institutions, the degree of gender inclusion

in TVET training programmes and ways to align the training with industry demands.

The event themed "Enhancing Agriculture Training in TVETs and VTCs: Gender and Technology Inclusion in Kenya" brought on board over 30 participants representing the Kenya National Examination Council (KNEC), the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA) and Agricultural lecturers and experts from various universities and research institutions.

Also present were officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, County Governments, TVETs and VTC trainers, agricultural students from various tertiary institutions and farmers who host students for practical attachments.

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# Mudavadi: Kenya Committed To Upholding Constitutional Doctrines And The Rule Of Law

*The Prime Cabinet Secretary Has Reassured Diplomatic Partners And Investors That The Country Remains A Nation Anchored In Strong Institutions And A Progressive Constitution*

By: OPCS PS

@themtkenyatimes

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has reassured the diplomatic partners and investors globally that Kenya remains a nation anchored in strong institutions and a progressive Constitution.

He said the government of Kenya remains firmly committed to upholding the constitutional doctrines and the rule of law in promoting democratic governance and the unity of the nation.

Mudavadi said Kenya has continued to enjoy strong bilateral and multilateral partnerships, actively engaging in both with states and governments within a shared framework of mutual respect and collaboration.

“Our strong bilateral partnerships are grounded in mutual respect and a shared commitment to sustainable development. We are therefore re-affirming our commitment as government to providing and maintain a stable and predictable environment for investment and collaboration,” he said.

“The government respects and commits to affirm the will of the Kenyan people, keeping in mind that Our Constitution, adopted through a national referendum with over 70% public approval,” stated the Prime CS.

Mudavadi also the Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs reiterated that the Kenyan Constitution 2010 gives a commitment to nurture and protect the well-being of individuals, families, communities and the nation at large, and at no point will the government promote any form of populism in order to circumvent the will of the citizens.

As a stable democracy, Mudavadi emphasized, Kenya has consistently held regular elections every five years, in full accordance with the constitutional provisions citing the recent reconstitution of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission, IEBC, as a further assurance and commitment to democratic governance and institutional integrity.

“While recent events on June 25 and July 7 presented challenges, they have strengthened our commitment to the rule of law and national progress. The Government of Kenya continues to defend the constitutional right to

peaceful assembly, demonstration and picketing under Article 37, while in equal measure, firmly upholding the principle that such actions must remain non-violent and unarmed. We do not want to lose any more lives,” noted Mudavadi.

Mudavadi made the remarks when he presided over the 145th anniversary of the French National Day designated as France’s national holiday in 1880, at the invitation of the French Ambassador to Kenya Arnaud Suquet at the French Embassy in Nairobi on Monday.

He noted that Kenya appreciates and enjoys the Kenya-France commitment to further build a strong bilateral partnership grounded in mutual respect and a shared values to sustainable development with a cooperation that spans key sectors including infrastructure, energy, education, cultural exchange, trade, and regional diplomacy.

“Today, as we gather in recognition of the 14th of July, we are reminded not only of an important chapter in France’s history, but also of a timeless triumph of liberty over oppression. On behalf of His Excellency President William Ruto, the Government, and the people of Kenya, I extend warm greetings and congratulations to His Excellency President Emmanuel Macron and to the great people of France,” he said.

“Bastille Day reminds us of the strength of national solidarity, the collective resolve of people united in purpose, and a relentless commitment to democracy. These ideals are cherished by both France and Kenya in their quest to create a more just, resilient, and inclusive world,” he added.

The Prime CS acknowledged France’s commitment to the establishment of a state-of-the-art Science and Engineering Complex at the University of Nairobi, further noting that French remains one of the first and widely taught foreign languages in Kenyan schools.

“Since 2015 France has supported more than 150 projects in Kenya, representing a total investment of 1.8 billion Euros, and what truly matters are the lives touched, the names behind each initiative and the stories they carry,” noted French Ambassador to Kenya Arnaud Saquet.

“We are proud to support the University of Nairobi big 5 Silcon Savanna project, an initiative promot-



Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia mudavadi with the French Ambassador to Kenya at the Bastille Day Celebrations in Nairobi.

ing science and engineering through innovation. With a strong focus on new forms of employability and gender inclusion. We are creating vibrant spaces for learning, cultural exchange and artistic expression,” added Saquet.

Mudavadi said the growing trade ties between Kenya and France have been further strengthened by the signing of the Kenya-European Union Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). “Of great significance to us is the fact that Kenya and France will co-host the Africa-France Summit in Nairobi in 2026, marking the first time that the Summit has been hosted in a non-Francophone African coun-

try. This milestone presents a unique opportunity for our two nations to spearhead new conversations on Africa’s role in the global economy,” noted Mudavadi.

“Preparations are well underway and progressing steadily as evidenced by the presence here today of President Macron’s Africa Advisor and the Secretary General of the Summit. France’s confidence in Kenya’s capability to co-host this pivotal event speaks volumes,” he added.

Mudavadi also said Kenya welcomes France’s partnership and support in advancing peace and security in the Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes Region, including through its support

for UN peacekeeping missions and African Union, noting that France’s influence as a Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council promotes a key -led stabilization initiative.

Also present were Jeremie Robert, Africa Advisor to the French president, Ambassador Jeremie Blin, Secretary General of the Africa-France Summit and Ababu Namwamba the Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) at the United Nations Office, Nairobi among a host of French nationals and friends in Kenya.



Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi and other guests toasting at the Bastille Day Celebrations in Nairobi.

# 42 People Killed, 1,500 Arrested During June 25 And Saba Saba Protests – Murkomen

By: Joseph Muia  
@themtkenyatimes

A total of 42 people were killed and 1,500 others so far arrested across the country in connection with the violence and destruction witnessed during the June 25 and July 7 demonstrations, Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen has announced.

Murkomen described the two days of unrest as “pure, premeditated criminality: deliberate, dangerous, and deeply disturbing,” noting that what occurred was not a protest but a coordinated campaign to subvert public order and the Constitution.

Addressing the press yesterday, the CS termed the scale of violence and destruction as unprecedented, revealing that another close to 600 people were injured, among them 496 police officers.

“42 Kenyans regrettably lost their lives, and close to 600 were injured. Out of these injuries, 496 were law enforcement officers. This is unacceptable. One life lost is one too many. We mourn every life lost and extend our deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolences to the affected families,” he said.

Murkomen revealed that intelli-

gence-led operations had led to the arrest of suspected masterminds, financiers, instigators and perpetrators behind what he called “politically motivated mobilisation intended to stoke public unrest.”

He noted that those apprehended are facing a range of charges, including terrorism, murder, robbery with violence, and sexual assault.

“Arrests arising out of these unprecedented attacks, close to 1,500 people have been arrested country-wide and are facing various charges, including terrorism, murder, robbery with violence, sexual assault, arson, malicious damage to property and targeted attacks on strategic infrastructure,” he said.

“Of these, 50 individuals are currently under investigation by the Serious Crimes Investigations Unit while 71 cases are being handled by the Anti-Terrorism Police Unit for offences related to acts of terrorism.”

CS Murkomen further divulged that a total of 16 police stations and posts were either burnt or destroyed in the attacks that left citizens exposed and critical government functions paralysed.

He added that investigations into political sponsors of the violence were ongoing and that all individuals found culpable, including police officers accused of excessive force,

would face the law.

“As I speak, one police officer has already been arraigned and is facing murder charges. Further, any excesses by law enforcement officers will be investigated and appropriate action taken on those found culpable,” said Murkomen.

Among the affected security installations were Dagoretti Police Post, which was raided and torched; Kikuyu Police Station and government offices; Matuu Police Station in Machakos, where eight officers were injured; and Olkalou Police Station.

“In another shocking attack, arsonists invaded and burned the Olkalou Police Station, killing three suspects who were in custody. They also torched 26 vehicles, 18 county government motorbikes, burned down an exhibit store and destroyed the report office,” Murkomen noted.

He said five firearms were stolen in Dagoretti, with one later used in a robbery in Naivasha, while another four guns were burnt in Gachui Police Post.

The Interior CS also detailed widespread looting and arson targeting private businesses, saying; “In Naivasha, goons looted and torched Powerstar Supermarket, with 100 suspects arrested in Nakuru County. Similar incidents were reported in Ruiru, Nyeri, Kasarani, Githurai 44,



Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen

Eldoret, Meru, and Kirinyaga, with suspects arraigned in court.”

“In Meru, a group of thugs set ablaze Magunas supermarket using a suspected petrol bomb... Selenite Supermarket was not spared the looting and mayhem. 40 suspects have been arrested in Meru in relation to these criminal acts.”

He condemned an incident where rioters stormed the operating theatre at Kitengela Sub-County Hospital, interrupting an emergency caesarean section and terrorising patients and medical staff.

“These lenient bail terms are unacceptable. It is in hospitals that we seek refuge at our most vulnerable

moments, and to infringe on this privacy is an offence most foul,” he said.

The remarks from Murkomen come after the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR), on its part, recorded 38 deaths and at least 130 injuries across the country from the Saba Saba Day protests alone.

According to the commission, among the deceased are four women and two children, including a 12-year-old girl who was shot while watching television at her home in Kiambu.

# Crisis Looms As HELB Says It's Broke, Seeks Access To KRA Data To Trace Defaulters

By: Willy Lusige  
@themtkenyatimes

A higher education crisis is brewing and for thousands of students from low-income families, a university dream may turn into a nightmare.

The Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) has confirmed what many feared: it doesn't have the money to issue new student loans this year.

Despite needing Ksh.48 billion in the last financial year, it received only Ksh.26 billion forcing over 100,000 students to go without full support last year. Some received full funding while others only got upkeep money.

Geoffrey Monari, HELB CEO, said: “We paid upkeep for some, but not tuition. Second semester is worse — we haven't paid tuition at all.”

To calm unrest, HELB prioritized student upkeep. But the ripple effects are now choking universities and TVETs, which are struggling to stay afloat after HELB couldn't afford remitting tuition fee.

“Universities and TVETs are bleeding. We avoided protests, but the money is simply not enough,” said Monari.

And while the board is cash-strapped, thousands of past beneficiaries are living comfortably, dodging repayment despite securing jobs and buying luxury items.

HELB now wants access to KRA

and NTSA data among other personal data to track defaulters and force repayment.

“We're working with KRA and NTSA. Some have bought cars but won't repay their HELB loans — that has to stop,” stated Monari.

To turn the tide, HELB is also proposing some sweeping reforms: a 3% education levy drawn from VAT similar to Ghana's model to create sustainable, long-term funding.

“We're proposing a 3% VAT allocation to fund higher education — just like Ghana does with 2.5%,” added Monari.

Also on the table: a voluntary savings scheme for parents managed by HELB to ease pressure on government loans and build a culture of



long-term investment in education.

Julius Melly, Education Committee Chairperson, said: “Parents can save, earn dividends — and even borrow from it. It's like any other investment fund.”

But unless bold action is taken and fast, September's intake could be devastating. HELB warns thousands of students may be locked out of higher education if new funding is not secured.

# Mandera Elders Lead Fresh Peace Push In The Region

By: Adan Mohamed  
@themtkenyatimes

Mandera County elders have initiated renewed efforts to restore peace and stability in some of the region's most volatile and conflict-prone areas. Respected elders drawn mainly from the Degodia and Garre clans held a successful two-day dialogue meeting to address the root causes of conflict that continue to fuel fragility, insecurity, and underdevelopment in the region.

The Banisa area, known for recurring inter-clan clashes, has particularly struggled with tension and sporadic violence.

The elders now say they are determined to end the persistent cycles of conflict and foster lasting harmony across local communities.

The peace initiative aims at strengthening social cohesion and promoting sustainable, community-driven peace agreements that will build trust, cooperation, and local institutional support for harmonious coexistence and inclu-

sive recovery.

Among the key resolutions reached was a reaffirmation of both communities' commitment to peaceful coexistence and mutual respect.

The meeting also agreed to activate a Ceasefire Monitoring Committee (CMC) to oversee the peace process and ensure adherence to the agreements reached.

In the coming days, the elders plan to launch a community sensitisation campaign and a peace caravan led by religious leaders (ulamaa) to spread messages of reconciliation and unity.

There will also be a coordinated effort to mobilise support for the safe return of displaced persons to their homes and villages.

Speaking during the meeting over the weekend, Mohamed Abdi, the Mandera County Peace Chairman, urged all residents to embrace the initiative and safeguard peace wherever they are, noting that without peace, everyone in the county is affected.

"Peace is everyone's responsibility. Without it, no one is safe and no progress can be made. Let's stand together for our future," he added.



Some of the elders after the meeting

Another elder, Adow Harun, echoed the sentiments, emphasising that Mandera needs development but that sustainable development is impossible without peace.

"Mandera needs roads, schools, and

hospitals; but these things will not come if we do not first secure peace. We must end the fighting for good," he added.

The elders, speaking with one voice, called on local leaders to support this

noble mission and stand with communities in their quest to secure lasting peace and development in Mandera County.



# Boda Boda Operators Call For Support To Unlock Sector's Full Potential As Ruiru Riders Receive New Motorbikes

By: John Kamau  
 @themtkenyatimes

Boda boda operators in Ruiru have called on the government to create a more enabling environment for the motorcycle transport sector, which they say holds immense potential in combating unemployment and driving economic growth.

The riders who gathered at the Ruiru NG-CDF offices during a motorbike handover ceremony, emphasized the need for structured support to help the industry thrive.

Boda Boda groups within Bishara ward received some 30 motorbikes to boost their income courtesy of the National Government through the ongoing economic empowerment programme under the Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

Currently, the boda boda industry directly employs over one million Kenyans, with thousands more earning a living through auxiliary services such as spare parts sales, mechanics, and fuel vending.

The operators led by their Chairman James Kariuki maintain that with better policies and infrastructure, the sector can create even more jobs and significantly contribute to the national economy.

“The boda boda sector holds a huge potential which if unlocked can create thousands of jobs and thereby assist the Government in addressing the perennial joblessness crisis and especially among the youth in the country. We only want better policies, a conducive environment to operate in, improved infrastructure and any other support in kind from the government,” Kariuki said.

They urged the government to treat the sector as a strategic economic pillar noting that with the right policies in place, boda bodas can be more than just transport but a real source of sustainable employment.

“The amount of revenue that this sector generates for the government is enormous and therefore it’s high time the government recognizes it and extend support including lowering of taxes on spare parts to enable the sector to thrive and grow,” the Chairman said.

He at the same time hailed the Kenya Kwanza administration for the support accorded to them through the empowerment programme noting that it will go a long way in boosting their income and improve their living standards.

Area Member of Parliament Simon King’ara who distributed the 30 new motorcycles to various boda boda cluster groups as part of a government-backed empowerment initiative aimed at uplifting grassroots livelihoods, termed it as transformative adding that it will help turn around the region’s economy.

In his speech, the MP noted that the boda boda industry is unique and deserves targeted attention from policy-makers.

“Boda Boda operators are pivotal stakeholders in our country’s transport sector and they deserve support from the government and all other relevant



Ruiru boda boda operators haul the new motorbikers donated by the Government.

authorities to spur their businesses. The Government is already making critical interventions geared towards creating an enabling environment for the operators to boost their business,” King’ara said.

He emphasized that continued investment in the sector is critical to reducing joblessness, especially among youth.

He also used the opportunity to urge residents to support the current administration, insisting that it has demonstrated genuine commitment to uplifting ordinary citizens.

The MP called on the youth as well as small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the region to take advantage of the government’s NYOTA program, saying that it is a game-changer for youth-led businesses.

The program — National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) — is a government initiative funded by the World Bank aimed at enhancing youth employment, boosting income, and promoting savings.

It targets vulnerable youth between the ages of 18 to 29, and up to 35 for

persons with disabilities, across all 47 counties in Kenya.

“The Government has embarked on diverse initiatives aimed at empowering citizens and especially the young generation. I appeal to all of you to seize this opportunities and access state funds to initiate your own income-generating ventures,” King’ara said.

He at the same time criticized opposition leaders for what he termed as spreading misinformation, cautioning constituents against falling for political propaganda.



Ruiru MP Simon King’ara riding one of the new motorbikes delivered to Ruiru Boda Boda groups by the government to boost their business..

**Worth Noting:**

- Currently, the boda boda industry directly employs over one million Kenyans, with thousands more earning a living through auxiliary services such as spare parts sales, mechanics, and fuel vending.
- The operators led by their Chairman James Kariuki maintain that with better policies and infrastructure, the sector can create even more jobs and significantly contribute to the national economy.
- “The boda boda sector holds a huge potential which if unlocked can create thousands of jobs and thereby assist the Government in addressing the perennial joblessness crisis and especially among the youth in the country. We only want better policies, a conducive environment to operate in, improved infrastructure and any other support in kind from the government,” Kariuki said.

# Parliamentary Investment Committee Probes Moi Teaching And Referral Hospital Over Auditor General Report

By: PSCU  
 @themtkenyatimes

The PIC-SSAA team yesterday met with the Chief Executive Officer of Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH), Dr. Philip K. Kirwa to scrutinise the Auditor-General's reports on the hospital's financial statements from 2019 to last year.

During the sitting, chaired by Navakholo MP Emmanuel Wangwe, the committee noted matters on unsupported patient refunds amounting to KSh12.8 million, the hospital clarified that the amounts related to unutilized deposits by patients and were properly supported and authorised. Management assured the committee of plans to develop clear policy guidelines on patient refunds moving forward.

Regarding avoidable mileage allowances, the committee questioned the reimbursement of a board member's travel using a personal vehicle.

The management explained that though flights from Garissa to Eldoret are generally more cost-effective, the board member opted for a personal car due to convenience, reliability, and security. Reimbursements were made at prevailing rates by govern-



Committee chairman Emmanuel Wangwe during yesterday's session. Photos/Courtesy.

ment guidelines.

In the ICT sector, Dr. Kirwa highlighted ongoing improvements, including the deployment of a modern network infrastructure, data centre, and an internally developed Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system.

An internal service level agreement is under approval to ensure accountability in ICT service delivery.

The committee questioned the CEO about procurement, and the hospital clarified that air ticketing services were competitively tendered in line

with the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act, with four providers pre-qualified to serve different hospital departments.

Lastly, in response to anomalies in police allowances, the hospital confirmed that police officers were deployed after a formal request and are paid meal allowances based on SRC-approved rates due to long-hour coverage.



Othaya MP Wambugu Wainaina, a member of the committee making his contribution yesterday.



MTRH CEO Philip Kirwa before the committee yesterday

# Mawego Police Station Arson: Suspects Charged With Treason

By: MKT Reporter  
 @themtkenyatimes

Eight key suspects linked to the July 3, 2025, arson attack on Mawego Police Station in Rachuonyo North Sub-County were yesterday arraigned at the Kahawa Law Courts.

The suspects: Kennedy Oluoch Oluoch, Nicholas Otieno, Tofiq Owiti Mohamed, Michael Omondi Opiyo, David Bill Clinton Otieno, Robert Ouko Abala, Samuel Ouma Odhiambo, and Erick Obunga Osumba, had been detained under custodial orders issued by the Oyugis Law Court.

They were re-arrested on Monday following closure of the miscellaneous application and subsequently transferred to the Anti-Terrorism Police Unit (ATPU) headquarters in



Embakasi East MP Babu Owino representing Mawego Police Station arson suspects at Kahawa Law Courts yesterday.

Nairobi, for arraignment under the Prevention of Terrorism Act No. 30 of 2012, along with additional offences under the Penal Code.

Appearing before the Kahawa Law Courts, the suspects faced charges as follows; Commission of a terrorist

act, contrary to Section 4(1) of the Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA), Arson, contrary to Section 332 of the Penal Code and Malicious damage to property, contrary to Section 339 of the Penal Code.

All the suspects pleaded not guilty to



The suspects

the charges. The prosecution opposed the granting of bond, an application that was contested by the defence that was led by Embakasi East MP Babu Owino.

Senior Principal Magistrate Richard Koech scheduled the matter for men-

tion on Tuesday next week for a bond ruling.

They were remanded at the Kamiti Maximum Security Prison.

# What SHA Is Covering: TNC Health Revenue Director Responds To Public Concerns

By: Alex Njeru  
@themkenyatimes

Following mounting concerns from residents about unexpected charges under the Social Health Authority (SHA) program, Tharaka Nithi County Director of Health Revenue, Mr. Lawrence Kaburu has issued a detailed statement clarifying the services covered by SHA in both public and private health facilities across the county.

Responding after being tagged more than 11 times in just two days on Social Media, Mr. Kaburu acknowledged the growing confusion among residents and sought to set the record straight regarding SHA's scope and benefits.

Mr. Kaburu confirmed that SHA fully covers inpatient services in all hospitals within the county. He explained that SHA pays KSh3,920 per day for Level 5 hospitals and KSh3,420 for lower-level facilities. This amount is intended to cater for all costs incurred

by admitted patients.

He urged the public not to accept any extra charges, especially in private hospitals where some have reportedly continued to demand top-up fees without justification.

"You are not supposed to pay an extra charge," Mr. Kaburu emphasized. "However, some private hospitals demand you top up some figures for their own known reason."

In addition to inpatient care, the SHA also fully funds maternity services, including all necessary laboratory tests and imaging such as ultrasound scans.

Mr. Kaburu reiterated that these services are covered across both public and private hospitals.

Nonetheless, he acknowledged that many private facilities continue to charge patients despite full SHA reimbursement.

"SHA is paying for all deliveries in all hospitals," he said. "Yet, again, a majority of private hospitals will ask you to cough up more money."

For diagnostic services, particularly CT scans, SHA covers up to KSh6,000 per scan in facilities equipped with

the necessary machines. Yet, patients in private hospitals have reported being asked to make additional payments, which Mr. Kaburu criticized as lacking transparency and justification.

Cancer patients are also included under SHA coverage, with the program supporting oncology treatments in accredited hospitals. According to Mr. Kaburu, SHA allocates more than KSh100,000 per month for each cancer patient.

Dialysis services are equally supported, with KSh6,500 allocated per session, typically twice per week, a monthly total of approximately KSh52,000. These provisions, he noted, are crucial in easing the financial burden on patients battling chronic illnesses.

Outpatient services are fully covered by SHA in all Level 2, 3, and 4 public hospitals within Tharaka Nithi County. However, Chuka County Referral Hospital is an exception, currently offering only limited outpatient services under SHA.

Mr. Kaburu explained that efforts are underway to change this situation. "The leadership of the County led by



Chuka County Referral Hospital in Tharaka Nithi County. Photo/Alex Njeru.

Governor Muthomi Njuki is working hard to ensure all outpatient services will be handled in the facility," he said.

Mr. Kaburu concluded by calling on residents to report any facility that demands extra payments for services already covered by SHA. He warned private health institutions against overcharging patients, noting that such practices undermine public trust and place undue financial strain on families.

He further emphasized the need for heightened public awareness of

SHA's benefits, especially in light of persistent misinformation and irregular practices in some private facilities.

While the SHA program aims to guarantee universal health coverage and reduce out-of-pocket costs, the experiences of Tharaka Nithi residents point to a disconnect between policy and implementation.

Residents are therefore encouraged to seek treatment in public health facilities, where SHA coverage is more reliable, standardized, and transparent.

# Chuka University Hosts Second Summer School On Nuclear-Based Livestock Technology

By: Maxwell Omondi and Alex Njeru  
@themkenyatimes

The spirit of innovation is alive at Chuka University as it plays host to the Second Summer School on Nuclear-Based Livestock Technologies, which officially commenced on Monday.

The two-week program has drawn participants from 22 African countries, all united by a shared goal to harness nuclear science in transforming livestock farming and boosting food security across the continent.

The program was officially launched by the University Council Chair, Prof. David Serem, who underscored the urgent need for African nations to adopt science-based reproductive technologies in animal breeding. He emphasized that Africa must not lag behind in using advanced tools to improve agricultural productivity and rural livelihoods.

During the first day, Vice-Chancellor and course coordinator, Prof. Henry Mutembei delivered a compelling keynote lecture on the practical

applications of nuclear science in livestock development.

He highlighted how nuclear technologies can be used to improve animal health, reproduction, nutrition, and disease resistance, opening the eyes of many participants to the untapped potential of science-driven solutions in livestock farming.

Following the opening session, attendees broke into country groups to reflect on livestock challenges specific to their regions. Common issues emerged: poor animal feeding, low fertility rates, disease outbreaks, limited access to breeding services, and inadequate farmer education.

These discussions fostered a sense of solidarity, revealing that many of the challenges are shared across national borders, and thus, collaborative solutions are both necessary and possible.

The summer school is supported by a robust network of partners including the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI), Nuclear Power and Energy Agency (NuPEA), Department of Veterinary Services, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Kenya

Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO), AHITI Ndonga, Kenya Animal Genetic Resources Centre (KAGRC), Kibari Bee and Aqua Farm, and the University of Nairobi.

Yesterday, discussions shifted toward solutions. During a dynamic plenary session, participants revisited the previous day's challenges and brainstormed practical responses. Emphasis was placed on aligning livestock development strategies with Africa's broader agricultural transformation agenda.

Calls were made for stronger livestock policies, enhanced farmer training, and broader adoption of technologies—including nuclear-based tools—to boost productivity and resilience.

The day also featured a joint lecture by two distinguished Kenyan experts, Dr. Mary Gichure and Dr. James Kinyua, under the theme "Basics of Nutritional Management." Dr. Gichure emphasized the critical link between animal nutrition and reproductive performance, warning that poor feeding often results in weak animals and suboptimal productivity.

Dr. Kinyua complemented her pre-



Participants at Second Summer School on nuclear based livestock technology at Chuka University. Photo/Maxwell Omondi

sentation by explaining the importance of body condition scoring and maintaining energy balance in livestock. He highlighted how mineral and vitamin deficiencies—such as lack of calcium or salt—can delay breeding or reduce milk yields.

The practical insights resonated deeply with participants, many of whom shared personal experiences from their home countries and sought guidance on implementing these strategies.

As the sun set on day two, a shared sense of purpose and enthusiasm had

taken root. The summer school is not only enriching technical knowledge but also cultivating a network of passionate African professionals committed to transforming livestock systems. With more field visits, lectures, and hands-on training in the coming days, the momentum continues to build.

Chuka University has once again affirmed its position as a regional hub for agricultural innovation, charting a bold path toward science-driven development across the African continent.

## Mind Cleaning Is The Toughest Task



Mind cleaning is the toughest task we face,  
A personal struggle and a challenging task  
It is a life long struggle for all  
In the inner world, plenty of emotions and  
Feelings are there  
These thoughts will hamper our feelings  
Certain things, our minds can't understand

Other dust and dirt, can be washed away,  
But the mind's dirt can't be cleaned  
It lingers in our mind ever night and day,  
  
Fears, doubts, and worries will be there  
And peace of mind vanishes off  
  
In mind emotions, peace is hard to find,  
The storm rages in the heart and mind  
It is difficult to clean the mind,  
and the impact of emotions in our inner peace.

Brinda. D

## Beloved One



Only your pure love is true, my beloved—  
You reign as the highest throne in my heart.

(Inspired by Usmon Azim)

Is there a path that leads to you, my beloved?  
My soul is full of longing,  
My heart aches with yearning.  
What are you to me?  
What am I to you?  
Even I do not know, my beloved...

But this I know —  
You are a distant destination to me,  
A dream beyond reach...  
And I still not ready to depart —  
A rider not yet mounted,  
But aching,  
Burning,  
Mad for a glimpse of your face...

For such a distant path, patience is required —  
Endurance, strength, and faith.  
Without them, I may perish on the way...  
No, I'm not ready for the journey—  
So many things still  
left undone,  
So many promises yet to be fulfilled..

Perhaps, knowing this,

You yourself will take a step toward me,  
As the Kaaba once came to Rabi'a the Mystic —  
Perhaps the Divine will draw us closer,  
Just as He unites hearts  
With sacred grace.

And so, I ask only this:  
Wait for me —  
Wait until our paths converge.  
Know this —  
As soon as I am ready,  
I will ride to you in haste!

Is the path to you an ocean, my beloved?  
My soul is heavy with longing,  
My heart a chamber of separation.  
To me, you are a universe —  
And I? A dream within it.  
Only your pure love is true, my beloved —  
And in my heart, you hold the highest throne.

Iroda Rakhimova Islombekovna was born on August 8, 2005, in the city of Khiva, located in the Khorezm region of Uzbekistan. She graduated from the School number 11 in Khiva with a gold medal and was admitted to Urgench State University named after Abu Rayhan Beruni on the basis of a state scholarship. Currently, she is a second-year student at the Faculty of Philology and Arts at the same university. Her poems, short stories, and articles have been published in both national and international journals. She is an active member of the "Mushoira" literary club established at the university and continues her creative work through this platform.

## You Learn A Lot By Being Alone



Do you know how it is being alone?  
It's a special feel, like travelling in a drone  
As soft as feather floating in air  
Very sacred and should hold with care  
Gives my inner soul, a great silence for sure  
All your dreams will be put on gear  
As I search for peace silence is my soul mate!  
Not need anyone's advice and noise I hate

There is comfort in being alone,  
Especially when I am safe at home.  
I can plan my time as I wish in my colours  
Just my thoughts and me, good company  
No worries, no queries, only glories  
Being alone provide time for reflection,  
Individuals to understand themselves better  
Can evoke a range of feelings from solitude  
For the peace we should show gratitude  
So can learn many things being alone

SAVAAL SATHIYA

SATHIYA . V  
B.T Assistant ( English )  
GHS THEMMAVUR  
PUDUKKOTTAI DISTRICT  
TAMIL NADU

## The Power Of The Mind In Overcoming Life's Challenges



By: Nafasova Sabina

In today's fast-paced and uncertain world, people face countless challenges. Each day brings with it new problems, and just as one issue is resolved, another may arise. It is natural for people to wish to escape from their problems, but it is important to understand that difficulties are an inevitable part of life.

The key lies not in avoiding problems but in developing the right mindset to deal with them. The first and most crucial step is to remain calm and avoid stress. Stress not only weakens the body but also clouds the mind, making it harder to find solutions. When people fall into despair, they risk their health, happiness, and future.

One of the most powerful tools a person possesses is the subconscious mind. Training the subconscious to stay positive, to believe in solutions rather than fear problems, is essential.

The thoughts we repeatedly think shape our actions, and ultimately, our reality. When a person tells themselves, "I have found solutions to all my problems," they begin to act in ways that support this belief — and the mind starts working toward making it true.

Moreover, problems should not always be viewed negatively. In fact, every difficulty can be a hidden blessing, a test from God meant to strengthen us. Through patience, trust, and prayer, one can gain not only a solution but also spiritual growth. Believers are encouraged to ask God for guidance and remain steadfast in doing good deeds, as these lead the way to resolution.

It's also important to recognize that some individuals are more emotionally sensitive and deeply connected to others. Such people not only carry their own burdens but also absorb the pain of those around them. This empathy, while noble, can become overwhelming. That is why mental discipline and emotional boundaries are necessary for personal peace.

In conclusion, the ability to manage one's thoughts and emotions is vital in facing life's challenges. A strong and well-trained mind is the foundation of resilience. The more we guide our subconscious with intention and positivity, the easier it becomes to find clarity and solutions. And as we share this energy with others, we create a space where healing and hope can grow — not just within us, but around us as well.

## The Most Difficult Cleaning Is



Glistening the mind and body  
By doing meditation and yoga.  
A positive mind makes our body  
Clean and hygienic today.

Making regular service to the hardware  
(body)  
Becomes the software(mind) processor  
in aware.

Taking healthy and hygienic food  
The appearance looks clean and good.

Keeping prayers, gratitude, sharing with  
others  
Undoubtedly you have a clean and good  
mind.

As we are human beings trying to  
keep our surroundings  
Clean and neat.

Rajesh Kanna B N

I am Rajesh Kanna B N  
B T Asst,  
From Government Model High School,  
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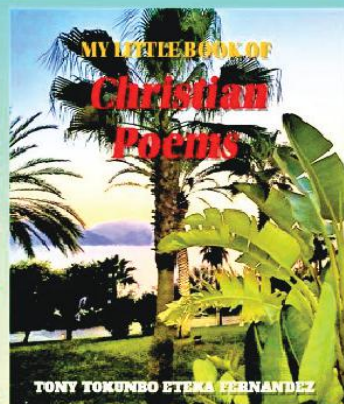
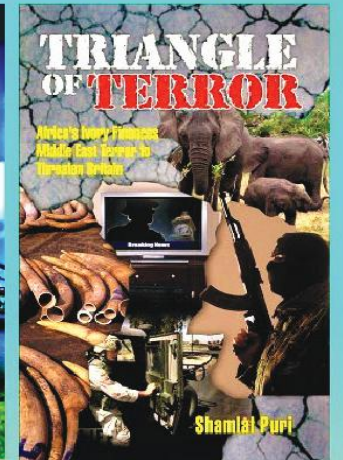
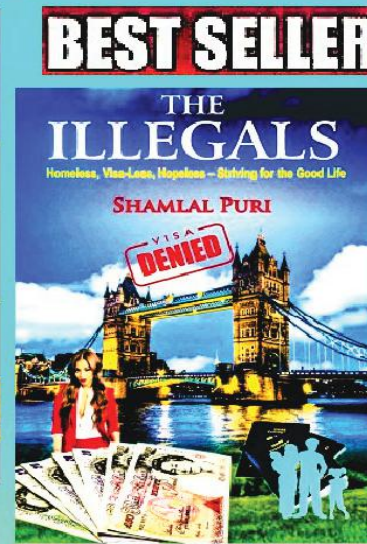
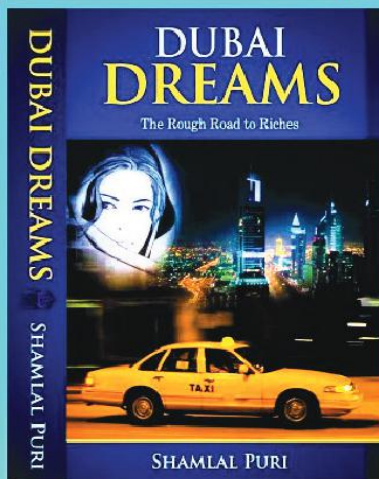
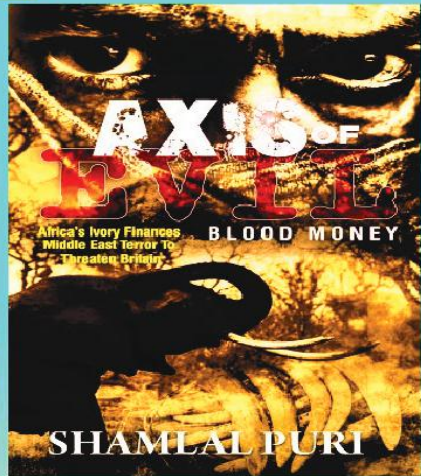
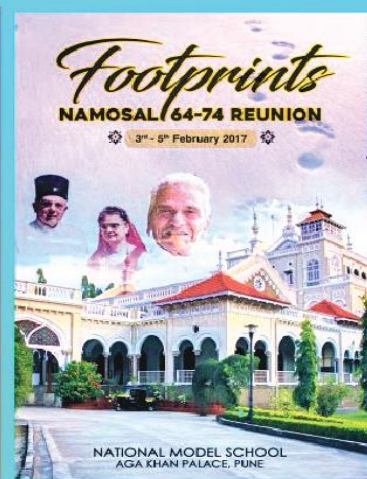
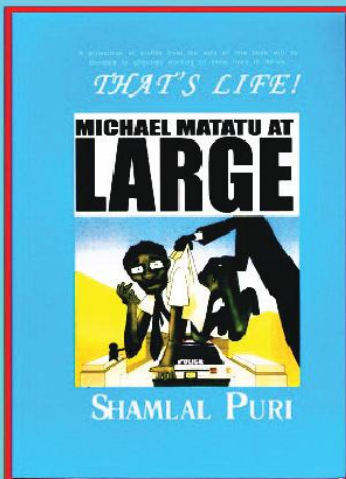
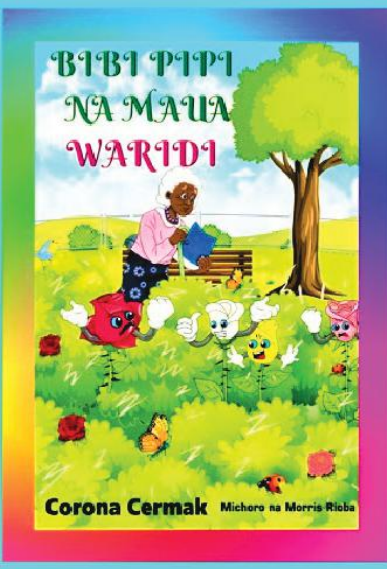
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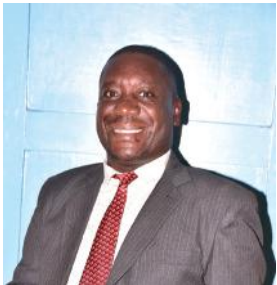
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## BUSINESS

## Car &amp; General, NCBA in Asset Financing MOU



By: Raphael Ndakala Atanda  
@themtkenytimes

## Worth Noting:

Speaking during the MoU signing ceremony, NCBA Group Director Asset Finance and Business Solutions, Mr. Lennox Mugambi, said, "In today's highly competitive asset finance landscape, customers have access to a wide range of options. As Kenya's leading asset finance provider, what sets NCBA apart is not just the availability of financing, but the quality partnerships, ease of access and customer-focused competitive financial solutions."

Kenya's plant and machinery sector has witnessed robust growth, driven by expanding construction, agribusiness, transport, and manufacturing industries. Recent data indicates a surge in demand for equipment, with the sector expected to grow by over 10% annually as businesses modernize and scale operations.



Vijay Gidoomal (left), the CEO of Car & General (Kenya) Plc and Lennox Mugambi (centre), the NCBA Group Director Asset Finance and Business Solutions admire a Develon wheel loader after signing a strategic partnership that will see NCBA offer asset finance to Car & General equipment. Looking on is Srinivas Devarakonda, the General Manager of Car & General (Trading) Limited - Equipment Business. C&G is the sole distributor of Develon excavator and wheel loaders in East Africa.

Car & General, one of East Africa's leading suppliers of power equipment, automotive, and engineering products, has announced a strategic partnership with NCBA. This marks a significant milestone in NCBA's mission to deliver innovative and customer-centric asset finance solutions to the Kenyan market.

Customers will now have access of up to 90 per cent financing, with flexible repayment terms of up to 60 months. Additionally, any individual purchasing an asset will benefit from a 60-day grace period after the equipment is released, allowing them to use the equipment without making payments.

Speaking during the MoU signing ceremony, NCBA Group Director Asset Finance and Business Solutions, Mr. Lennox Mugambi, said, "In today's highly competitive asset finance landscape, customers have access to a wide range of options. As Kenya's leading asset finance provider, what sets NCBA apart is not just the availability of financing, but the

quality partnerships, ease of access and customer-focused competitive financial solutions."

Kenya's plant and machinery sector has witnessed robust growth, driven by expanding construction, agribusiness, transport, and manufacturing industries. Recent data indicates a surge in demand for equipment, with the sector expected to grow by over 10% annually as businesses modernize and scale operations. However, many SMEs and commercial enterprises face significant barriers in accessing affordable financing due to high upfront costs and stringent collateral requirements.

"The construction sector is under pressure, with cement output falling from 9.19 million tonnes in 2023 to 8.5 million tonnes in 2024, and credit to the sector falling from KES 602.7 billion to KES 528 billion," noted Mr. Mugambi. "But approved private building plans value in Nairobi rose to KES 221.6 billion in 2024, from KES 220 billion; showing investor appetite is strong. Our collaboration

to fund construction equipment is well-timed, offering developers and contractors more convenient access to up-to-date equipment to maintain pace even under tightening conditions."

Car & General, with its extensive network of branches and service centres across East Africa, ensures excellent product availability and customer support. "Our mission to deliver value to our customers perfectly aligns with NCBA's vision of delivering holistic, customer-driven financial solutions that enable success at every level of society. This partnership bridges the gap in financing that SMEs and MSMEs face, enabling them to scale their businesses to the level they want to achieve," said Vijay Gidoomal, CEO at Car & General.

For SMEs and commercial businesses, which form the backbone of Kenya's economy, the partnership means improved access to critical tools needed for growth and competitiveness. Many of these businesses have struggled with limited access to

traditional loans, often hindered by complex documentation and high collateral demands. By requiring no additional collateral beyond the equipment itself, this partnership removes a major barrier, making asset acquisition more accessible and affordable. This collaboration reaffirms the continued commitment of both NCBA and Car & General to enable individuals and businesses across Kenya to access the tools they need to thrive, grow and remain resilient in an increasingly competitive market.

Car & General is a diversified distributor of motorcycles, three wheelers, tractors, forklifts, generators, earthmovers among other equipment in East Africa. It understands the importance of positive stakeholder engagement to the group's sustainability and endeavours to listen to all groups that are part of its eco-system.

# Kiambu MPs Dispel 2027 Elections Rigging Claims, Maintain Ruto Will Be Re-Elected On His Development Track Record

By: John Kamau  
 @themtkenyetimes

## Worth Noting:

- On Saturday, Jehow stirred the hornet's nest after publicly claiming that leaders from the North Eastern region are prepared to rig elections in favour of President William Ruto.
- She made the remarks even as the country is desperately working to rebuild public confidence in the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), since they could spark outrage, confusion and or apathy.
- However, MPs Alice Ng'ang'a (Thika), Elijah Njoroge Kururia (Gatundu North), Githua Wamacukuru (Kabete) and John Njuguna Kawanjiku (Kiam-baa), maintain that the lawmaker's utterances are not the position of the Kenya Kwanza Government.



MPs Elijah Njoroge Kururia (Gatundu North) and Alice Ng'ang'a (Thika) inspecting one of the newly built classrooms at Muhindi Comprehensive School in Gatundu North, Kiambu County

A section of MPs in Kiambu County have dispelled the controversial and outrageous claims over the possibility of rigging the 2027 elections by Wajir Woman Representative Fatuma Jehow.

The recent utterances by the MP have sparked outrage and poured salt into the wound, a time when the country is reeling from years of contested elections, ballot manipulation claims and increasingly partisan electoral processes.

On Saturday, Jehow stirred the hornet's nest after publicly claiming that leaders from the North Eastern region are prepared to rig elections in favour of President William Ruto.

She made the remarks even as the country is desperately working to rebuild public confidence in the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), since they could spark outrage, confusion and or apathy.

However, MPs Alice Ng'ang'a (Thika), Elijah Njoroge Kururia (Gatundu North), Githua Wamacukuru (Kabete) and John Njuguna Kawanjiku (Kiam-

baa), maintain that the lawmaker's utterances are not the position of the Kenya Kwanza Government.

Speaking during a development tour in Gatundu North constituency on Monday, the Parliamentarians maintained that the next general elections will be free, fair and transparent adding that the President and other elected leaders will rely on their development track record for their re-election.

The lawmakers allayed fears that there's a plot by the Kenya Kwanza administration to rig the elections.

Kawanjiku affirmed that IEBC will be adequately funded to prepare and conduct the next polls while ensuring fairness and transparency.

They also reiterated their support for the William Ruto-led administration for the sake of developments in their respective regions.

"We want better roads, good services and other development projects that will benefit our people. This is why we will not be swayed or coerced to leave the government. We are in government to lobby projects for our peo-

ple," said Kururia.

They also hailed government's programmes that are geared towards elevating Kenyans' economic status and especially the ongoing empowerment programme noting that it will trigger economic growth at the grassroots levels and improve residents' living standards.

Ng'ang'a encouraged the government to continue extending the empowerment programme through the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) in all regions across the country

Ng'ang'a also scoffed at the opposition leaders saying that they are inexperienced and unpatriotic, saying the government will not be drawn into divisive rhetoric and retrogressive politics but service delivery and development.

"At the right time, we will make a decision over those who thrive in the politics of poverty and those who thrive in the politics of empowerment and it is very clear who is where right now," she stated.

Kururia defended the empowerment

program saying it is meant to complement ongoing government initiatives geared at boosting mama mboga, boda boda hustles and other small-scale traders.

"There are leaders peddling lies that the government is doing nothing, we will confront them head-on very soon. There are multiple projects and programs geared at improving the lives of the people, be it youth, women, or small-scale traders. On top of these, as leaders we are boosting their capital and stock," he said.

Kawanjiku and Wamacukuru reiterated that the government is spearheading a myriad of development projects across Kiambu County adding that residents should give the state time to deliver and implement these projects.

The Ruto Administration is also building at least 400 modern markets to dignify places of operation for mama mboga and small-scale traders. Already 21 are ongoing in Kiambu County with each constituency benefiting.

# Farmers To Gain As Korea And Kenya Join Hands To Boost Rice Production In Africa

By: Aoma Keziah,  
@themtkenyatimes

The Korea Partnership for Innovation of Agriculture (KOPIA Kenya Centre) hosted the 2025 International Symposium on Improving Rice Seed Production Systems in Africa. The event held in Nairobi, could see farmers across Africa benefit from better access to high quality rice seed. Speaking during the event, on Monday Eun-ha Yoo Director of KOPIA Division at the Rural Development Administration in Korea, said the project shows how international cooperation can support local communities.

“When we invest in research together, we create solutions that fit farmers’ needs and local conditions,” she stated.

Through this joint effort, experts are working to strengthen rice farming by producing and distributing better seeds. This is expected to help farmers increase yields and move closer to meeting local demand, reducing the

region’s reliance on rice imports. “This project is contributing to increased rice production. The K-Rice Belt Project will increase rice production and farm income in Kenya by improving the rice seed production and also expand it to other regions of Kenya in the future” underscored KOPIA Kenya Centre Director Dr. Kim Ji-hoon.

In his remarks, Dr. Eliud Kireger Director General, Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO), highlighted that the Africa K-Rice Belt project stands out as a flagship collaboration, where it aligns strongly with our government’s Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) and the National Rice Development Strategy

“They both prioritize reducing rice imports. With KOPIA’s support, we have made significant strides in strengthening rice seed systems through production of certified rice seed, introduction and testing of improved tongil rice varieties, construction of a modern seed facility at KALRO Mwea, and the establishment of paddy fields for produc-



In picture, the 2025 International Symposium on Improving Rice Seed Production Systems in Africa.

tion of high-quality seed at KALRO Mwea Kirogo farm,” he said.

The gathering drew scientists, policy makers and industry leaders from across the continent and beyond. The main focus was to share progress made under the K-Rice Belt seed production project, which is part of an ongoing collaboration between the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) and the Rural Development Admin-

istration (RDA) of the Republic of Korea.

“ These varieties are under the national performance trial season one and we are going to do another season from October this year so that by next year January, we’ll have results from the national performance trials and once they are passed through most likely by next year they can be released,” explained Dr. Ruth Musila, the standard director for Kenya

Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization, MUAEA.

The symposium also featured discussions on how to scale up seed production, train farmers and build stronger supply chains. Participants agreed that more partnerships like this one will be essential to achieve food security in the years ahead.

# European Union’s Regulations Threatening Kenyans Coffee Export

By: MKT Correspondent  
@themtkenyatimes

Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture and Livestock Development Mutahi Kagwe was yesterday taken through stringent conditions set by European Union on exportation of coffee.

He was briefed on the urgent need to accelerate Kenya’s compliance with the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), which threatens the future of the country’s coffee exports to Europe.

It was reported that over the past five years, Kenya had exported 122,699 metric tonnes of clean coffee to the EU, earning the country approximately KSh 90 billion.

However, the EU’s new regulation, adopted on April 19, 2023, requires that all coffee exports to its market must be proven deforestation free, leg-

gally sourced, traceable, and geo-located by December 30, this year.

The CS was informed that while Kenya had been classified as a low-risk country by the EU on May 22, 2025, thanks to a multi-agency geo-mapping initiative, this progress remains incomplete.

Phase I and II of the mapping exercise had only covered 29.9 per cent across 16 coffee-growing counties.

The final phase targeting the remaining 17 counties is scheduled for completion by September.

Stakeholders warned that failure to meet the deadline would lead to reduced market access, reputational damage to Kenya’s specialty coffee brand, weakened coffee sector reforms under the BETA policy, and a potential loss of trade confidence among EU buyers.

It was also noted that smallholder farmers, who produce 70 per cent of Kenya’s coffee and sustain rural economies in 33 counties, stood to



Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe (centre) following the briefings. Photo/Courtesy.

lose the most if compliance was not achieved.

To mitigate these risks, the meeting resolved to fast-track all outstanding activities under the EUDR compliance framework.

All involved agencies, including the

Kenya Forest Service, Kenya Space Agency, Directorate of Resource Surveys and Remote Sensing and the Coffee Directorate ( AFA Kenya) , were directed to deploy all necessary resources and expertise to ensure full compliance by November 30. Kenya,

it was affirmed, would not seek an extension.

The briefing session was also attended by among others; Director General AFA, representatives from Directorate of Resource Surveys and Remote Sensing (DRSRS) among others.



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Inside Kenya's Mutura Culture

By: **David Nyaga**

As dusk settles over towns and villages across Kenya, the air fills with the smoky aroma of sizzling mutura, the beloved Kenyan blood sausage that has become more than just a meal. Mutura is a cultural symbol, a comfort food, and a unifying street delicacy enjoyed by people from all walks of life. It represents tradition, affordability, and community, making it one of the most iconic and accessible foods in the country.

Mutura's roots go deep into traditional practices where nothing from a slaughtered animal would go to waste. The intestines are thoroughly cleaned and stuffed with a mixture of boiled blood, minced meat, onions, coriander, pepper, and various spices. This mixture is then tied, boiled, and later grilled over open flames until it's crispy on the outside and juicy inside. The result is a rich, savory flavor that has earned mu-

tura a special place in Kenyan hearts and stomachs.

What makes mutura stand out is not just the taste but the timing. It's a twilight meal. Grills begin to light up after 5 p.m., marking the unofficial start of 'mutura hour'. People from nearby homes, workplaces, or passing matatus stop by roadside vendors to enjoy a few slices. It's a time to unwind, socialize, and share stories over a simple, satisfying meal. For many, eating mutura is more than grabbing food, it's a ritual.

Affordability is another key reason mutura is so popular. At just a few shillings, it offers a filling, protein-packed snack or even a full meal for those on tight budgets. Whether you're a university student, a boda boda rider, or a night-shift worker, mutura provides a quick and affordable way to eat without breaking the bank. It's a food of the people, for the people.

However, this popularity doesn't come without concern. Mutura is of-

ten prepared in open-air environments, and in some cases, sanitation standards are not always followed. Issues such as the use of unclean water, poorly washed intestines, or handling meat without gloves raise the risk of food borne illnesses. Medical professionals and public health officers have raised awareness about the potential dangers of improperly prepared street food, including mutura.

Thankfully, some counties are stepping up. Public health campaigns and food handler training are being implemented to promote safe food practices among street vendors. The introduction of food handling certificates, regular spot checks, and better waste management can go a long way in preserving this street delicacy without compromising public health.

Despite these challenges, mutura remains an enduring symbol of Kenya's vibrant street food culture. Whether you're in Nairobi, Kisumu, Nyeri,



Eldoret, or Mombasa, the story is the same, people gather around the mutura stand in the evening, united by a shared craving. It cuts across economic classes, tribal lines, and generational gaps, creating moments of connection and community over fire-grilled sausage.

In conclusion, mutura is more than just food, it's part of the Kenyan identity. With improved hygiene standards and ongoing awareness, this evening delight can continue to bring people together, one smoky slice at a time.

# Nyandarua Leads Conservation Efforts To Save Drying Lake Olbolosat

By: **Wambui Kamau**  
@themtkenyatimes

The Nyandarua County Government has intensified efforts to conserve Lake Olbolosat—Kenya's only highland freshwater lake — through a comprehensive strategy that includes the Annual Lake Olbolosat Marathon, promotion of lake-friendly tree species, and new plans to gazette the lake as a National Reserve.

The lake faced threats from encroachment, overgrazing, pollution, and the planting of invasive blue gum trees and was drying up at an alarming rate that at some point it had dried up completely. The county government has since launched restoration efforts aimed at reversing this trend and protecting the lake's ecosystem.

To address one of the key contributors to water loss, the administration has discouraged the planting of water-intensive species such as blue gum (commonly known as mibau),

which had been widely adopted around the lake. Instead, residents are being encouraged to plant indigenous, water-friendly species that help preserve the lake's groundwater levels and support biodiversity.

The Annual Lake Olbolosat Marathon, now in its third year, has become a flagship event in the county's conservation agenda. It not only raises awareness but also mobilizes funding for tree planting, fencing, environmental education, and community sensitization campaigns. Participants and supporters from across Kenya have joined the cause, helping to keep the lake in the national spotlight.

In a significant step forward, the county has initiated the process to gazette Lake Olbolosat as a National Reserve. This move is expected to enhance legal protection, attract structured tourism, and secure long-term sustainability through national-level support and conservation frameworks.

Lake Olbolosat, located at the foot of



the Aberdare Ranges, is a vital freshwater resource supporting hippos, over 300 species of birds — including the endangered Grey Crowned Crane — and serving nearby communities with water for domestic and agricultural use. Its degradation over the years had raised alarm among environmentalists, with siltation, illegal farming, and tree mismanagement accelerating its decline.

The county government has also partnered with schools, youth groups, and environmental organizations to promote sustainable land use and implement environmental education programs around the lake. Indigenous tree planting drives, clean-up exercises, and buffer zone protection are now part of the wider conservation effort.

These interventions fall under Gov-

ernor Badilisha's wider climate and environmental agenda, which prioritizes the protection and restoration of natural resources. With consistent community involvement and policy support, the future of Lake Olbolosat appears increasingly hopeful — a model of how local government can lead the charge in environmental recovery.

# Invisible But Not Forgotten: Senators Challenge Government On Inclusion Of Persons With Invisible Disabilities

By: PSCU  
@themtkenyatimes

A fiery Senate session convened by the Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare laid bare the cracks in Kenya's social protection fabric as Senators, stakeholders, and top government officials clashed over the country's commitment to recognising and supporting persons living with invisible disabilities.

Led by Vice Chairperson Senator Crystal Asige, the committee had invited Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale, Principal Secretary for Social Protection Joseph Motari and representatives from the Council of Governors (CoG) in response to a petition by Beatrice Likwop; a Kenyan living with invisible disabilities.

The petitioner's heartfelt testimony painted a stark picture of systemic neglect and policy gaps.

"Invisible disabilities are not only invisible in the body, they are invisible in the policy, invisible in the budget, invisible in the planning," Likwop said, her voice breaking.

"We are tired of being statistics on paper, yet nothing reaches us on the ground."

In his defense, Duale passionately outlined existing frameworks such as; The Disability Medical Assessment and Categorization Guidelines (2022) which include invisible disabilities like epilepsy, fibromyalgia, and mental health conditions; The rollout of the Social Health Authority (SHA) and associated funds the Emergency, Chronic, and Critical Illness Fund, the Social Health Insurance Fund, and the Primary Health Care Fund.

Ongoing training of healthcare providers on managing invisible conditions and community health promotion programmes.

"The patient is now the boss," said Duale. "We are building a system where every Kenyan, visible or invisible, is treated with dignity."

However, nominated Senator Miraj Abdulrahman raised questions. "What are the timelines and monitoring mechanisms for these policies? What are the ministry's strategies to make specialist care affordable for those who cannot afford private facilities?"

The CS acknowledged the importance of structured timelines and strategies, affirming that; "We have monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. Our timelines are embedded within the health policy frameworks

and guided by our digitisation efforts. We are continuously training our healthcare workers through in-service training to build their capacity to recognise and manage invisible conditions," CS Duale said.

For the petitioner and her caregiver, the meeting was a moment of truth. Likwop recounted how her SHIF registration had not guaranteed access to essential medication.

"You read from your papers, but I live it. You say essential drugs are provided. But I go to the hospital and I'm told they're out of stock. I'm jobless, yet I must pay quarterly to a fund that doesn't support me in return," she said.

Alice Bundia, caregiver to an autistic young adult, added that children with invisible disabilities often end up in police custody due to a lack of identification.

"They're non-speaking and locked out of homes. We need visible identifiers like sunflower bracelets for such children," she pleaded.

On his part, Motari responded that while such identifiers had been discussed, concerns around stigmatisation had slowed their rollout.

Across the session, a consensus emerged around critical areas needing immediate action; Institutionalized training for health workers, teachers, and law enforcers on handling invisible disabilities, Amendments to current legislation and policy frameworks to explicitly address invisible disabilities, Home-to-home disability surveys to generate accurate data and inform funding; Equitable disbursement of social protection funds including the Cash Transfer Programme and education support and Monitoring and oversight of devolution especially in health to ensure counties align with national objectives.

"This is not just about policies and paperwork. It's about dignity, about being seen, heard, and supported. We have a duty not just legally, but morally, to protect every Kenyan, especially the most unheard," Asige said.



CS Aden Duale.

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Senator Crystal Asige during yesterday's session.

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Stakeholders during the meeting.

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# Senator Sifuna Demands Accountability On Stalled Public Projects In Nairobi City County

By: MKT Reporter  
 @themkenyatimes

Nairobi Senator Edwin Sifuna has raised alarm over the status of stalled development projects in the City citing serious concerns over financial accountability, governance and public service delivery.

The Senator wants the Standing Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations to issue a Statement on the widespread stalling of publicly funded development projects in the area. He observes that many of these projects have ground to a halt, resulting in significant losses to taxpayers, disruption of essen-

tial public services and stagnation in infrastructure development.

He warns that the continued inaction on the projects opens the door for possible misappropriation of funds and money laundering. The Senator draws attention to Nairobi County's top position in the national Fiduciary Risk Assessment, describing it as a troubling indicator of deep-rooted failures in financial oversight and governance.

In his request, Sifuna wants the Committee to provide a comprehensive account of all stalled projects in the county including their implementation timelines, funding status and a breakdown of projected versus actual expenditures. He also sought information on the timelines for resump-

tion or completion of these projects and whether sufficient budgetary allocations have been made for their conclusion.

The Senator further wants the Committee to disclose the contractors engaged in the stalled or abandoned works, particularly those who have already received payment. He is pressing for clarity on the mechanisms in place to recover public funds in instances where contractors have failed to deliver on their obligations.



Nairobi City County Senator Edwin Sifuna

# Fuel Price Hike Triggers Consumer Outrage Nationwide

By: Florence Kinyua  
 @themkenyatimes

The latest review of fuel prices by the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA) has drawn widespread resentment among motorists and other consumers nationwide.

In the period under review, up until August 14th, EPRA has announced that the maximum increase allowed on petroleum pump prices for Super petrol, Diesel and Kerosene will go up by KSh8.99 per litre, KSh8.67 per litre and KSh9.56 per litre, respectively.

Journalists spoke to consumers who expressed their displeasure at the latest fuel hike, noting that already they are experiencing daily hardships due to the economic crunch and added that the increase will only weigh down more an already strained budget.

Grappling with the impact of the increase announced late last night, motorists, commuters and business owners are questioning both the timing and the rationale behind the hike. "We need to know what happened to the G-to-G fuel deal that we were told about in 2023 and was supposed to ease pressure on the Kenyan shilling by reducing the demand for dollars in fuel importation," said Mwangi Ga-

kubia, a motorist in Kenol, Murang'a County.

He argues that the increase of close to ten shillings is ill-timed and will put more pressure on an already sinking economy for ordinary citizens.

"Times are hard; we are barely getting by, and transport costs will rise, which will definitely push the price of food and other basic commodities a notch higher," he added.

Jane Wangeci, a businesswoman in Kenol town residing in Witeithie, noted that the significant increase will make it challenging for her to utilise her car for daily commuting going forward.

She said she will now resort to reducing her car usage and opting for public transportation twice a week in an attempt to mitigate the financial burden associated with fuel expenses. "Before the fuel price increase, Sh2000 on fuel would last me a week of commuting to and fro but now that amount will only last me three days, so I have to alternate with resorting to public transportation three days a week to reduce the expense," she said.

At the same time, boda boda riders are expressing their concerns about a decline in their earnings, as customers find it increasingly expensive to travel using their services as the increase in fuel prices affects their fare pricing as well.

Peter Murigi, a boda boda rider in



Kenol town, noted that the rising fuel costs have been particularly unfavourable for him and his fellow riders, who in the recent past have not been able to work consistently due to the protests that have rocked the country lately.

"We are already surviving on very little; now imagine fuelling at almost Sh200 per liter, we do not have a choice but to hike the fares or go home with nothing," he said as he signaled a potential customer for a ride.

At the Wairia market, Mary Nyambura sat pensively next to her unsold cabbages, waiting for customers.

"This morning, I called my usual

boda boda rider to bring my vegetables here and the first thing he told me was that I needed to add Sh200 to the usual amount of Sh300 I pay for a one-way journey because fuel prices have increased," she said.

Having her transport costs doubled, she has no choice but to increase the prices of the vegetables to break even; and the result? Fewer sales and more unsold stock.



Sports >> \*Liverpool have rejected a £58.6m opening offer from Bayern Munich for forward Luis Diaz.

# SPORTS NEWS

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## Liverpool Reject Bayern Munich Offer For Diaz



Liverpool have rejected a £58.6m opening offer from Bayern Munich for forward Luis Diaz.

The German club approached Liverpool earlier this month but were told Diaz was not for sale.

That position was reinforced on Tuesday as Liverpool turned down the Bundesliga side's first bid for the 28-year-old Colombia international.

Liverpool value Diaz, whose contract expires in the summer of 2027, in excess of £87m as a key member of Arne Slot's squad.

He scored 22 goals for club and country last season, with 13 of those in the Premier League as Liverpool won the title by 10 points.

Diaz attracted interest from Manchester City last summer,

and also has admirers in Saudi Arabia.

Liverpool are in the market for a striker and are known to have firm interest in Newcastle's Sweden international Alexander Isak.

BBC Sport understands the Premier League champions have made genuine moves towards a deal to sign Isak in recent days. They have also explored the parameters for other centre-for-

ward targets.

**BBC**

# GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>>** \*The Harambee stars team has to use the home advantage to pull a surprise to the fans who have over expectations to the team

# Kenya's Weight In The Fourth Coming CHAN Competition



Sports CS Salim Mvurya and Harambee Stars captain Aboud Omar confer during the 2024 African Nations Championship CHAN press conference in preparation for the event at Stadion hotel Kasarani on July 10, 2025. Photo/Sportpicha

By Cornelius Nasong'o

The Harambee stars team has to use the home advantage to pull a surprise to the fans who have over expectations to the team, on recent interview with journalists, Benny McArthy affirmed the hopes for Kenya of not just participating but competing.

This words from McArthy will have meaning when stars will be playing friendly matches in Tanzania from 24th this July.

Kenya is facing African giants in group A who at a time have

cemented different accolades and good results in major competition such as the AFCON and even in the world cup, the likes of Morocco, Zambia, Angola and DR Congo are now flourishing in the continent with modern football techniques and tactics.

In football, home advantage is always a plus to the home team due to the large home fan base support, therefore Benny McArthy's boys needs to pull their trigger hard to avoid failing the fans.

With the current squad, new federation together with the new

coach, Kenyans are now eager to see how football can be revived after a long time of disgrace in the continent's tournaments.

Bearing in mind of the 2027 AFCON again as hosts, The nation seems to have placed a mark but now the big question will turn to the players and the team to restore the faith and hopes of the country's football.

Therefore, as fans and Patriots let fill out stadium from second August to give the team morale by cheering up and showing love, because this moment is precious

to host ,the rest of the continent will be watching our football enthusiasm.

# SPORTS NEWS



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# SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



# Integrating Sports Activities Into Early Childhood Curriculum: Challenges And Opportunities



By: **Bo'ronova Habiba**  
@themkenyatimes

**Abstract:** This article explores the integration of sports activities into the early childhood education curriculum, focusing on both preschool and primary education stages. Physical activity plays a vital role in children's physical, cognitive, emotional, and social development. However, incorporating structured sports into early learning programs presents several challenges, including lack of resources, insufficient teacher training, and curriculum overload. On the other hand, numerous opportunities exist to enhance children's engagement, improve motor skills, foster teamwork, and promote lifelong healthy habits. The paper analyzes global practices and offers practical recommendations for successfully embedding sports into early educational settings.

**Keywords:** early childhood education, physical activity, sports integration, motor skills, curriculum design, preschool development, primary education, physical literacy, teacher training, active learning

## Introduction

In recent years, the importance of physical education and sports in early childhood has gained increasing attention from educators, policymakers, and researchers. The early years of a child's life are critical for the development of fundamental motor skills, cognitive growth, and the formation of social behaviors. Integrating structured sports activities into preschool and primary education not only promotes physical well-being but also supports emotional regulation, self-confidence, cooperation, and discipline.

Despite the recognized benefits, the incorporation of sports into early childhood curricula remains inconsistent across educational settings.

Some institutions face obstacles such as limited resources, a lack of trained physical education specialists, and competing academic priorities. Additionally, there is ongoing debate about how best to balance free play and structured physical activity in ways that are developmentally appropriate for young learners.

This paper aims to explore both the challenges and the opportunities associated with integrating sports activities into early childhood education. Through analysis of current practices and evidence-based approaches, the study seeks to provide recommendations for creating a more active, engaging, and holistic learning environment for preschool and primary school children.

## Methodology

This study employs a qualitative research design supported by literature review and comparative analysis. Relevant academic articles, policy documents, and international reports on early childhood physical education were reviewed to identify key trends, models, and barriers related to sports integration in early learning environments.

Data were collected from secondary sources including:

peer-reviewed journals, World Health Organization (WHO) and UNESCO guidelines, national curriculum frameworks from selected countries.

In addition, interviews and open-ended questionnaires from previous research studies were analyzed to gain insight into educators' experiences and perceptions of sports activities in early education. The findings were categorized thematically to examine recurring challenges (e.g., lack of infrastructure, teacher preparedness) and opportunities (e.g., increased engagement, skill development, behavioral improvements) associated with sports integration. The methodology allows for the identification of best practices and provides a foundation for further practical recommendations.

## Results

The study identified several key findings regarding the integration of sports activities into early childhood education:

**Physical development benefits:** Regular participation in structured sports enhances gross and fine motor skills, coordination, balance, and overall physical health in preschool and primary-aged children.

**Cognitive improvements:** Children involved in physical activities show improved memory, attention span, problem-solving abilities, and readiness for academic learning.

**Social and emotional growth:** Sports activities promote cooperation, communication, empathy, and emotional regulation. Participation in group games helps children develop teamwork and conflict-resolution skills.

**Increased classroom engagement:** Educators observed that children who engage in physical activity are more attentive, motivated, and ready to participate in academic tasks.

**Challenges in implementation:** Despite these benefits, the integration of sports into the curriculum is often hindered by a lack of physical space, limited funding, inadequate training for teachers, and insufficient time within the school day.

**Emerging opportunities:** The research also found that schools adopting innovative approaches—such as movement-based learning, play-integrated sports, and digital physical education tools—achieve higher engagement and more meaningful learning outcomes.

These findings suggest that, while there are clear developmental and educational advantages to integrating sports into early education, successful implementation requires comprehensive planning, policy support, and investment in teacher capacity and infrastructure.

## Discussion

The integration of sports into early childhood education raises important pedagogical, developmental, and institutional considerations. The findings of this study affirm that structured physical activities

significantly enhance children's physical, cognitive, and socio-emotional growth. However, realizing these benefits in practice requires overcoming several systemic and practical obstacles.

One major discussion point is the balance between academic learning and physical activity in early childhood settings. Traditionally, many curricula have prioritized literacy and numeracy at the expense of movement and play. This approach often overlooks the interconnected nature of physical and cognitive development in young children. Sports activities, far from distracting from academics, actually reinforce executive function, concentration, and emotional self-regulation—critical skills for school readiness.

Another key point is the lack of teacher preparedness and confidence in delivering structured sports sessions. Many early childhood educators do not receive formal training in physical education, leading to hesitation or inconsistent implementation. This highlights the need for professional development programs that equip teachers with practical strategies for integrating movement into daily routines. Furthermore, infrastructure and resource limitations—particularly in low-income or rural contexts—pose a major challenge. Schools often lack adequate play spaces, equipment, or funding to support sustained physical activity programs. This makes it difficult to ensure equitable access to the benefits of sports for all learners.

Despite these barriers, the discussion emphasizes several opportunities. Innovations such as low-cost activity kits, community partnerships, and digital platforms (e.g., movement-based learning apps) can support schools in integrating sports more effectively. Moreover, countries that have adopted national policies mandating daily physical activity in early education report higher student engagement and developmental outcomes. In conclusion, the integration of sports into early education must be viewed not as a luxury but as a necessity. A

holistic, child-centered approach—supported by teacher training, adequate infrastructure, and inclusive pedagogy—can make physical activity a central pillar of early learning.

## Conclusion

Integrating sports activities into the early childhood curriculum offers substantial benefits for children's holistic development. The research demonstrates that structured physical activity contributes positively to motor skills, academic readiness, social interaction, and emotional well-being. When thoughtfully implemented, sports programs enhance not only children's health but also their capacity to learn and succeed in school. However, the process is not without challenges. Limited resources, inadequate teacher training, and the marginalization of physical education in early learning frameworks remain persistent issues. To overcome these, a coordinated effort among educators, policymakers, and communities is essential.

This study underscores the need for national policies that prioritize physical activity, investment in teacher professional development, and the creation of inclusive, accessible physical learning environments. By addressing these areas, early education systems can unlock the full potential of sports as a transformative educational tool.

*Bo'ronova Habiba is a Termiz State Pedagogical Institute Student, "Physical Education and Sport in Preschool and Primary Education" program*