

Matiang'i: Attack on Raila's chopper was planned

Page 6 Minister tells MPs that evidence gathered from the 17 suspects in custody indicates that the incident was organised by some local politicians



Fred Matiang'i



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MPs trade barbs over fuel crisis

Page 12

Kenya Kwanza leaders claim subsidy money was used to fund BBI but their Azimio colleagues accuse them of politicising the shortage



Boda Boda operators queue at the Total Energies Service station in Nyeri following an acute shortage of fuel at leading petrol stations in the country yesterday. PD/KNA

News Beat **PG 2**

The 2022 academic year cut by one month

Teachers, learners will be forced to adopt a crash programme to cover the syllabus



CHEBUKATI

The deployment of ROs is an operational activity that is handled by the CEO in terms of the existing legal framework

Returning Officers row jolts IEBC

Controversy: Disgruntled commissioners accuse Chebukati and CEO of posting key officials to oversee elections in 290 constituencies without consultations but chairman says everything was done according to the law **PAGES 4,5**

Place of Big Four Agenda in Uhuru's legacy budget **PG 7**

POINTERS



NEWS BEAT PAGE 8

Costly goods, fuel woes push hapless Kenyans to the edge



SPORTS ARENA PAGE 29

Kenya's doping menace persists

WEATHER TODAY

Nairobi	27°	Nyeri	26°
Mombasa	32°	Kitui	31°
Kisumu	31°	Wajir	38°

State cuts 2022 learning calendar by four weeks

Teachers will have to do everything possible to ensure they adequately prepare candidates for national examinations

by Irene Githinji @igitshee

Schools will be forced to establish a crash programme to cover the syllabus following a reduction of the next academic year by four weeks.

The 2022 schooling calendar, which starts in two weeks, will go down in history as one of the shortest ever in the country's education history.

Unlike the 2021 calendar which was spread across 30 weeks, learners will be expected to cover the curriculum in just 26 weeks in the 2022 academic year.

A top Ministry of Education official said teachers will be forced to develop an elaborate schedule to cover as much as possible within the available time.

"Children will be in school for a very short time with so much to cover. Within the set time, there are weeks set for exams so this means an even shortened academic year," said the official who cannot be identified because he is not the spokesperson.



Learners in Nairobi walk home after schools closed for holiday recently. PD/FILE

The official said it is even a tougher moment for the examination classes, comprising the 2022 Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE), Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) and the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) Grade Six candidates.

The three classes are expected to sit their exams between the end of November and December.

In the revised calendar, developed to cover the nine-month break brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, Term One starts on April 25 and ends on July 1. Despite the short period, there will still be a half-term break of three days running from May 26 -29.

A week-long holiday will run from July 2 to 10 and the second term will kick off on July 11 to September 16.

Second holiday

There will also be a mid-term break on August 11 to 14 while the second holiday for learners will be on September 17 to 25.

Third term will begin on September 26 up to November 25.

This will then pave way for the KCPE examination which is set to run from November 28 to December 1, while the KCSE examination will be conducted for three weeks from December 1 to December 23.

According to the schedule, KCSE marking will take place between January 2 to 20, next year. "It is a tight education calendar for learners and teachers and this will require them to plan accordingly, not forgetting that this is also an election year," added the official. Education Cabinet Secretary, Prof George Magoha, last week said the first Grade Six national assessment is to be administered in December. It is expected

that this national assessment will account for 40 per cent of the candidate's final mark while the remaining 60 per cent will come from the classroom teacher scores drawn from school-based assessments in Grade Four, Five and Six, said Magoha when he released the 2021 KCPE results.

The minister said the new testing is expected to emphasise on both formative and summative assessments, which will not only heavily reduce the cut-throat competition witnessed under the 8-4-4 system but also the incentives for cheating in examinations.

"I also wish to assure my successor that I have ensured that the Grade Six national assessment is ready and all that he or she will need is simply to oversee its administration," said the CS.

It is also note worthy that the ministry allowed gradual resumption of internal co-curricular activities and guided inter-school contests, unlike in the last academic year when teachers used the time set aside for co-curricular activities to cover the syllabus.

Education Principal Secretary Dr Julius Jwan last year directed principals to engage learners in internal co-curricular activities and contests during the weekend and after classes.

"On October 18, the Ministry of Health recommended that inter-school sporting activities may gradually resume with strict adherence to the current guidelines prepared by the Ministry of Education. The initial focus should be on non-contact or low contact activities as guided in the protocols," the PS said in a circular to regional, county and sub-county directors of education issued last November.



CoG wants presidential aspirants' commitment to defend devolution

by Irene Githinji @igitshee

Governors yesterday urged all presidential aspirants to join the Council of Governors in pushing for timely disbursement of funds to counties.

Council Vice-Chairman James Ongwae of Kisii said the aspirants should commit to not only defend devolution but also ensure counties are granted their allocation on time, even before the August 9 General-Election.

He made the remarks as he dismissed reports that counties have not utilised the already released funds, saying they are cash strained due to delayed disbursements of funds.

"We are concerned by the violation of the law and the perennial delays in disbursement of the county equitable share by the National Treasury," said Ongwae, who spoke from CoG headquarters in Nairobi.

Ongwae said failure to release funds will see CoG seek legal redress to resolve the recurrent delay in disbursement of funds to counties.

He said under the Division of Revenue Act 2021, counties were allocated an equitable share of revenue amounting to Sh370 billion but they only received Sh221.6 billion despite being two months to the end of the Financial Year.

He said the outstanding balance for the Financial Year 2021/22 is Sh148.89 billion.

Ongwae also said the outstanding amount owed to counties as per the disbursement schedule stands at Sh87.34 billion with Sh8.26 billion owed to 11 county governments for January

allocation. Another Sh16.2 billion is owed to 23 counties for February allocation and Sh29.6 billion owed to 47 devolved units for March allocation.

He also said Sh33.3 billion is owed to all counties for April allocation.

"While Kenyans continue to demand for services from counties, operations at the national government remains uninterrupted while county services are paralysed and nearly grinding to a halt. We call upon Treasury to expedite the release of these funds without further delay," said Ongwae.

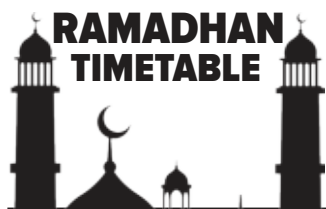
He said they will also engage Central Bank, Commission on Revenue Allocation, Controller of Budget and Treasury to provide for an overdraft facility that will help cushion counties from the delay in disbursements of funds.

Similarly, in view of the current political landscape and the upcoming elections, he said the council has commenced its preparations to ensure proper management of transition in counties and ultimately Assumption of Office of the Governors.

"The Assumption to office of the Governor Act 2019, provides for various processes to be undertaken. The law also provides for the establishment of an ad hoc Committee, for smooth transition," he explained.

Ongwae also stated that CoG has developed an advocacy tool on devolution to guide stakeholders to pitch strategic issues, especially to presidential aspirants.

He said the 11-point advocacy messages are the irreducible minimum agenda for devolution and county governments.



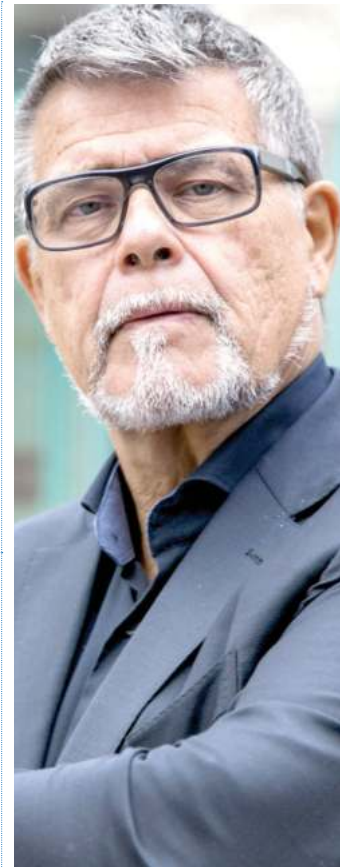
COUNTY	Suhoor	Iftar
Thika	05:22 AM	06:38 PM
Malindi	05:10 AM	06:25 PM
Mombasa	05:12 AM	06:27 PM
Nairobi	05:23 AM	06:39 PM
Garissa	05:11 AM	06:28 PM
Kisumu	05:30 AM	06:48 PM
Eldoret	05:28 AM	06:46 PM
Kitale	05:29 AM	06:47 PM
Nakuru	05:25 AM	06:43 PM
Kakamega	05:30 AM	06:48 PM

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Sleeping student sues teacher for waking him up

In 2008, the parents of Danbury High School student Vinicios Robacher said their son suffered hearing loss after one of his teachers slammed her hand on his desk to wake him up during a math lesson. The family sued the school, the school board and the city. But apparently the case fell on deaf ears and collapsed.



Man wants to legally change his age

In 2018, a 69-year-old Dutchman wanted to legally change his age to avoid ageism. Emile Ratelband claimed he felt discriminated against because his real age was affecting his job prospects as well as his chances of success on Tinder, a popular dating app. The judge explained that many rights and obligations are age-based, and that changing the legal age could cause many complications. He lost the case.

Of bizarre court cases judges do listen to, rule on

Just last week, a South African court jailed a former university student activist for extravagantly spending part of 'grant' that had been deposited in her bank account by mistake. By law she should have reported the anomaly that saw her get Sh110 million instead of Sh11,000. However, if that shocks, the following court cases will crack your ribs...



Customers disappointed that Red Bull did not energise them

Red Bull's famous slogan "Red Bull gives you wings" got the company in trouble in 2016. A class-action lawsuit accused the company of having misleading adverts and making false claims. Plaintiffs said the energy drink did not give people wings, even figuratively speaking, that is, they didn't feel energised. They said the company lacked evidence to claim the beverage could improve one's focus. Red Bull settled out of court and agreed to pay \$640,000.



Bold kidnapper sues hostages for escaping

Jesse Dimmick, a fugitive facing a murder charge, kidnapped a Kansas couple in September 2009. At some point he fell asleep and they escaped. They sued Dimmick for over \$75,000 in damages. His response was to countersue for breach of contract. He claimed he and the couple had a legally binding oral agreement for them to hide him from the police. His case was dismissed in 2012.



Man takes dry cleaners to court over missing pants

A court ruled against the dissatisfied customer of a Washington, DC dry cleaner - who sued the dry cleaner for \$54 million for allegedly misplacing his pants - and ordered him to pay the company its legal fees. The customer, administrative law judge Roy Pearson, also could not prove the store lost his pants. Pearson's suit was based on the claim that the store's sign said "Satisfaction Guaranteed." The case drew national attention as well as sympathy for the defendants, who received funds online for their defense. That was in 2007.

Man claims Uber ruined his marriage

In 2017, a French businessman sued Uber for \$48 million, claiming that a flaw in the ride-sharing company's app played a role in the dissolution of his marriage. The businessman said he borrowed his wife's cell phone and used it to log on to the Uber app. He claimed a glitch in the app caused it to continue to send notifications of his whereabouts to his wife's phone even after he logged off, and apparently some of his movements caused a problem with wife and their marriage ended in divorce. The result of the suit is unknown.



Husband sues wife for giving him 'ugly' baby

Boy meets a pretty girl, boy marries the girl; they have kids. One similar tale did not have such a happy ending, however. Jian Feng from China saw his newborn daughter, who, he said, was "incredibly ugly" and did not look like either parent. He accused his wife of cheating on him. At that point, she admitted she had several plastic surgeries before they had met. He sued on the grounds of false pretenses, claiming she misled him by hiding her cosmetic history. He won the case, and his wife was made to pay him more than \$120,000 in 2012.

Rift erupts in IEBC over ROs deployment

Some commissioners fault electoral body chair and chief executive of unilaterally appointing Returning Officers to counties

by Mathew Ndung'u
@PeopleDailyKe

A major rift has erupted in the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) over deployment of Returning Officers (ROs) to oversee the August 9 General Election.

At the centre of the differences are claims by a section of the commissioners, particularly those who were recently appointed, of allegedly being sidelined in the commission's operations in the countdown to the highly-anticipated polls.

The dissatisfied commissioners accuse IEBC chairman Wafula Chebukati and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Marjan

Hussein Marjan of unilaterally appointing Constituency Returning Officers and their deputies and 47 County Returning Officers and their deputies.

The IEBC rift has escalated to some political parties, which have raised eyebrows over the criteria used in the appointments given the political heat that the presidential race has generated.

Proposed appointments

The General-Election appears to have been reduced to a two-horse race between Azimio La Umoja-One Kenya coalition's Raila Odinga and Kenya Kwanza's Deputy President William Ruto.

On April 1, the Registrar of

Political Parties Anne Nderitu wrote to political parties urging them to submit to her office and IEBC their views on the proposed names of the County Returning Officers and their deputies and 271 Constituency Returning Officers and their deputies within 14 days.

Regulation 3 of the Elections (General) regulations of 2012 requires that IEBC provides the list of all persons proposed for appointment as RO and their deputies to all political parties and independent candidates at least 14 days before they are appointed.

This, according to the law, grants the stakeholders an opportunity to make any representation on the proposed persons to be appointed to the offices.

"In compliance with the cited law, the commission asked the Registrar of Political Parties to share with political parties



IEBC Chairman Wafula Chebukati, CEO Marjan Hussein Marjan and other commissioners during a past press briefing. PD/FILE

the list of the proposed officers for each of the 290 constituencies and 47 counties," Ms Nderitu observes in her letter.

She adds: "Any feedback or representation should be done in writing within 14 days of this letter. The representation should be addressed to the commission with a copy to the Registrar's office."

It is this letter that fuelled the rift at the electoral agency, with a section of the commissioners demanding that Chebukati rescinds the proposed appointments until after their involvement.

"The new commissioners feel sidelined in all the operations as they are never consulted on anything. We only come to learn of most of the decisions taken through the media," one of the aggrieved commissioners told People Daily.

But Chebukati downplayed the issue of a rift at the commission, insisting that the CEO had the sole prerogative to appoint ROs as specified in law.

"I am not aware of any rift over the deployment of ROs. The deployment of ROs is an operational activity that is handled by the CEO in terms of the existing legal framework, policies and manuals," Chebukati said when contacted.

The tiff between a section of the commissioners and Chebukati could be a repeat of the 2017 scenario where the IEBC chairman fell out with his then CEO Ezra Chiloba.

The Chebukati-Chiloba relationship was always mechanical, exhibiting a clear lack of trust between the two, to an extent that even mundane internal issues were detailed in memos.

Insiders say Chebukati seemed convinced that Chiloba was wily and in need of constant micro-managing to stop him from undermining authority. On the other hand,

IN THEIR PROTEST

● New commissioners feel sidelined in all the operations as they are never consulted on anything.

● They claim they only come to learn of most of the decisions taken through the media.

● They are demanding that Chebukati rescinds the proposed appointments in the meantime.

the validity of ballot papers. Decisions made by ROs are final as the commission has no powers to overturn them.

Besides ensuring the entire process is conducted within the law, the RO is expected to be impartial without appearing to favour any candidate or political party.

In 2017, the repeat presidential election was almost marred after High Court Judge George Odunga suspended the appointment of ROs and Presiding Officers on grounds that the process of appointing them had been irregular and illegal.

However, Court of Appeal judges Eastus Githinji, Martha Koome and Fatuma Sichale came to the rescue when they overruled Odunga's unexpected decision.

According to Justice Odunga, the gazetment of the IEBC officials was illegally done and had violated the Elections Act.

"The respondent (IEBC) did not provide the list of persons proposed for political parties and independent candidates at least 14 days prior to the proposed day of appointment to enable them make any representation, and in so doing, the respondent violated Regulation 3 (2)," Justice Odunga had ruled.

Yesterday, former IEBC vice-chairman Gabriel Mukele urged commissioners to iron out their differences before it is late.

"We saw what such differences did to the outcome of the 2017 polls and this does not augur well for the country. The commissioners should sort out their differences before they boomerang," Mukele warned.

Mukele was a member of the commission that presided over the 2007 General Election whose disputed outcome led to the post-election violence that left more than 1,000 people dead and thousands displaced.

CHEBUKATI



I am not aware of any rift over the deployment of ROs

Chiloba was dismissive of his boss as an arrogant person in haste to fault-find and apportion blame.

Critical role

For instance, when on September 7, 2017, Chebukati gave Chiloba a couple of hours to explain the bungling of the August election, the latter took his time and responded four days later without even making the slightest attempt to explain or excuse the delay.

In the current case, commissioners critical of Chebukati claim that the deployment of ROs ought to have emanated from a plenary meeting by the commissioners and not through a unilateral decision.

The ROs play a critical role in the electoral process, as they have statutory authority to conduct polling, oversee the counting process and decide

FOMO EVENTS PRESENTS

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Your constituency returning officer

PROPOSED RETURNING OFFICERS

COUNTY NAME	CONST. CODE	CONSTITUENCY	NAME OF OFFICER
MOMBASA	1	CHANGAMWE	CHARO KALLUME CHARO
MOMBASA	2	JOMVU	HUSNA HASSAN SALIM
MOMBASA	3	KISAUNI	OLE TAISWA JOHN
MOMBASA	4	WALI	MARIO IBRAHIM ALI
MOMBASA	5	LKONI	MARGARET WAKESHO MZAE
MOMBASA	6	MWITA	MASHA SUDI MWAKILONDA
KWALE	7	NSAMBWENI	JAPHET OMARA MBWANA
KWALE	8	LUNGA LUNGA	RAYMOND KAINJU MAKAZI
KWALE	9	MATIGA	ILWARUA CHIKOPHE ABDALLAH
KWALE	10	KINANGO	JOSEPH BARAZA MWAIFONDO
KILIFI	12	KILIFI SOUTH	JUMAA MUSA JUMAA
KILIFI	13	KALOLENI	NEEMA KARISA DOUGLAS
KILIFI	15	GANZE	MOHAMED BAIHERO ABOUD
KILIFI	16	MALINDI	HAMISI HALFANI TSUMO
KILIFI	17	MAGARINI	AISHA ABUBAKAR SENGE
TANA RIVER	20	BURA	ABDUL SWALEH JAMANDA
LAMU	21	LAMU EAST	KITSAO KARANI STEPHEN
LAMU	22	LAMU WEST	SAHA ISAJAH MAZDINGU
TAITA TAVETA	23	TAVETA	YUSUF ABUBAKAR VIYOHAMMED
TAITA TAVETA	24	NWADANI	GITAU GACHUJI JOHN
TAITA TAVETA	25	MWATATE	SHIDA TSUWI ALPHONCE
TAITA TAVETA	26	VOI	CHRISTINE MUNGA MWAIKIZA
GARISSA	27	GARISSA TOWNSHIP	ABDI YUNUS MOHAMED
GARISSA	28	BALAMBALA	ALI NUR HUSSEIN
GARISSA	29	LAGDERA	FARAH ABDI IBRAHIM
GARISSA	30	DADAAB	ABDI SHEIKH MOHAMED
GARISSA	31	FAFI	ABDULLAH IBRAHIM LSSACK
GARISSA	32	LARA	LSSACK MUHMED VIYOHAMMED
WAJIR	33	WAJIR NORTH	SIYAT MAHAT SABALI
WAJIR	34	WAJIR EAST	SALIM BILALI
WAJIR	35	TARBAG	MOHAMED RASHID MAALIM AHMED
WAJIR	36	WAJIR WEST	NOOR GEDI ARALE
WAJIR	37	ELDAS	ABDIBASHIR ALNOOR IBRAHIM
WAJIR	38	WAJIR SOUTH	ABDULLAH MUSA VIYOHAMED
MANDERA	39	MANDERA WEST	ABDIKADIR ABDULLAH AHMED
MANDERA	40	BANESSA	MOHAMUD MOHAMED DLOW
MANDERA	41	MANDERA NORTH	HASHIM AHMED ISMAIL
MANDERA	42	MANDERA SOUTH	MUSFAD ABDULLAH AHMED
MANDERA	43	MANDERA EAST	HUSSEIN ABDI HASSAN
MANDERA	44	LAFFEY	YASIN ABDIKARIM HIREY
MARSABIT	45	NOYALE	MAUTA JEPHITHER GITONGA
MARSABIT	46	NORTH HERR	HILLARY KORIR LAREMA CHEBI
MARSABIT	47	SAKU	SIMON SANCHANA LOKADDO
MARSABIT	48	LAISAMIS	BEN ON ESUZA LUMWAGA
ISIOLO	49	ISIOLO NORTH	DOMINIC K. LEPARARAJ
MERU	51	IGEMBE SOUTH	NDUNGU WAINANA VILFRED
MERU	52	IGEMBE CENTRAL	PAUL MUIRURI MBUGUA
MERU	53	IGEMBE NORTH	GIDEON NDABILE SARADO
MERU	55	TIGANIA EAST	KINYUA MWI JOHN
MERU	56	NORTH IMENTI	MWANGI KAREN V/ACHERA
MERU	57	BUURI	AMINA SHAKU JARGO
MERU	58	CENTRAL IMENTI	LEONARD AMENYA OKEMWA
MERU	59	SOUTH IMENTI	KASSIM MWAGOMBA KAEMA
THARAKA NITHI	60	MAARA	NJIRU NAMU NEL ON
THARAKA NITHI	61	CHUKA/GAMBA/NGOMBE	MWITI JOSEPHINE KINYA
THARAKA NITHI	62	THARAKA	ROSEMARY NJOKI NJERU
EMBU	63	MANHATA	GEKONDE SIRIBA CALLEB
EMBU	64	RUNYENJES	M ITHIRU PAMELA KARIMI
EMBU	65	MBEERE SOUTH	FESTUS MARI NGEERAH
EMBU	66	MBEERE NORTH	DAMIAND REBECCA MWONTUNE
KITUI	67	MWINGI NORTH	MULE MALONZA MARTIN
KITUI	68	MWINGI WEST	MWAWASI JOHN KIBWANGA
KITUI	69	MWINGI CENTRAL	MUTUA MBAI JAMES
KITUI	70	KITUI WEST	MWANGI KANYORIA STANLEY
KITUI	71	KITUI RURAL	WINNIFRED NDOTI KITALI
KITUI	72	KITUI CENTRAL	TITUS KITHEKA MUTEMI
KITUI	73	KITUI EAST	MUGAMBI JENIFFER WANJA
KITUI	74	KITUI SOUTH	SILVIA CHEPKHUMBA MARITIM
MACHAKOS	75	MASINGA	MUTUA MBUUBU REUBEN

MACHAKOS	76	YATTA	FIDELIS KITILI KIWA A
MACHAKOS	77	KANGUNDO	LANGO IBRAHIM GUYO
MACHAKOS	78	MATUNGULU	SAHARA IBRAHIM MAALIM
MACHAKOS	79	KATHIANI	MARVIN MUNGHAR KARANJA
MACHAKOS	80	MAHOKO	JANE NARIYAMA WASILWA
MACHAKOS	81	MACHAKOS TOWN	LUCY MBITHE JOHN
MACHAKOS	82	MWALA	COLLINS KILONJI MUTUA
MACHAKOS	83	MBOONI	MACHEKELE JACOB
MAKUENI	84	KILOME	PELAGI MKIWA MWANYOLO
MAKUENI	85	KAITI	VINCENT SARUNI SAIKABO
MAKUENI	86	MAKUENI	MOGARA KWAMBOKA FLORENCE
MAKUENI	87	KIBWEZI WEST	EVANSON GITHINJI NGOMANO
MAKUENI	88	KIBWEZI EAST	WANDEO AWUDOR PAMELA
NYANDARUA	89	KINANGOP	BENARD MUKAYA EVELYA
NYANDARUA	90	KIPIPIRI	SAMUEL GACHUJI CHEGE
NYANDARUA	91	OI KALOU	ANTHONY MUHA NJIRAINI
NYANDARUA	92	OL JORO OROK	MAINGI JULIUS MUTIUSI
NYANDARUA	93	NDARAGWA	KAMAU WAINANA ANTHONY
NYERI	94	TETU	FAITH KANGENDO MOSES
NYERI	95	KIENI	DAVID MUTHIRI MBUI
NYERI	96	MATHIRA	FAITH WAMBUI MUGO
NYERI	97	OTHAYA	MWANZA NZOMO JUSTUS
NYERI	98	MUKURUWEINI	NZIKIA MWOLLO JOSEPHAT
NYERI	99	NYERI TOWN	KAINOIO PETER MAUTA
KIRINYAGA	100	MWEA	CHARLES NDIRANGU MAINA
KIRINYAGA	101	GICHUGU	GITIBO MUTIRIA GEOFFREY
KIRINYAGA	102	NDIA	MWANGI NJUGU FRANCIS
KIRINYAGA	103	KIRINYAGA CENTRAL	MWANGI JAMES MAINGI
MURANG'A	104	KANGEMA	MILICENT WANJIRU MBUI
MURANG'A	105	MATHIOYA	CAROLINE NJERI GITHUA
MURANG'A	106	KIHARU	MURAGE WAICHINGA EDWARD
MURANG'A	107	KIGUMU	MUNGI MAINA JAMES
MURANG'A	108	MARAGWA	SOITA WEKESA ARNOLD
MURANG'A	109	KANDARA	NGUTE KILONZI LINAH
MURANG'A	110	GATANGA	ESTHER WANJIKU WANJIKU
KIAMBU	111	GATUNDU SOUTH	LIGULU OWINGO MAURICE
KIAMBU	112	GATUNDU NORTH	NJOROGE MAINA ANDREW
KIAMBU	113	JUJA	MARY NYAMBURA NDUNGU
KIAMBU	114	THIKA TOWN	MICHAEL MUTIAYUBI MWOSSE
KIAMBU	115	RURIU	BENARD ONYANGO OMVACH
KIAMBU	116	GITHUNGURI	ANANCIETA KAVEKE MUSAU
KIAMBU	117	KIAMBU	SAKI MUI BEATRICE
KIAMBU	118	KIAMBAA	CATHERINE WAMBUI KAMAU
KIAMBU	119	KABETE	MAUREEN KEREBI OYARO
KIAMBU	120	KIKIUYU	MARJORIE PATIENCE OWINDO
KIAMBU	121	LIMURU	JOSEPH MUYIYO MUSTYOKI
KIAMBU	122	LARI	CATHERINE KITHINJI
TURKANA	123	TURKANA NORTH	BORU DALUCHA DUBA
TURKANA	124	TURKANA WEST	KIPKOGEI BOWEN NDAH
TURKANA	125	TURKANA CENTRAL	ALFRED K RONDH
TURKANA	126	LOIMA	GODFREY ETHERI ENGOR
TURKANA	127	TURKANA SOUTH	ISAJAH KHUYOLE NABWAYO
TURKANA	128	TURKANA EAST	LAZARUS EDONGA EMANIKOR
WEST POKOT	129	KAPENGURIA	ENOCK GICHABA OTARA
WEST POKOT	130	SIGOR	FVYATIRIN KITUYI WEKESA
WEST POKOT	131	KACHELBA	WILSON KIMUTAI KIPCHUMBA
WEST POKOT	132	POKOT SOUTH	ANTHONY KIRORI KIMANI
SAMBURU	133	SAMBURU WEST	BENARD V/TARINE MUTALI
TRANS NZOIA	136	KWANZA	RECHAH TULLU JOSHUA
TRANS NZOIA	137	ENDEBESS	PATRICK ONYANGO WANYAMPA
TRANS NZOIA	139	KIMINI	OTIENO RESA PETER
TRANS NZOIA	140	CHERANGANY	SELY JEMAITA CHESANG
UASIN GISHU	141	TINDERET	DANIEL KASITI CHEPTOT
UASIN GISHU	142	TURBO	SIMALI NALJAHO JUSTUS
UASIN GISHU	143	MOIBEN	ERASTUS ORWA OTIENO
UASIN GISHU	144	ANABKOI	EUNICE JELAGAT MARU
UASIN GISHU	145	KAPSERET	MILDRED NASWA WANYONYI WACHYE
UASIN GISHU	146	KESSES	MATHEW K KUDJCHENGER
ELGEYO	147	MARAKWET EAST	MARIACH LMARIS JACKSON
MARAKWET	148	MARAKWET WEST	JOSEPH AKUTAA LOTUKOI

ELGEYO MARAKWET	149	KEYYO NORTH	KIMUTAI KEMI NORBERT
ELGEYO MARAKWET	150	KEYYO SOUTH	SELLAH MALAMBA CHRISTINE
NANDI	151	SOY	DOREEN NANJAKULLU WAWIRE
NANDI	152	ALDAI	K. BOINETT FRANK
NANDI	153	NANDI HILLS	KALORY MUGWANGA JUMAH
NANDI	154	CHESUMEI	RAJAB MAKOKHA BARASA
NANDI	155	EMGWEN	VERONICAH NKEPENI LEKOPOLE
NANDI	156	MOSOP	OBONGYA OKOCHI BONVENTURE
BARINGO	157	TIATY	JEREMIAH NGUTHU
BARINGO	158	BARINGO NORTH	HARUN GATHIRU NJUGUNA
BARINGO	159	BARINGO CENTRAL	ONDITI KENNEDY
BARINGO	160	BARINGO SOUTH	GEORGE GITHINJI CHEGE
BARINGO	161	MOGOTI	MUTEKHO NGAITA JOHN
BARINGO	162	ELDAMA RAVINE	GILBERT KIPCHIRCHIR SEREM
LAIKIPIA	163	LAIKIPIA WEST	MITHAMO WANJIRU TERESIA
LAIKIPIA	164	LAIKIPIA EAST	NDIANGIU TABITHA GATHONI
LAIKIPIA	165	LAIKIPIA NORTH	KAHURA KAMUA JOHN
NAKURU	166	MOLO	VINCENT KIMELIL
NAKURU	167	NJORO	MOSES NJERU MBOGO
NAKURU	168	NAIVASHA	WANJIKU MURIUKI AGNES
NAKURU	169	GILGIL	MUGAI KAMAU PETER
NAKURU	170	KURESOI SOUTH	WACERA NJOROGE ACENIA
NAKURU	171	KURESOI NORTH	ALICE CHERUYIOT CHERONO
NAKURU	172	SUBUKIA	SENA LEKISAAI
NAKURU	173	RONGAI	HILDAH LOKWANI NASIRU
NAKURU	174	BAHATI	GEORGE KARANI NGANGA
NAKURU	175	NAKURU TOWN WEST	MOSES OPIYO AHETE
NAKURU	176	NAKURU TOWN EAST	PETER NDIRANGU KURIA
NAROK	177	KILGORIS	LILLIAN YUGITSA LILUMAH
NAROK	178	EMURIA DIKIR	LILLIAN ANYANGO OKOTH
NAROK	179	NAROK NORTH	CHEBEL FRIDAH
NAROK	180	NAROK EAST	JOEL OMAE OKIABERA
NAROK	181	NAROK SOUTH	CHRISTINE ACHIENG OTIENO
NAROK	182	NAROK WEST	LYDIA CHEPKEMOI ROTICH
KAJIADO	183	KAJIADO NORTH	BENARD MUSEE
KAJIADO	184	KAJIADO CENTRAL	ELIJAH MUGO NGUNJIRI
KAJIADO	185	KAJIADO EAST	SAMUEL WAMOSI CHACHA
KAJIADO	186	KAJIADO WEST	EVELINE NYABOKE NYAATA
KAJIADO	187	KAJIADO SOUTH	AGNES SYIATO MANKEYA
KERICHO	188	KIPKELION EAST	RALPH MANTAI MESSOPIRR
KERICHO	189	KIPKELION WEST	MATONGO SARARA MOSES
KERICHO	190	ANAMOI	MBUGUA KURIA JASAN
KERICHO	191	BURETI	MACHARIA OMBOGO ELIJAH
KERICHO	192	BELGUT	SOPHINA NITIKWA LELELUK
KERICHO	193	SIGOWET/SON	KIPLAGAT BIAMAH NDAH
BOMET	194	SOTIK	KENNEDY CHARANA JOHN
BOMET	195	CHEPALUNGU	KIPKEMBOI LAGAT JAPHETH
BOMET	196	BOMET EAST	KIPKORIR BUTTUK NICHOLAS
BOMET	197	BOMET CENTRAL	HILLARY K D KOMBE
BOMET	198	KONJUN	KIPRONO RUTO ISAAC
KAKAMEGA	199	LUGARI	KIPRUTO KERICH JEREMIAH
KAKAMEGA	200	LUKUYANI	FREDRICK HEZEKIAH OWINDO ODENGE
KAKAMEGA	201	MALAVA	JUMA JOSEPH ODUIR
KAKAMEGA	202	LURAMBI	ABDALLAH SALIM WILLIAM
KAKAMEGA	203	NAIVAKHOLU	JUDITH CHEPKEMOI LOSLI
KAKAMEGA	204	MUMIAS WEST	JUMA AMACH DANIEL
KAKAMEGA	203	MUMIAS EAST	SYLVESTER OUMA OMOLO
KAKAMEGA	206	MATUNGU	PHILIP KIPRUTO CHUMBA
KAKAMEGA	207	BUTERE	SIMPOTWO SUKUKU MARTIN
KAKAMEGA	208	KHWISERO	KIMOTEMO NG' ETICH THOMAS
KAKAMEGA	209	SHINYALU	EDWARD KITUM TOROTICH
KAKAMEGA	210	IKOLOMANI	ROSELYNE AKINYI ONYANGO
VIHIGA	211	VIHIGA	HUSELON OLOISHURO SALENOI
VIHIGA	212	SABAITA	ELIDA ADHIAMBO OCHIENG
VIHIGA	213	HAMISI	EVALYNE ASIKO JOYCE
VIHIGA	214	EMUHATA	REUBEN KENNEDY KOGUTU
VIHIGA	215	LUANDA	PHILEMON KAPELINYANG RIONDISA

BUNGOMA	217	SIRISIA	ISAAC KIPLAGAT RUTTO
BUNGOMA	218	KABUCHAI	HENRY BAHATI LUMITI
BUNGOMA	219	BUMULA	JOYCE NAMUNYAK
BUNGOMA	220	KANDUYI	KIPKORE KIPKOSGEI STANLEY
BUNGOMA	222	WEBUYE WEST	PERIS CHERUTO SAINA
BUNGOMA	223	KIMILILI	ERICK OMONDI GEORGE
BUNGOMA	224	TONGAREN	MARGARET AKINYI MUSUMBA
BUSIA	225	TESO NORTH	EDWIN KABURIA
BUSIA	226	TESO SOUTH	OKKY CAROL KANGALA OMONO
BUSIA	227	NAMBALE	LEONARD WEKESA WAFULA
BUSIA	228	MATAYOS	KENNEDY OCHANYO
BUSIA	229	BUTULA	JOHN KIPLANGAT KIRUI
BUSIA	230	FUNYULA	EMMANUEL B. OTIENO ANYANGO
BUSIA	231	BUDLANGI	MOSES SIMIYU NYONGESA
SIAYA	233	UGUNJA	OBARA OMARE DENNIS
SIAYA	235	GEM	JUMA OTIENO EZEKIEL
SIAYA	236	BONDO	JACKTON MUKHESA OKUBASU
SIAYA	237	RARIDA	GILBERT KIPCHIRCHIR SEREM
KISUMU	238	KISUMU EAST	EMMANUEL OMBATO BAHATI
KISUMU	239	KISUMU WEST	GREGORY MATOKWA JOHN
KISUMU	240	KISUMU CENTRAL	YEGON KIBOS KIPRUTO
KISUMU	241	SEME	BENARD GOWERI CHIENGA
KISUMU	242	NYANDO	SIMIYU NAMDOKHA MAURICE
KISUMU	243	MUHORONI	OTIENO MAYO SAMSON
KISUMU	244	NYAKACH	SHAULIN LERICHE MEIGURAN
HOMA BAY	245	KASIPUL	OBARI ROSE
HOMA BAY	246	KABONDO	CLEMENT OSEMBO MOKOBO
HOMA BAY	248	RANGWE	ONYANGO JOBANDO GEORGE
HOMA BAY	249	HOMABAY TOWN	OJO ODHAMBO GREGORY
HOMA BAY	250	NDHIWA	REBECCA ABWAKU
HOMA BAY	251	MBITA	DUMA ONYANGO PETER
HOMA BAY	252	SUBA	AMIN S. WASKIE YUSUF
MIGORI	253	RONGO	ABDI TADICHA ROBA
MIGORI	255	SUNA EAST	GODANA HILAMA HARBABA
MIGORI	256	SUNA WEST	KENNEDY OTIENO OTOOTH
MIGORI	257	URURI	JOSEPH BENSON NGENDO
MIGORI	259	KURIA WEST	KIPLANGAT NGENY ROBERT
MIGORI	260	KURIA EAST	SAMSON OJEMO ODIENO
MIGORI	261	BONCHARI	DELVIN CHELANGAT SURE
KISII	262	SOUTH MUGIRANGO	CATHERINE CHEPKIRUI
KISII	265	BOMACHOGE CHACHE	OMONDI DAULA MOSES
KISII	266	NYARIABARI MASABA	AKUMU LEMBO HILDA
KISII	267	NYARIABARI CHACHE	MARK GIKARO MANCO
KISII	268	KITITU CHACHE NORTH	GRACE ATIENO OWINDO
KISII	269	KITITU CHACHE SOUTH	DAVID KIPKEMOI CHEROP
NYAMIRA	270	KITITU MASABA	SUMBWA AMBUKO BENSON
NYAMIRA	271	WEST MUGIRANGO	DAVID LANGAT
NAMRIA	272	NORTH MUGIRANGO	RUTTOH KIPPEGON WESLEY
NYAMIRA	273	BORABU	JULIUS MEJA OKEYO
NAIROBI	274	WESTLANDS	GAKURU MUTHEE PATRICK
NAIROBI	275	DAGORETTI NORTH	LEONARD NJENGA
NAIROBI	276	DAGORETTI SOUTH	ROSALINE NYAMAT KASALE
NAIROBI	277	LANGATA	JANET NDAUNI MUTIA
NAIROBI	278	KIBRA	PETER MAHUI ANTHONY
NAIROBI	279	ROYSAMBU	BENARD MWANGI KIMANI
NAIROBI	280	KASARANI	AMOSI CHILAI NYONGESA
NAIROBI	281	RUARAKA	HELLEN HUKU MUTUA MAMWAKA
NAIROBI	282	EMBAKASI SOUTH	NJUKI MUGO HANSON
NAIROBI	283	EMBAKASI NORTH	MILLIAM WANJIRU GACHIH
NAIROBI	284	EMBAKASI EAST	MBOLU MUSTOKA DANIEL
NAIROBI	285	EMBAKASI WEST	WATHERERO MUHU TABITHA
NAIROBI	286	EMBAKASI CENTRAL	MUTISO MBITHI JUSTUS
NAIROBI	287	MAKADARA	JESSE CHERUYIOT TONUI
NAIROBI	289	STAREHE	ALICE NDUNGE KIMANI
NAIROBI	290	MATHARE	WANGARI MUNTIRI LYCY

PROPOSED COUNTY RETURNING OFFICERS

COUNTY CODE	COUNTY NAME	NAME OF OFFICER
1	MOMBASA	SWALHA IBRAHIM YUSUF
2	KWALE	KARIUKI GACOKI OBDIAH
3	KILIFI	EISHA OMAR MOHAMED
5	LAMU	MARO ADE DAVID
6	TAITA TAVETA	GICHICHI MACHARIA ZAMUEL
7	GARISSA	GULTYA HUSSEIN ABDIWAHID
8	WAJIR	ADAN ALI MOHAMED
9	MANDERA	ADAN HARAR NOOR
10	MARSABIT	KINGODI MUKENYA JOSEPH
11	ISIOLO	SEKI LEMPAKA

12</



Haji accused of nepotism in ODPP recruitment

by Bernice Mbugua
@BerniceMuhindi

An activist has moved to court to challenge the list of candidates for various positions in the Office of Director of Public Prosecutions.

Mumba Ocharo wants the court to stop the Director of Public Prosecutions Noordin Haji (pictured) from

conducting interviews for vacant positions advertised last year.

Through lawyer Danstan Omari, he accuses Haji of nepotism alleging that the shortlisted candidates come from the same religious and ethnic background as the DPP.

"The DPP Noordin Haji is in contravention of the Constitution which provides for the guiding prin-

ciples of leadership and integrity especially the principle that leaders should not be guided by nepotism or favouritism," he says in court documents.

Ocharo says the shortlisted candidates, especially the position of Principal Administrative Officer, Senior Supply Chain Management Officer 1 and Senior Principal Finance

Officer depict nepotism by DPP.

He wants the court to issue a conservatory order restraining the DPP from carrying out interviews, background and/or reference checks, causing gazettement, offering an employment contract and eventually assigning any duties to the shortlisted applicants for the said positions.

Raila helicopter attack was planned, Matiang'i tells MPs

MPs Oscar Sudi, Caleb Kositany and Uasin Gishu Assembly Speaker David Kiplagat have been grilled regarding the incident

by Anthony Mwangi and Zadock Angira
@PeopleDailyKe

Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiang'i said yesterday that initial investigations have confirmed the attack on Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) leader Raila Odinga in Kabenes, Uasin Gishu County, was planned.

Appearing before the National Assembly Security Committee yesterday, Matiang'i said evidence adduced from the suspects in custody indicated that the incident was well choreographed by some local leaders.

"What happened to the ODM leader was organised. The police are continuing with investigations and we will go where the investigations will lead us, but the incident is not a trend, it's just a one off," he said.

He added: "It was planned because we have arrested suspects with a lot of money in Sh50 notes. Clearly, there must have been some choreography behind that because it's not coincidental that the suspects had so much money in the same denominations and some of them were distributing it around that particular time."

Police have arrested 17 youths suspected to have been involved in the weekend fracas and who have since been presented in court. They will likely be charged with attempted murder.

The CS said similar attacks targeting Deputy President William Ruto's entourage have been found to be a one-off where youths engage in stone throwing.

"These incidents are isolated. The DP's incidents involved small groups of people with criminal minds," Matiang'i told the committee which is chaired by Limuru MP Peter Mwangi.

He said the incidents in Busia, Kondele in Kisumu County and Jacaranda grounds in Nairobi where the DP's entourage was attacked and that of Kabenes were not a trend of a pattern but isolated incidents by unruly youths.

Bribery disputes

The CS noted that the biggest threat the security agencies are facing ahead of the polls is voter bribery and crowd renting which, if not tamed, could spark similar incidents across the country.

"Bribery of voters and mobilisation of rented crowds are the main security challenges linked to the General Election that NPS is currently facing," Matiang'i told the committee.



He, however, said police will not be used to mediate bribery contracts and solving disputes arising from rented crowds, mobilisation expectations and bribes.

Said the CS: "Renting crowds is going to hurt us. The problem comes when it comes to sharing handouts and transporting the crowds back home.

"There will be no sacred cows in the crackdown on perpetrators of political violence. Primary onus of ensuring peace prevails during the electoral cycle lies with political leaders and political parties."

The minister spoke as Suna East MP Junet Mohammed and his Embakasi East counterpart Babu Owino recorded statements with detectives over the attack on Raila's chopper last Friday.

Suspects arrested

It emerged that the two MPs will be among the prosecution witnesses in the case where the 17 suspects are facing charges relating to the incident.

The MPs were accompanied to the DCI headquarters by Narok Senator Ledama ole Kina, Homa Bay Woman Representative Gladys Wanga and Suba MP John Mbadi.

Speaking to the media after recording their statements, the MPs urged politicians to exercise tolerance and allow their counterparts to visit any part of the country.

On Monday, the 17 suspects were produced in court and detectives allowed to detained them for seven days to enable them to conclude investigations.

The suspects who appeared before Eldoret Senior Resident Magistrate Emily Kigen will face charges of attempted murder, malicious damage of property, incitement to violence and creating a disturbance.

Investigations have now been taken over by the DCI headquarters.

In her ruling, the magistrate granted the prosecution's request for time to conclude

Embakasi East MP Babu Owino addresses the press yesterday outside DCI headquarters after he and Suna East MP Junet Mohammed recorded statements regarding the stoning of ODM leader Raila Odinga's helicopter in Uasin Gishu last week. PD/JOHN OCHIENG

THE PROBE

● Detectives have already interrogated Kapsere MP Oscar Sudi, his Soy counterpart Caleb Kositany and Uasin Gishu County Assembly Speaker David Kiplagat over the incident.

● Suna East MP Junet Mohammed and his Embakasi East counterpart Babu Owino have recorded statements with detectives over the attack on Raila's chopper last Friday.

investigations into the incident noting that it was also for the good of the suspects.

"This will also give the court a clearer picture to make a determination whether to charge the suspects or not. It is for their good as some of them may be exonerated of the offence," said the magistrate.

The suspects will be detained at Eldoret Police Station until April 14 when the case will come up for hearing.

During the Friday incident, a chopper which had carried Raila and other Azimio La Umoja leaders to the funeral of prominent Uasin Gishu farmer Jackson Kibor was damaged after it was pelted with stones by a group of rowdy youth.

Detectives have already interrogated Kapsere MP Oscar Sudi, his Soy counterpart Caleb Kositany and Uasin Gishu County Assembly Speaker David Kiplagat over the incident.

According to a preliminary report by the DCI, the politicians were the main planners and financiers of the attack on Raila's entourage.

On Sunday, President Uhuru Kenyatta waded into incident, warning that it could have set off violence. He said it was only by the grace of God that stones aimed at Raila did not hit him, otherwise the incident would have created problems.

Regarding the case of Sudi and two of his colleagues, detectives are now waiting for a forensic analysis report on their phones to determine their possible communication with the suspects in custody before they forward the file to the Director of Public Prosecution Noordin Haji.

Forensic experts are also examining the trio's mobile phones to determine money transactions they made either on the actual day of the incident or the day before the violence.

Police have also recorded a statement from the pilot of the chopper, Col (Rtd) Paul Ndege.

We're ready to secure election, says Interior CS

by Anthony Mwangi
@PeopleDailyKe

Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiang'i said yesterday that Kenya's security agencies are better equipped to secure the General Election than in 2017.

When he appeared before the National Assembly Security Committee, Matiang'i said the government had deployed sufficient resources to facilitate a credible election.

"We have hired more police officers who are available for deployment," the CS said.

Responding to questions on the security situation in Laikipia, Samburu and Baringo counties, Matiang'i disclosed that 25 per cent of National government security resources are currently committed to securing the three counties.

Matiang'i told the committee that the situation in the volatile counties had been aggravated by politics of expansionism, drought, rough and vast terrain and proliferation of arms sneaked from neighbouring countries.

"Political instability and troubles in neighbouring countries normally makes it easy for the locals to access weapons, especially from South Sudan," he said.

Engage youth

To address the situation, the CS said the government had ordered the closure of the airspace around Laikipia Nature Conservancy and its environs to allow security agencies to secure the area.

He cited retrogressive practices such as cattle rustling and moranism as some of the vices which have been worsening the conflict.

The government, he said, was also investing in infrastructure such as roads and water pans and dams to open up the region and encourage settlement.

The CS asked the local leadership to invest in education, saying it would help engage youth.

"Investments in education, agriculture, health and social amenities is also being upscaled as a long-term solution," he said.

He added that the livestock off-take programme through the Kenya Meat Commission to provide a ready market was also being improved.

Why Uhuru's Big Four agenda must be part of the Budget

Kenya's ambitious projects under the Big Four Agenda will be part of the 2021/22 Budget since they will be incomplete after President Uhuru Kenyatta's term ends.

State House spokesperson Kanze Dena says the projects will be part of the broad Vision 2030.

Countries come up with strategic plans to inform their investment and growth agenda. In 2008, Kenya published Vision 2030 to guide its agenda on economic, social, and political pillars. The vision was to be implemented systematically through five-year medium-term plans. In 2017, the President announced a plan dubbed the "Big Four" Agenda — Affordable Housing, Universal Health Coverage, Manufacturing, and Food Security.

Affordable Housing

This was triggered by scarcity of decent and affordable houses for medium and low-income earners. The government came up with an ambi-

tious plan to construct more than 5,000 units of low-cost houses across the country. But the project was dealt a blow by nullification of mandatory contributions to the National Housing Development Fund.

The government, in collaboration with Nairobi Metropolitan Services, is constructing over 3,000 units in Pangani and Jeevangee estates, near Ngara. Additionally, the Kenya Mortgage Refinancing Company, in collaboration with financial institutions and Saccos, has rolled out an affordable product ranging from 10 years and above, with an average interest rate of 9 percent.

Food Security

The country's economy depends on agriculture — flowers, fruits, tea and coffee exports. But agriculture is largely rain-dependent, with severe and frequent droughts attributed to climate change. To address this, the



PETER GICHERU

Much still needs to be done to increase Universal Health Coverage and enhance access to qualified healthcare providers and medicine

government has invested in dams.

Even so, policies should be developed to lower the cost of farm inputs like fertiliser and machinery for greater efficiency and cost reduction. County governments should also invest in extension services. Further, the government should implement stringent measures to control subdivision of arable land.

Manufacturing

Huge investments have been made in infrastructure development, easing access to raw materials and markets. The country has also made tremendous progress in Lapsset,

leading to expansion and modernisation of Lamu and Mombasa ports.

There has also been heavy investment in power production and diversification from hydro-electric power to wind, solar and geothermal sources.

Already, Kenya is the largest geothermal producer in Africa and ninth globally, with an estimated capacity of 7,000 to 10,000MW.

Nonetheless, the country needs to invest heavily in its foreign policy to increase trade partners through economic co-operation and tax treaties. Value addition will boost exports and ultimately lift the balance of trade.

Universal Health Coverage

It refers to access to quality health-care at affordable prices. A healthy citizenry has peace of mind and is highly productive. The government ran a pilot programme in Kisumu, Nyeri, Isiolo, and Machakos counties. Currently, the programme is being expanded across the country. There are also plans to make NHIF contributions compulsory to cover all households. And through the Finance Act 2021, NHIF contributions qualify for 15 percent relief.

Much still needs to be done to increase UHC and enhance access to qualified healthcare providers, medicine, and specialised treatment like dialysis and cancer therapy in public facilities. The government has done a lot but much more is needed.

— The writer is a Senior Tax Consultant at EY. The views expressed here are not necessarily those of EY

Witness tells of fatal shot by MP's aide

There was tension following the arrival of two police cars carrying armed officers, he recalls

by Sophie Njoka
@PeopleDailyKe

A second witness in the murder case against Malindi MP Aisha Jumwa yesterday told a Mombasa court that he saw her bodyguard open fire on a crowd that had gathered at the home of Michael Ngumbao, who was shot dead that day.

Joseph Kabwere, who was testifying before Mombasa High Court Judge Anne Ong'injo, said he saw the bodyguard, Godfrey Otieno, who is charged alongside Jumwa, draw his gun and aim at the crowd.

October 15 shooting

But he could not confirm if the bodyguard, whom he referred to as "Jeff", was aiming at Ngumbao. Chaos ensued during the shooting on October 15, 2019.

The witness said that before the MP and her team arrived at Reuben Katana's homestead, there was tension following the arrival of two police cars carrying heavily armed officers, forcing the crowd to flee.

"Aisha's bodyguard, whom I have known as Jeff, upon seeing Sunday (the deceased) who was from ODM, drew out his gun and started chasing him in Katana's compound," Kabwere told the court.

During the ensuing commotion, he saw a police officer known as Kosgei and his juniors shoot in the air, trying to quell the situation.

The court was forced to step down the would-be third witness following discrepancies in the evidence tabled by the prosecution. "I agree with the defence counsel that the report on reconstruction of the scene-of-crime report, which was documented four days after the scene, has some evidence which was not disclosed. The court hereby issues orders to have the witness stood down and the matter adjourned to allow the prosecution to supply the defence with the new evidence," she ruled.

The defence team comprising Danstan Omari, Jared Magolo and Shadrack Wambui opposed the move by Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions Vivian Kambaga to introduce new evidence by officer Sikuku Mayumbe, terming it forgery and manufactured.

'HOW NGUMBAO DIED'

● On Monday, the first witness, Alfred Jola Kahindi, said he heard the MP accusing police officers of "failing to do the job I sent you to do."

● He said Jumwa and two bodyguards stormed into the homestead of Ngumbao — an uncle of Ganda MCA Reuben Katana.

● "Following fracas and chaos, I decided to lie flat on my stomach. In a few seconds, calm had been restored and next to me was the body of the deceased," said the witness.



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Justice Hedwig Ong'undi to hear the case.

Court terms 'urgent' bid to stop fresh listing of Sim cards

by Nancy Gitonga

The High Court sitting in Nairobi yesterday certified as urgent a petition seeking to stop a directive by the Communication Authority (CA) of Kenya requiring mobile service operators to register their customers afresh.

Justice Hedwig Ong'undi directed petitioner Eliud Karanja Matindi to serve the notice to all parties listed as respondents, including the authority, ICT Cabinet Secretary and

telco service providers Safaricom, Airtel and Telkom, by today, April 6.

"I have perused the pleadings and the Notice of Motion dated March 21, 2022, together with the affidavit and annexures. The same is certified urgent," ruled Ong'undi.

In documents filed in court, Matindi says the directive by CA requiring Safaricom, Airtel and Telkom Kenya to carry out fresh registration of all their mobile subscribers, including those who are already registered, is illegal and unconstitutional.

"The directive from the CA is unconstitutional and, therefore, null and void," he states.

He says the regulator has also urged mobile operators to ensure that their subscribers disclose all other telephone numbers registered under their names, including those with other mobile providers.

Permanent deletion

The petitioner has faulted the Data Protection Commissioner, Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, National Gender and

Equality Commission and the Commission on Administration of Justice for failing to oppose the directive.

The petitioner states that this might force telcos to suspend the services of any subscriber who will not have registered their mobile lines from April 15, with deactivation of the service after 90 days.

Matindi also wants the court to order permanent deletion of all records and photographs of registered subscribers collected during the fresh process.

Costly goods, fuel woes push hapless Kenyans to the edge

Acute shortage of petrol worsens the pain felt by consumers already reeling from high prices of goods

by Noel Wandera
@NoelWanderaH

Consumers are grappling with abnormal surges in the cost of commodities, with some increasing fortnightly.

The pain has been compounded by the increasing cost of fuel, which has been in short supply as marketers slug it out with the government over unpaid fuel subsidies. This week, long queues have been witnessed in various parts of the country as consumers jostle to fuel their vehicles.

A spot check by People Daily yesterday recorded long queues in Nairobi, Nakuru and Eldoret. In Narok, motorists came from as far away as Bomet to local petrol stations to revive their vehicles.

Over 10 petrol stations have remained closed since last Friday, with many people saying they are spending more than four hours in queues waiting to be served.

Pain at the pump

Motorist Evans Kamotho was stuck in a queue for over three hours at Ilmashariani Total Station and, as he neared the pump, the attendant said the fuel had run out.

"This was the only station that had fuel, but they have just announced that their stock is depleted, meaning there is no petrol in Narok Town," said Kamotho.

No single petrol station in Gatundu town had fuel by the time of going to press yesterday, compelling most taxi and boda boda riders to stop operations.

Led by Oliver Gitau and Patrick Kariuki, the riders and locals urged the government to make fuel available, even if it means increasing its price, instead of stalling activities that earn them an income.

"If the government cannot resolve this issue, we foresee a dark future. Our families are suffering as we have not earned anything for days now. Some of us might resort to crime to support their families. That's not what we want," Kariuki said.

Transport in Nyamira County was also paralysed for the third day running after matatu and boda boda riders withdrew their vehicles from the roads following an acute shortage of fuel. Many residents trekked long distances to seek government services at national and county offices.

The fuel shortage worsens the pain Kenyans have been feeling owing to high



prices of basic commodities. Retailers said they were enduring constant reprimands from irate consumers wanting to know the reasons for the constant rise.

Liz Wavinya, a hardware employee along Katani Road in Mavoko sub-county, said ambiguous answers were given by wholesalers. "If you ask them why, they tell you yesterday's prices are not similar to today's, although we hear it is a result of the President banning trade in scrap metal."

President Uhuru Kenyatta banned exports or dealings in scrap metal in January until proper guidelines are enacted.

Wavinya's hardware sells assorted building materials to customers at Katani and Syokimau, areas that are experiencing unprecedented construction of residential and commercial buildings.

Products whose prices have risen exponentially include column steel, iron sheets, roofing nails, tubes and paint thinners.

"A D8 column steel has risen from Sh490 to Sh800, while we buy D10 steel at Sh1,060, up from Sh760. We have to pass the cost to consumers," something they are not happy about," said Wavinya.

A check at other products indicated that the wholesale price of a bag of cement had risen from Sh480 to Sh500; black sheet 16 gauge iron sheet from Sh4,800 to Sh5,400 while the 18 gauge one had shot to Sh3,800 from Sh3,200. While she previously bought a kilo of roofing nails at Sh116, it now costs Sh137, with a 500-litre tin of thinner now

Motorists and boda boda riders scramble for fuel at a petrol station in Kisumu town yesterday. The price of petrol dropped to Sh136 per litre, from Sh200, after the government gave marketers a Sh34 billion subsidy.

PD/VIOLA KOSOME

1.49%

The increase in month-to-month food and non-alcoholic beverages index between February 2022 and March 2022.

going for Sh1,100 — up from Sh600.

These high costs will affect construction, purchase and renting of buildings, and are also being felt by households.

For Bethwel Migiro, who runs a grocery store in the same location, apart from complaints on shortage of milk and eggs, the prices of soda, wheat flour, cigarettes, maize, as well as laundry and bar soaps are also shooting through the roof.

Scarcity of eggs, which he blamed on unavailability of chicken feed, has led to price increases from Sh310 a tray to Sh370. Migiro increased the price of a 2kg packet of maize flour from Sh60 to Sh70, and is selling a kilo of the commodity at Sh43, up from Sh35, effective March this year.

Latest data from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) released in March showed the overall year-on-year inflation rate at 5.56 percent, influenced by a 9.92 percent increase in the prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages. The indices for eggs, cooking oil, potatoes, house rent, cooking gas, and soaps also went up.

"The month-to-month food and non-alcoholic beverages index rose by 1.49 percent between February and March. This was mainly attributed to a rise in prices of most food items," said KNBS director general Macdonald Obudho.

- Additional reporting by Evans Nyakundi, Mathew Ndung'u and George Sayagie

BRIEFLY

Bomet hospital gets Sh30 million goods

Longisa County Referral Hospital has received medical goods worth Sh30 million from Kenya Medical Supplies Agency (Kemsas), amid claims that it was short of drugs. Bomet Governor Hillary Barchok (below) commissioned the consignment on Friday, saying it would enable uninterrupted services until August. He said supplies worth Sh15 million would go to other medical facilities. Barchok disclosed that the goods followed talks between the county and Kemsas since the National Treasury had not released funds. Chama Cha Mashinani leader Isaac Ruto said counties had not received funds from Treasury owing to failure to submit financial returns. But he faulted the Treasury, saying this was not enough justification. Hospital administrator Felix Langat said they were now running optimally, while Public Health and Medical Services Committee executive member Joseph Sitonik lauded the intervention.

-KNA



MCA aspirant vows to alleviate poverty

An independent candidate vying for a Member of County Assembly (MCA) seat in Nairobi has decreed biting poverty in his neighbourhood, which he promises to address if elected in the August polls. Ben Adui Kilonzi, who is making his third attempt at Maringo/Hamza/Bahati Ward, said local youth were the most affected, mainly by vagaries of Covid-19. "The youth were rendered jobless by this pandemic. I will assist them if I make it to the Nairobi senate," said Adui. He unsuccessfully vied for the seat in 2013 and 2017 polls. He also lamented the deplorable conditions of roads, saying he would agitate for their immediate repairs. The current MCA is Mark "Tosha" Ndung'u.

- Charles Thuku

EACC gets nod to probe Tatu City deal

Officials of multi-billion-shilling project face anti-corruption

by Eric Wainaina
@PeopleDailyKe

Directors and top officials of real estate firm Tatu City and its main subsidiary Kofinaf are under investigation by the Ethics and Anti Corruption Commission over money laundering claims and defrauding taxpayers of billions of shillings.

At the heart of the investigations are multi-billion transactions relating to the sale of thousands of acres of land by Tatu City in Ruiru, Kiambu County, without payment of taxes to the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA).

EACC also accuses the directors of undervaluing costs of the transactions and other dubious dealings that could amount to serious economic crimes.

The investigation could expose other illegal operations at the firm which has been at the centre of a vicious war pitting local investors and foreign billionaires. The latter own Rendevour, the company that paid Sh2.4 billion and Sh7.56 billion to Socfinaf, a Belgian coffee and rubber producer, for the Tatu City and Kofinaf land, respectively.

Investigations began in 2018 but were stopped in 2019 by a court order. However, the probe has resumed after the anti-corruption court disallowed a plea from the officials to protect themselves from investigations.

Last Friday, Lady Justice Esther Maina dismissed a petition by the developers challenging the investigative mandate and powers of EACC to obtain information relating to their operations, effectively allowing the Twalib Mbarak-led commission to probe the leadership of Tatu City.

Justice Maina ruled that EACC had powers to investigate matters intertwined with corruption, including tax evasion and money laundering.

EACC described the latest development as "a major boost in the war against corruption", adding that it would immediately resume investigations as guided by their mandate.

"We are keenly observing the unfolding events regarding this matter, we are guided by our mandate," EACC spokesperson Yasin Amaro told *People Daily*.

Those likely to be of interest to investigators include Stephen Jennings, the chief executive officer and founder of Rendevour, the majority shareholder of Tatu City and Chris Barron, the country head, who has previously held the positions of chief operations officer, head of sales and operations manager.

EACC has been pursuing



A 5,000-acre new city, Tatu City is home to award-winning schools Crawford International and Nova Pioneer, as well as thousands of homes and businesses. PD/FILE

Tatu City developers, a consortium of investors working on a 5,000-acre project hosting homes, schools, offices, a shopping district, medical clinics, nature areas, a sports and entertainment complex and manufacturing area for more than 150,000 residents and tens of thousands of day visitors.

Detectives suspect the developers have been running an enterprise that thrives on suspected money laundering and fraud in which the government has lost billions of shillings following accusations that they have been repatriating huge amounts from the sale of land to offshore accounts in Mauritius, Bermuda and Germany, without paying taxes.

However, Tatu City and Kofinaf directors argue the investigations are meant to aid extortion, harassment and interference in favour of its disgruntled minority shareholders. The disgruntled directors, they say in court papers, are Steve Mwangi, a coffee farmer and his partners, Vimal Shah, chairman of Bidco Group, and Nahashon Nyagah, a former Central Bank of Kenya Governor, who co-own Manhattan Group.

Tatu City accuses the minority shareholders of trying to extort the legitimate owners of Tatu City and also harassing international shareholders "through influence of the Judiciary, police, immigration services and media" and that "all evidence of their actions has been turned over to the Directorate of Criminal Investigations and the EACC".

Tatu also accuses Nyagah of attempting to fraudulently change the shareholding of Kenyan companies that own the land to his sister, driver and members of his church.

On the other hand, Shah is accused of forging a letter without board approval, seeking to freeze Tatu City's bank accounts while Mwangi has been accused that, between 2010-2013, he sought to register caveats using a falsified CR12 to indicate that he and his mother were the sole shareholders and directors of Tatu City.

But the commission, ac-

ording to court documents, accuses Tatu City of undervaluing property that it allegedly later transferred to related firms to allow payment of low-

TATU CITY PROBE

● EACC also accuses the directors of undervaluing costs of the transactions and other dubious dealings

● Tatu City and Kofinaf directors argue the investigations are meant to aid extortion, harassment and interference

er stamp duty tax equivalent to 2 per cent of land transfer value. The land would later be transferred to newly-formed foreign registered companies as shareholders with the non-Kenyan firm disposing of the plots at market value locally, ultimately escaping paying stamp duty because it is not listed in Nairobi.

In one such scheme, the

EACC told the court that Tatu undervalued a property and sold it for Sh748 million to a local firm that moved it to a foreign company, which transferred the property locally at a market value of Sh4 billion but the State received stamp duty on Sh748 million and not Sh4 billion.

The alleged economic crimes claims against Tatu City were the subject of proceedings at the National Assembly, where minority shareholders told the Lands committee that the management has been under-declaring valuations in order to "swindle the Kenyan government of income tax" amounting to Sh1.5 billion and went on to give shocking examples which the management rubbished, saying KRA has no

tax claim against Tatu City.

Mwangi, in documents he tabled before the committee, said land title number 10887, which was sold at Sh842 million but whose entries at the Land ministry show that it fetched a paltry Sh235 million, title number 11287 was alleged to have been transferred to another firm at Sh330 million when the actual value was Sh1.3 billion resulting in a Sh38 million loss in stamp duty and Sh291.7 million in income tax.

The letters, which were never executed due to court orders, touch on various land parcels which form Tatu City. Tatu City management, however, argued the implementation of the request would have ramifications on the ownership, transactions and use of the said land.



Kilimo
NA BIASHARA
WITH LINDAH KOSKEY



FOCUS ON

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THE HEALTHIER AND FLAVOURY GREEN GOLD

THIS FRIDAY AT 8PM



it's what's on

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QUOTED TODAY



It is sad that despite William Ruto being the second-in-command in the government, he has become a serial complainer instead of offering practical solutions to Kenyans, JUBILEE SECRETARY GENERAL JEREMIAH KIONI



What happened to Raila in Uasin Gishu was organised. The police are continuing with investigations, and we will go where the probe will lead us, but the incident is not a trend, it's just a one-off. INTERIOR CS FRED MATIANG'I



We are seeing people lining up to get fuel. Our neighbouring country Uganda has fuel all through yet their fuel passes through pipelines in Kenya. Then the government says we have a shortage of petrol. What is that? ANC PARTY LAEDER MUSALIA MUDAVADI

Get to the bottom of aspirant's killing

The killing of an aspirant for a county assembly seat in Kisii three days before party primaries has raised eyebrows. Thomas Ontweka was hacked and left for dead by people who seem to have gained access to his house. Efforts to save his life at a local hospital did not bear fruit.

The aspirant was slated to participate in the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) primaries in Kisii county tomorrow. The death came barely three days after the controversial stoning of Azimio La Umoja leader Raila Odinga's chopper in Uasin Gishu County, which is currently the subject of police investigations.

While the motivation of the aspirant's killing is yet to be determined, it is will be difficult for investigators to divorce it from the elections given the timing.

It is more unfortunate that the primaries could be used to camouflage the motive of the killing, which may help the culprits escape justice. The spirit of democracy is that it gives the masses power to pick their leaders in an environment that encourages fair competition and devoid of bad faith.

Human life is sacred and is protected by law. It is, therefore, unconscionable that lives can be lost or put in danger because of political competition. No one can begin to imagine the consequences that tensions and animosity such deaths breed among communities.

Such acts of mindlessness in the name of political competition can push communities to acts which can lead to further loss of lives. The vulnerability of the youth to perpetuate violence fuelled by politicians is particularly disturbing.

It is a shame that unemployed youth have become ready armies for hire for politicians keen to mete violence on opponents. President Uhuru Kenyatta has already pricked the conscience of the nation by his question on what would have become of the country had the chopper attack put Raila in harm's way.

The history of politically instigated killings in Kenya is replete with dangerous consequences that continue to influence inter-ethnic relations, political debate and decision making todate. We are alarmed that ugly incidents are crawling into the political stage barely four months into the next general election in a country that tithers with ethnic tensions in every national poll.

That's why we urge all Kenyans to be vigilant to ensure politicians don't push the country to the edge even as we ask authorities to probe and punish the people behind the aspirant's killing and the Raila attack so as to send a strong message to those bent on spreading violence.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

LEONARDO DICAPRIO

Our planet's alarm is going off, and it is time to wake up and take action



Retailers role in promoting circular economy

This year's United Nations Environment Assembly was a monumental one: It saw the endorsement of a historic resolution to end plastic pollution globally. The resolution, aimed at addressing the entire life-cycle of plastic, is targeted at curbing plastic pollution at all stages including design, production, and disposal.

Indeed, the adoption of this resolution is very timely for our country, given the ongoing efforts by the government to formulate and adopt policies geared towards sustainable waste management and the adoption of a circular economy in Kenya.

These policies seek to curb pollution and promote a clean and healthy environment and include Bills such as the Sustainable Waste Management Bill 2021 and the EPR Regulations 2021. The EPR Regulations, for example, are meant to "provide for extended producer responsibility for all products and packaging in all phases of their life cycle to enhance environmental sustainability."

Nevertheless, the successful implementation of these regulations and the aforementioned resolution to tackle pollution and transition to a circular economy, will require action from all the relevant stakeholders including manufacturers, importers, distributors, converters and retailers.

However, conversations around this transition have majorly focused on the role of players such as government and manufacturers, leaving behind key stakeholders.

Retailers, for example, can play a huge role due to our unique position in the value chain, interacting with consumers on one side, and



WAMBUI MBARIRE

Tlqibus alignaurest ditium eatiunto corro ma iumqui sunt hillupt

manufacturers on the other. As retailers, we have the opportunity not only to integrate circularity into our operations, but to drive positive change in the consumption behaviours of our consumers.

First, we ought to provide consumers with durable goods of high quality to reduce waste, and that can be put back into the value chain and takes into consideration the potential to repair or return a product to its initial condition. For example, IKEA, a furniture, and home accessories retailer, has a program where customers can return old furniture and get a gift voucher to spend in the store instead of this furniture ending up in landfills.

Second, we must also be innovative in how we manage and dispose of the waste coming from our outlets and engage reliable waste collectors who not only collect and dump waste in landfills but recycles it. A great example is Taka Taka Solutions; which collects and recycles waste from retail establishments such as malls and supermarkets. Moreover, the waste collector provides its clients with solutions for better onsite management of waste such as bins, waste compactors and even data on the types and amounts of waste generated.

Third, we have the opportunity to engage with manufacturers to push for reduced packaging and reduced consumption of virgin raw materials. This can be achieved through advocating for a shift to sustainable, refillable and reusable or biodegradable materials which will reduce single use plastic packaging. Bio Food Kenya, for example, is now packing its yoghurts in recycled plastic, their cheese in biodegradable packaging and their milk bottles are more recyclable.

When it comes to consumers, we have the opportunity to drive increased collection and recycling of post-consumer waste. This can be done by establishing collection points at our outlets combined with consumer awareness programs on recycling, sorting which will increase collection and recycling rates of post-consumer waste.

Another way we can accomplish this is by joining a PRO like Kenya Extended Producer Responsible Organisation (Kepro) to partner with like-minded organisations. By bringing together all stakeholders in the waste value chain, Kepro is working with stakeholders, to increase the collection and recycling of post-consumer waste and spearhead the achievement of a circular economy in Kenya.

As we move forward in this journey towards a circular economy as retailers, it is important to note that embracing this new model will not only lead to a better environment but presents us with the opportunity to retain customers and generate additional income and sales.

—The writer is a Kepro Board Director and Chief Executive Officer of Retail Trade Association of Kenya— info@kepro.co.ke

State must make investment in the power sector viable

Between 1999 and 2001, Kenya experienced one of its worst power rationing due to low water levels at the Seven Forks hydro-electric dams. I lived through this experience as a young resident in Nairobi. The power outages had adverse social and economic impact on key industries such as manufacturing, small and medium enterprises, as well as retail and service industries. The under-supply also led to higher overall costs of production of goods and services, which were passed on to consumers, resulting in higher costs of living.

Since then, a number of policy and regulatory changes have been implemented to enhance energy security and government investments in renewable energy. The Energy Act (2019) [which replaced the Energy Act (2006)] the Feed-in-Tariff Policy, 2021 (FiT) [which was initially issued in 2008, and subsequently revised in 2012 and 2021]. The FiT policy has been instrumental in guiding investments in renewable energy, establishing guidelines and procedures through which projects can be appraised to ensure their viability. It has also been key in diversifying the energy resource mix to include wind, biomass, mini hydro, geothermal, biogas and solar energy resources. In 1999, electricity production



CATHERINE IRURA

There is increasing interest from investors to set up such enterprises in Kenya

from renewable sources excluding hydropower was 11 per cent, and by 2015 it had grown up to 48 per cent (IEA, 2014) and currently is almost 80 per cent. Currently, Kenya's peak demand is 2 GW. The installed capacity stands at 2.8 GW as a result of increased investment in the energy market. To fully utilise this generation, there is a need for the government to create a conducive environment to spur industrial growth. The socio-economic blueprint of Kenya, the Kenya Vision 2030 - Third Medium Term Plan (2018-2022) notably highlights the need to increase generation capacity in order to meet Kenya's industrialisation and infrastructure modernisation plans.

Electricity wheeling and captive power generation regulations can enable enterprises targeting to set up within special economic zones and industrial parks to unlock the untapped energy generation potential for use in manufacturing. Government can act to create market and

regulatory conditions that make it easier for enterprises setting up in these areas, as electricity costs and reliability of supply are key enablers for these enterprises to thrive. The renewable energy potential Kenya has can match the future electricity demand for an entire green economy: for production of green fuels, fertiliser and chemicals that can serve both domestic and international markets. There is increasing interest from investors to set up such enterprises in Kenya.

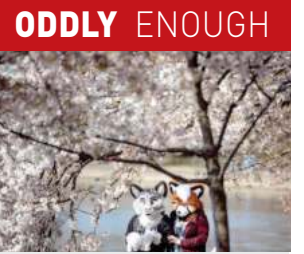
Other ways would be to trade electricity with neighboring countries, such as through the East Africa Power Pool and establishing partnerships with the South Africa Power Pool and enabling grid infrastructure to supply electricity to some of its member States which have been experiencing load-shedding.

One of the parameters that has contributed to Kenya's ranking as 56 in the Ease of Doing Business Index (2020) is reliability of electricity sup-

ply and the duration and frequency of power outages. There is an immutable correlation between economic growth and growth in per capita electricity consumption, and the availability of generation capacity to spur that growth. Truth be told, as a nation, we are more energy secure than we were twenty years ago. This has been due to the joint effort of public stakeholders, public utilities and targeted public and private sector investments and financing that continue to progressively build an energy secure ecosystem, realising SDG 7 (clean and affordable energy).

The ongoing power sector reforms should consider the continuity of the gains in the energy sector and the opportunities to utilise power generation capacity, with the end goal being to have a reliable power supply that can sustain growth and meet demand in the long term. Winston Churchill once said, "those that fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it." For Kenya to remain on its growth trajectory, policy makers should create enabling conditions to utilise generation capacity, so as to maintain and sustain power sector investments.

— The writer is the Managing Director, SOWITEC Kenya Ltd



Senators facing backlash over litter box claim

A conservative US politician who thought he had uncovered a case of wokeism gone mad has been roundly ridiculed after claiming schools were leaving out litter trays for children who identify as cats. Nebraska Republican Bruce Bostelman went viral after he claimed special toilet arrangements were being made for children called "furrries" who choose to live and dress as cats and dogs. "They meow and bark... with their teachers. And now schools are wanting to put litter boxes for the children to use." He even claimed one "furry" did his business on the floor when a school failed to provide cat litter. "How is this sanitary?" he asked. Bostelman seems to have confused the "furry" subculture of people who dress as animal characters with a heated debate over what toilets transgender people should be allowed to use. He has since apologised after "furrries" dug their claws into him on social media. —AFP

Dad converts van toy for son

A Vietnamese carpenter says he made a life-sized tank as a gift for his three-year-old son, and we believe him. Every weekend the pair trundle around their neighbourhood in Bac Ninh province in the wooden tank, built from a 16-seat minibus, with the boy riding in the turret. At least it gets more use than Mexican leader Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador's presidential jet. He is now renting out the \$218 million Boeing 787 Dreamliner -- complete with bath and bedroom -- for parties and weddings after failing to find a buyer. AMLO, as the populist is colloquially known, has made it his mission to offload the aircraft used by his predecessor, saying its luxury is an "insult" to the Mexican people. —AFP



TRUTHIS: If you know God's Word, you always have reasons to rejoice.

'Water for All' target trickles amid flow of scarcity

Every March 22, the international community observes World Water Day. Principally, the day, marked last week, focuses on raising awareness about the importance of water and educating people to conserve the precious commodity.

This year's theme, 'Groundwater, making the invisibility visible', resonates with the United Nations' efforts to accelerate increased water coverage as outlined in Sustainable Development Goal 6, which aspires to ensure water and sanitation for all by the year 2030.

Our Constitution, under the Bill of Rights, affirms access to "clean and safe water in adequate quantities" for all Kenyans as a constitutional right. This commitment is amplified in Kenya's flagship national economic blueprint, Vision 2030, which echoes the 'Water for All' by 2030 call.

Constitutional and policy declarations notwithstanding, the UN classifies Kenya as a water-scarce country, explained by its low supply of renewable freshwater estimated at 670 cubic meters per capita per year against the global recommendation of 1000 cubic meters per capita per year.

Studies indicate these estimates, a derivative of the Water Crowding



KENT MUKOYA

Since the reforms took effect, there has been increased State funding to the water sector

Index (a model which rates water resources based on human population within an area), may likely not be sufficient in depicting the actual levels of the country's water scarcity.

This could be attributed to the model's approach that disregards temporal variability and some vital drivers of water demand related to economic growth such as ecological systems, agricultural and industrial usages.

In view of these factors, it is feared that Kenya may likely graduate negatively to an absolute water-scarce country with an estimated below 500 cubic meters per capita per year of renewable fresh water.

Kenya undertook water sector reforms in 2000s, ostensibly to improve water services provision that witnessed the enactment of the Water Act 2002 and repealed the Water Act 2016 to correspond with the new water sector constitutional demands.

The Act affirms the broad water sector's prime responsibilities to protect, conserve, manage and increase access to clean and safe water for socio-economic development.

Although water services provision is a devolved function, protection and conservation of the catchment critical for sustainable flow of fresh water to feed the production chain is the responsibility of the national government.

The Water Services Sector Regulatory Board depicts unsatisfactory levels of water coverage over the years in terms of the expanded installed water network. Moreover, the hours of constancy of water supplied even in the covered areas is unacceptable.

In the same breath, the country continues to register very high non-revenue water. Since the reforms took effect, increased government funding and bilateral support to the water sector has been witnessed,

with a bulk of the resources channeled to water and sewerage infrastructure development.

This is a small fraction of the national water sector budget cake of which 17% is directed to water resources conservation and protection. Yet indications point to increased scarcity of freshwater and rapid depletion of ground water aquifers, a situation likely to be exacerbated by the global impact of climate change.

While concerted efforts are geared toward inclusive water coverage to attain and sustain this goal, catchment conservation and protection must be given priority. A structured engagement of multi-agency participation is desirable.

The national and county governments, civil society, communities living within the catchment, water services providers and research-based organisations should cascade to complement the efforts of the Water Resources Management Authority and the Kenya Water Towers Agency to achieve the 'Water for All' goal.

— The writer is a monitoring and evaluation practitioner — mukoyakent@gmail.com

#TWEETS TO THE EDITOR

Game of wits over #FuelShortage
@WanjikuHSC: DP William Ruto called a press conference to incite naive Kenyans against GOK on fuel crisis only for Uhuru to release Sh35 billion to address the fuel shortage issue during the same presser. Ruto exposed his ignorance. #FuelShortage

Be gentle and you can be bold
@SABINACHEGE: I have three precious things which I hold fast and prize. The first is gentleness; the second is frugality; the third is humility, which keeps me from putting myself before others. Be gentle and you can be bold; be frugal and you can be liberal. Beautiful souls. #Women4women

Of Arsenal, seasons and trophies!
@cmbfooty: Arsenal have had their worst four to five seasons in decades, no denying it. Still tho, in the 8 seasons since SAF left, Arsenal have more trophies & have finished above United 5 out of 8 times. One Arsenal loss won't change what a mess your club is & has been.

/// @PeopleDailyKe /// f People Daily

Azimio, Kenya Kwanza MPs in blame over fuel shortage

Kenya Kwanza leaders claim subsidy money was used to fund collapsed BBI reform process

by Hillary Mageka and Anthony Mwangi
@PeopleDailyKe

Senators allied to the Azimio La Umoja One Kenya camp and their counterparts from the Kenya Kwanza Alliance yesterday clashed over the ongoing fuel crisis.

The exchange came after the pro-Kenya Kwanza senators accused the government of embezzling Sh34 billion in fuel subsidies.

Murang'a Senator Irungu Kang'ata had moved the House to adjourn yesterday's sitting to discuss the fuel shortage crisis in the country.

"The fuel shortage has been occasioned by the government's failure to pay a subsidy to the oil marketers. We all know there is a government programme where it sets aside amounts of money to pay oil marketers to ensure that Kenyans don't pay huge amounts for various products," he argued.

He went on: "The market has been complaining they have not been paid the accruing subsidy. As a result, the oil marketers are unable to sell petroleum products and fuel products at the current rates, which have been set by the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority".

"Some people suspect that the fuel subsidy programme was used for BBI. We want the relevant government entities to clarify and confirm to Kenyans that the fuel subsidy money, which is billions of shillings, was not used for BBI purposes," he added.

Bungoma Senator Moses Wetangula supported Kang'ata's claims, terming the current administration an "uncaring government that has remained mute and maintained a conspiracy of silence" as fuel prices skyrocket to unprecedented levels.

"The government engaged Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and undertook to give them a subsidy. The amount of money owed to oil marketers in this country is in excess of Sh34 billion. What exactly happened?" Wetangula posed.

"I am attempting to ask, is this the money that was used on a misadventure called BBI? Is this the money that is being used to fund politically correct activities in the country? Or is this money that has been outright stolen?" he went on.



A debate during a previous session in the Kenyan senate. PD/FILE

WETANGULA

We want the relevant government entities to clarify and confirm to Kenyans fuel subsidy money, which is billions of shillings, was not used for BBI purposes

But the pro-Azimio la Umoja senators shot back, accusing their counterparts of seeking political mileage from the fuel crisis. Standing on a point of order, Deputy Majority leader and Isiolo Senator Fatuma Dullo challenged Wetangula to provide evidence to prove his allegations that Sh34 billion owed to oil marketers was used to finance the collapsed BBI and its campaign.

"Can you provide evidence? It is not guesswork. Senator Wetangula kindly provides evidence to that effect," Dullo charged.

Russian invasion

Sharing Wetangula's sentiments, nominated Senator Petronilla Were said Kenyans need a government that listens to the people and not one that blames every crisis on the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

On his part, Migori Senator Ochillo Ayacko warned that Wetangula's insinuation that the Sh34 billion subsidy was diverted to fund BBI could degenerate into a disorderly House.

The fierce battle forced the session chairperson Nominated Senator Rose Nyamunga to step in and urge senators to desist from making utterances that could inflame the situation.

But Wetangula challenged "those who purport to speak for the government on the floor" to tell the country where the Sh34 billion disappeared only to resurface in a supplementary budget.

Ayacko, however, maintained that the

fuel crisis should not be politicised.

"All of us in this House and in the other House are responsible for the high fuel costs. We passed the bill which became a law that raised fuel costs. We were persuaded that the passage of such a Bill was because we needed to raise more revenue. So, we have done that and we must take responsibility," said Ayacko.

"And the leader of the Kenya Kwanza Alliance, Deputy President William Ruto, said it was a good move at the time and must equally take that responsibility," added Ayacko.

The matter spilled over to the National Assembly with Garissa Township MP Adan Duale asking the Treasury to provide the total amount of money collected under the Fuel Levy Fund from September 2021 to date, in the wake of the current crisis facing the petroleum sector.

Duale also wants the government to provide a breakdown of reimbursement of fuel levy fund per month from September 2021 to date and reimbursement due to be paid to the Oil Marketing Companies (OMC), petroleum dealers, and small oil dealers.

Duale in a statement asked the Petroleum and Mining Cabinet Secretary to provide the total number of registered OMCs, petroleum dealers, and small oil dealers, their network distribution across the country, and percentage shares of the market in the country. "Could the CS explain the measures put in place by the government to curb the fuel crisis in the country and also ensure that Kenyans are not subjected to similar problems in future?" posed Duale.

The debate was, however, halted as Speaker Justin Muturi indicated the House had run out of time.

Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA) increased the pump prices of petrol and diesel by Sh5 per litre, the government maintained the margins of oil companies at zero meaning that no profits were drawn by the dealers.

Kikuyu MP Kimani Ichungwa also railed at the government saying the shortage was avoidable: "We must be truthful and honest to the people to tell them the cause of the problem we are in today- is because of failure by the government and misuse and misappropriation of the fund."

However Funyula MP Wilberforce Oudo faulted the National Assembly of passing the tax hikes and pretending to be holier than thou: "The cause of the increased fuel prices is because of several taxes that this house introduced a while back."

Counties face Sh108 billion pending bills

Counties face an ineligible pending bills of more than Sh108 billion of the total pending bills of Sh155 billion.

The Auditor General says County Executives and County Assemblies have Sh107 billion and Sh1 billion as ineligible pending bills, respectively.

County Executives face an eligible pending bills of Sh45.5 billion while the County Assemblies have Sh1.9 billion in their books.

The Controller of Budget Margaret Nyakang'o says the huge amount has partly been contributed by suppliers.

"Those who are owed must ensure proper documentation is done with counties before undertaking any engagement. That way, we will tame this problem," she said.

She was speaking yesterday during the 16th Intergovernmental Budget and Economic Council (IBEC) held at the Karen Residence of the Deputy President.

Chaired by Deputy President William Ruto, the Council heard that the bills will no longer be a challenge to counties following the adoption of a radical plan by the council. The Council resolved that Counties will set realistic own source revenue targets to check budget deficits.

It was further agreed that the devolved units will have to align their procurement plans to cash flow projections and approved budgets.

IBEC also said that all requisitions for approval of withdrawal of public funds will have to be supported by a schedule for expenditure, a current schedule for pending bills and repayment plans, and bank statements reflecting the settled pending bills for any previous request. Ruto said progress had been made on the issue of pending bills "but more needs to be done".

- DPPS

BRIEFLY

Local brands get top quality award

London Distillers Kenya received three Gold Quality Awards of its brands during the recent Monde Selection Awards in Rome, Italy. During the Annual Awards Ceremony of Monde Selection, the beverage manufacturer's Safari Lemonade Lime, Safari Whisky and Kenya King brands were awarded the Gold prizes owed to their outstanding quality. The three brands stood out among over 3,000 products presented by over 1,000 companies drawn from 90 countries, where each product was evaluated individually to establish its global quality profile and grant the product the quality award it deserves. While speaking at the event, the Chief Executive of Bounty Limited Anvi Galot said Safari Lemonade Lime, Safari Whisky and Kenya King are some of the company's most prestigious brands, adding that "we are proud of their startling success in the Kenyan market."

- Derek Otieno

Politicians protest Raila chopper attack

A section of women leaders afflicted to Azimio La Umoja Coalition demonstrate along Parliament Road over the stoning of Azimio presidential candidate Raila Odinga in Eldoret. The area is located at Kabenes next to the home of Mzee Jackson Kiprotiich Kibor whose burial Raila had attended. PD/KENNA CLAUDE



Varsities urged to teach relevant skills

Qualifications body say institutions of higher learning should regularly review curriculum

by Irene Githinji @igitshee

Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA) said yesterday that universities and Tvet institutions should review their curriculum at least every four years.

KNQA Director-General Juma Mukhwana said the authority's regulations calls for transformation of the curriculum often to not only keep pace with global trends and market needs.

Mukhwana said one of the challenges in Kenya is that there are many people without jobs and jobs without people in the same ecosystem.

"We have jobs where we cannot find skills but we also have a lot of people looking for jobs," he said.

He made the remarks after awarding an accreditation certificate to International Certification of Digital Literacy (ICDL) at a Nairobi hotel.

Mukhwana said the country should embrace a regular review of the curriculum.

"Every four years, there is need to review curriculum for higher learning institutions. For instance, we have just completed reviewing the curriculum for Human Resource Management and the board had to go to employers to understand the gaps in the existing system, which will be included in the review," said Mukhwana.

He welcomed the move by the University of Nairobi withdraw courses that are no longer relevant to the market.

"There are some programmes developed years ago that are still being offered even if sometimes, the market may not need them like before and that is why it is a welcome move to do away with such courses like it happened at the University of Nairobi," he said.

Market relevance

The Director-General said institutions should develop new fields of study because qualifications are dynamic and should respond to the ever-changing markets.

Part of their work as KNQA, he said, is to keep colleges and universities on their toes to ensure that qualifications they are churning out are relevant to current market.

"What the market is looking for today is not what it will be looking for tomorrow," he said.

Mukhwana explained that the national qualification



Kenya National Qualifications Authority Director General Juma Mukhwana. PD/ BENARD ORWONGO

framework is a reform tool used to continuously improve and reform education and training and that is the idea behind KNQA framework.

The framework has also allowed Recognition of Prior Learning where people who have acquired skills informally are recognised

Mukhwana said the establishment of a national qualification authority is an agreement of the African Union.

"AU protocol requires that all countries within the continent establish a qualification framework," he said.

The national framework, said Mukhwana, must be connected to the regional frameworks, adding that the authority is working on a continental qualification framework to have a system that harmonises and creates linkages between qualifications.

"Here in Kenya, we have a challenge. If you study a year in one of the universities and want to transfer, you have to start afresh because our systems are not interconnected.

So, part of what we are creating is to recognise, clarify and articulate all qualifications and create inter linkages between them so that our qualifications speak to each other in terms of credits and then beyond there it will be the East African one and even IGAD," he explained.

KNQA CONCERNS

● KNQA Director-General Juma Mukhwana says one of the challenges in Kenya is that there are many people without jobs and jobs without people.

● KNQA mandate is to keep colleges and universities on their toes to ensure that qualifications they are churning out are relevant to current market.

Equity Bank sponsors 27 scholars

by Irene Githinji @igitshee

Twenty seven scholars from the Equity Leadership Programme (ELP) have received early admissions with full scholarships worth Sh916.7 million to 18 global universities.

The scholars comprise the Wings to Fly alumni beneficiaries and those who topped in the 2020 Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education examinations.

Announcing the admissions, the chairman of Equity Group Foundation, James Mwangi, said admissions are spread across USA, South Africa, Asia, Middle East and Europe.



He added that the number of scholars admitted to global universities will rise after the regular admission decisions are made in May. "This marks a good start for our scholars' entry into leading universities around the world," Mwangi (pictured) said in a statement.

Out of the 27 with full scholarship, 11 have ad-

missions to Ivy League Universities in the US.

This brings the total number of ELP scholars and alumni of global universities to 715. The total number of Wings to Fly beneficiaries in global universities stands at 154.

"This is commendable noting that this is a cohort that was affected by the Covid-19 pandemic that had the scholars take a 9-month break from school to study from home. Despite the circumstances brought about by the delay, their performance compares favourably with the 2020 cohort that secured 27 early decisions," Mwangi said.

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Why Bunyore elders rejected Marende's governor bid

by Enock Amukhale
@PeopleDailyKe

You are on own. That is what Bunyore elders told former National Assembly Speaker Kenneth Marende on his quest for the Vihiga governorship.

The elders have instead endorsed incumbent Governor Wilber Ottichilo as their preferred candidate,

saying Marende's candidature will hurt the community's chances of retaining the seat.

Elders, while addressing the press at Anyole Ranet Hall in Emuhaya yesterday after their consultative meeting, said they settled on Ottichilo for the governorship and Nominated MP Godfrey Osotsi for Senate seat.

Led by their chairman Ben Achila

and patron Edward Ohare, the elders said only Ottichilo and Osotsi had strong political muscle to fight for the seats.

"The Bunyore Council of Elders insists on endorsement of Governor Wilber Ottichilo and Nominated MP Godfrey Osotsi as their preferred candidates for governor and senator seats respectively. We do not recognise other aspirants from Bunyore

community," they said in their statement. This comes days after the elders' attempts to convince Marende (pictured) to pull out of the race to pave way for Ottichilo failed.

Marende is said to have told off the elders, saying he was already on the ground hunting for votes.

Ottichilo is in ODM while Marende is in Democratic Action Party - Kenya.



ODM polls board fights off party primaries feud

Panel's chair clarifies that the decision to rely on opinion results is based on aspirants' popularity, rating

by Hillary Mageka
@hillarymageka

The National Elections Board (NEB) of the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) yesterday defended the use of opinion polls to issue direct tickets to its candidates in the August 9 General Election.

Amid disquiet over the issuance of direct tickets, NEB argues that it has concluded conducting opinion polls to determine popularity of aspirants seeking its ticket and will use the outcome to issue direct tickets in certain regions.

It has further emerged that ODM will also issue direct tickets to popular candidate whom they scouted from other political parties within Azimio La Umoja at the end of the primaries.

ODM has staggered its primaries beginning April 4 until April 21, and has had to postpone other electoral areas.

Other than a direct ticket, the use of delegates – which was used to pick Raila Odinga as the ODM presidential candidate – and universal suffrage as methods for party nominations, the Orange party said it will use consensus building to allow aspirants to consult among themselves or through a third party to try and settle for a candidate.

Dr Catherine Mumma, who chairs the ODM elections board, the party will only resort to primaries "in the few instances" where competition is stiff and aspirants have failed to reach consensus. In such instances the party plans to conduct nominations through delegates and universal suffrage.

This, she explained, is a wider scheme to get more seats and avoid adversarial fallout because as "a party we want to move as a united front."

"We also use opinion polls because they are scientific and they tell us what is happening on the ground," Mumma told Citizen TV's Sunday Live Programme even as she added that opinion polls actually tell aspirants of their strength and rating.

She went on: "We are not going to use an opinion poll to give a ticket to somebody who you know is going to lose."

Mumma explained that there are a number of factors the party considers before issuing a direct ticket, including but not limited to, maybe a person is an alone candidate, but where the person has other competitors, the party looks at the opinion



ODM legal officer Tony Moturi (left) and the party's National Elections Board chair Catherine Mumma during a past press briefing in Nairobi. PD/FILE

WHY THE DIRECT TICKET?

● ODM National Elections Board Chair Catherine Mumma says the party issues direct nomination when it is fishing for a good candidate from a rival outfit.

● She explained that ODM, in its nomination rules, has provided voting by delegates.

polls, where a person must be a clear front runner to be considered for a possible direct ticket.

"We will not necessarily give a person a direct ticket in some of the strongholds. It may be better to actually let the competitors run at the primaries," she said.

Integrity questions

Mumma spoke even as integrity questions emerged on the authenticity of the polls with those scoring lesser indexes dismissing them and demanding that primaries be done.

Displeasure within the Raila-led party escalated on Sunday as Mombasa governor aspirant Suleiman Shahbal asked the leader to walk the democracy talk he champions by ensuring the party holds free and fair nominations.

"We are not going to allow decisions to pick ODM aspirants through opinion polls, let the people decide," Shahbal said. "We reject any boardroom negotiations that prefer my opponent. We will not accept hand-picking of leaders for the people in Mombasa," he added.

Opinion polls the party had sanctioned

at different times in Mombasa have put Shahbal's arch-rival Mvita MP Abdulsamad Nassir ahead with the latter's camp reading malice in ODM's cancellation of the primaries.

Last week, the Orange party postponed primaries scheduled for Friday in Nakuru and those for Mombasa and Kilifi April 5 and April 6 respectively.

"The National Elections Board will communicate outcome of the consultations and consensus-building and advice on the next steps. We urge our members to exercise patience in the meantime," said Mumma.

ODM is reportedly keen on talking Shahbal out of the nominations contest but the businessman-cum-politician has maintained that the race is too close to call to warrant consensus.

Party is also keen on prevailing upon Deputy Governor William Kingi to back Abdulsamad with a lead in nearly all the opinion polls under review.

Mumma has defended the party from accusations that it is unfairly "talking out strong candidates", saying it is a negotiation and that participants have to be willing to see the point the party is moving to. "I will not mention names but we are using renowned pollsters, who have done opinion polling not just for the ODM candidates, but for other hopefuls including presidential ones across the country."

Mumma said the party's opinion polls have captured popularity ratings of aspirants from other outfits and they were considering approaching them with offer of a direct ticket.



Hassan Mwakulonda (second right) receives ODM certificate to vie for Msambweni parliamentary seat from Returning Officer Solomon Wachira. PD/MUNIRA MANDANO

Raila outfit applies technology to conduct peaceful nominations

by Munira Mandano
@PeopleDailyKe

The Orange Democratic Movement walked a tight-rope and conducted primaries for key seats, putting to test the use of technology in the exercise.

Voters used laptops in the vote, which saw Ali Hassan Mwakulonda clinch the ticket for Msambweni parliamentary seat.

Party was forced to conduct primaries after it attracted several candidates unlike in other electoral units that did not attract competition.

Mwakulonda garnered 1,155 votes against Shee Mahmoud Abdulrahman, who came in second with 967 votes. Sharlet Mariam Akinyi emerged third with 653 votes while Charles Bilali and Bashir Kilalo become fourth and fifth positions with 255 and 129 votes respectively.

ODM conducted the nominations through an electronic voting system.

Voters keyed in their ID numbers in a tablet for recognition before proceeding to vote by clicking on the aspirants' photos appearing on the screen.

After emerging the victor in an exercise marred with suspicion and controversies, Mwakulonda said he will ensure ODM reclaims the Msambweni seat that is currently held by Feisal Bader, a key Deputy President William Ruto supporter.

Bader, who was fronted by

Ruto, won the seat on an Independent ticket in December 2020 in a by-election that was conducted after the demise of Suleiman Dori.

Dori won the seat in 2017 elections on an ODM ticket but since switched allegiance to Ruto's United Democratic Alliance.

"As we know, Msambweni is Raila's bedroom but it has been infiltrated. I promise to restore the constituency to ODM in the August elections," said Mwakulonda.

Same nominations

Mwakulonda has since called on long his opponents to support him and the party going forward.

"I want to ask those we were in competition with for the party ticket to join hands with me to deliver the seat to ODM because this is our party," Mwakulonda added.

In the same nominations Hassan Renge won the Pongwe/Kikoni Ward contest, Abdallah Juma for Kinondo Ward, Omar Kitegele for Ukunda Ward and Hassan Matumizi for Gombato/Bongwe Ward.

Kwale's ODM line up is now complete as other positions had been filled through direct tickets.

For governor position, Prof Hamadi Boga was assured of a direct ticket.

Senator Issa Boy had no challenger in the party.

Nominated MCA Fatuma Masito is flying Woman Rep ticket.

Businesshub

Economic activity continued to expand in March but at a slower pace than in February

Agony as motorists endure another day of fuel shortages

by Roy Lumbe and agencies
@PeopleDailyKe

Motorists endured yet another day of fuel shortages in Kenya with hours-long queues at various petrol stations experienced once again in most parts of the country.

A spot check by *Business Hub* revealed minimal activities at various petrol stations as most of them claimed to have exhausted fuel reserves. However, some motorists

opted to leave their vehicles at home and used public means in Nairobi.

In Nakuru County, fuel shortage continued to bite even as transport operators hiked fares to compensate for long waiting hours at the pumps.

Operators revealed that the commodity was at select fuel stations, lamenting that they had spent long working hours queuing and thus the need to hike prices.

A spot check in most of Nakuru town service routes revealed that

operators had increased bus fares between Sh20 and Sh50.

"I was at the pump at 2 am and I filled my tank, we are all feeling the heat of the shortage, we are spending more time at the fuel stations than working," said James Ndung'u, a driver. The town's Central Business District parking spaces remained largely empty, indicating that most residents had opted to keep their vehicles at home.

Susan Njeri, a resident, said wom-

en motorists who are unable to manoeuvre the heavy queue to the pumps have been most affected in the crisis.

"I left my vehicle at home and decided to use public transport, I cannot bear the madness at the fuel stations, it is just too much for us," she said. In Nyeri, only the Total Energies service station near the Othaya junction was operational with hundreds of vehicles and bodaboda operators parked on from both ends of the usually busy road waiting for fuel.



Trade dipped in March due to lower demand

Stanbic's index shows that pressure of higher prices on customers was substantial, forcing many to reduce their spending, decreasing sales

by Jacktone Lawi
@PeopleDailyKe

The private sector witnessed reduced activities in the month of March due to a rise in commodity prices that lowered purchasing ability of consumers.

Stanbic Bank Kenya Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) for March showed that the pressure of higher prices on customers was substantial, with many choosing to reduce their spending, leading to a much slower increase in sales across the private sector.

The consumer's purchasing ability dropped from 52.9 in February to 50.5 in March, signalling a slower and only marginal improvement in the health of the private sector economy.

Cost pressures in the economy soared further in March, as the latest data pointed to the sharpest rise in overall input costs for the past eight years.

Kuria Kamau, the Fixed Income and Currency Strategist at Stanbic Bank, said rising input costs were driven up partly by Russia's invasion of Ukraine which led to a drop-off in client demand as inflationary pressures soared.

Rising inflation

"Economic activity continued to expand in March but at a slower pace than in February. The slowdown was driven by rising inflation which resulted in subdued demand growth by consumers and a contraction in output by producers," he said.

The index revealed that price gauges for both business costs and charges hit record highs in recent times reaching the highest levels since early 2014.

Despite a general rise in commodity prices globally Kenyans reported being squeezed more by the government taxes.

According to anecdotal evidence, worries over the impact of the war on global supply meant that inputs such as fuel, food products and fertiliser rose sharply in price.

Economy

Decline

The PMI dropped from 52.9 in February to 50.5 in March, signalling a slower and only marginal improvement in the health of the Kenyan private sector economy



Inflation

Contributing to the fall in the headline index was a much softer rise in new business volumes, as panellists often saw a drop-off in client demand as inflationary pressures soared



Products

On a positive note, a number of firms remained hopeful that capacity improvements, new products and increased marketing would contribute to future growth in activity



Firms often had little choice but to raise their selling charges accordingly, with the rate of increase quickening to a near-record pace," reads the report in part.

The higher prices limited both client spending and business activity, with the latter seeing a renewed fall at the end of the first quarter.

The index further showed that the overall decline in output was modest, driven by contractions in the agriculture, construction and wholesale and retail sectors.

On the flip side, input purchasing continued to increase sharply as firms looked to stockpile goods amid worries that supply could worsen.

A further improvement in vendor performance helped inventories to rise at the fastest pace since November 2020 as panic buying hit the markets.

Kamau said firms increased the stock of purchases in anticipation of further increases in input prices and ramped up employment levels to support the slightly higher demand witnessed.

"Output prices, meanwhile, rose at the second-fastest rate on record as firms tried to protect their margins. While most businesses remain positive about output growing over the next year, the concerns around rising inflation pushed the future output index to its lowest level since the start of the survey," he added.

Concerns of rapid price inflation also took a hit on business confidence during the month of March, which dropped to the lowest level since the survey began (in January 2014).

Growth inactivity

However, the firms remained hopeful that capacity improvements, new products and increased marketing would contribute to future growth inactivity.

On a positive note, firms registered a modest rise in employment numbers during March, amid efforts to boost capacity and completely new sales. Despite rising for the second month in a row, the accumulation in backlogs was nonetheless softened by the rise in staffing.

BRIEFLY

Twitter announces Musk to join board of directors

Twitter announced Tuesday that Elon Musk will join its board, one day after the Tesla CEO disclosed a large stake that made him the social media company's largest shareholder. "I'm excited to share that we're appointing @elonmusk to our board! Through conversations with Elon in recent weeks, it became clear to us that he would bring great value to our Board," Twitter CEO Parag Agrawal said in a tweet. Musk, who also leads the SpaceX venture and is the world's richest man, had the day prior announced his purchase of 73.5 million shares or 9.2 per cent of Twitter's common stock, sending the company's

value up more than 27 per cent on Wall Street. The billionaire's investment had fuelled speculation about a takeover of the microblogging platform, which is influential in the political and media worlds but for which profitable growth has often proved elusive.

Analysts at Wedbush said the invitation from Agrawal marks "a friendly move by the Twitter board to embrace Musk with open arms" that could lead to significant strategic shifts for a company "still struggling in a social media arms race," according to a note. But given Musk's penchant for polarising comments, they advised: "get out the popcorn."

- AFP

A boon for SMEs as Stanbic, AGF ink risk mitigation deal

Small businesses without collateral can now access credit from Stanbic Bank Kenya, after the lender signed a Sh1 billion risk mitigation facility with the African Guarantee Fund (AGF). Stanbic Bank Kenya's Head of Business and Commercial Clients Florence Wanja (pictured) said the facility, which starts immediately targets high risk small and medium enterprises (SMEs), usually shunted by commercial banks and financial institutions for lack of security.

"You find that commercial banks will not lend to those SMEs because the traditional way of lending has been one where you are asked to bring security, bring your audited financials. But with this guarantee, we are able to lend to an SME who does not have your traditional



collateral because risk is covered," said Wanja.

She added: "These are start-ups who don't have securities, they don't have financials or proper record. That is the category considered high risk."

"Over 300 SMEs are expected to benefit from the scheme, which attracts a tenor of 13 per cent. On average, SMEs borrow between Sh1 million and Sh3 million, Wanja said after the entities signed the agreement yesterday.

- Noel Wandera

INDEX

Higher prices limited both client spending and business activity, with the latter seeing a renewed fall.



Regional states urged to focus on removing supply chain barriers

TRADE: Great Lake Region countries have been asked to prioritise removal of historic supply chain bottlenecks worsened by the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

President Uhuru Kenya said that the region is facing ever greater challenges with the escalation in commodities prices and severe constraints on supply chain.

In a speech delivered by Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiang'i (pictured), the Head of State said the road ahead of the region is hard and fraught with uncertainty.

"However, our individual and collective histories show that we are up to the task; no matter how seemingly insurmountable those challenges may be," he said. The speech was delivered during the launch of the 12th Plenary Assembly of the Forum of Parliaments of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (FP-ICGLR).

Enter the bloc

The 12th plenary Assembly comes barely a week after Kenya played a key role in East African Community's (EAC) expansive drive that saw DR Congo enter the bloc.

DR Congo's presence comes with numerous opportunities including access to alternative trade route on the Atlantic side, mineral reserves, and vast market access. The reali-

sation of this, however, banks on the removal or reduction of existing trade barriers, underscoring the significance of revising existing internal legislation by member states.

Senate speaker Kenneth Lusaka said Parliaments have a central role to play with respect to budgeting and appropriations, as well as enacting legislation that facilitate their realisation.

Cross-border peace

ICGLR was inception in 2008 to promote cross-border peace and regional development among the African Great Lakes Region.

Africa has been looking for innovative alternatives in the face of limited resources, including leveraging on programmes such as African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) to consolidate its market base.

Southern African Development Community (SADC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (Comesa), and EAC have ratified the proposed Tripartite Free Trade Areas (TFTA) to enhance the larger single market and boost intra-regional trade.

The three blocs represent 53 percent of the African Union membership constituting over \$1.4 trillion GDP, representing about 60 percent of African continental GDP.

— Herald Aloo

Stalled projects worsening budget deficit, experts say

It is estimated that at least Sh1.12tr (11pc of GDP) in expenditure is required to complete stalled projects

by Herald Aloo
@heraldaloo

Accelerated efforts to make Kenya an industrialised middle-income economy have left the country with hundreds of infrastructure projects which have become an uphill task to complete despite gobbling billions of shillings.

Audit firm, PKF Consulting says the revelation that development projects worth over Sh9 trillion remain stalled among them roads, office blocks, dams and irrigation projects, schools, and hospitals, is denying the country the benefits envisioned by these projects.

"In addition, the delayed payments to contractors have adversely affected businesses and led to financial pressure on the private sector. There is a need for the government to budget on settling such debts," managing director Gurmit Santokh said in a pre-budget briefing.

"The matter has been addressed in the past but it is now spinning out of control with an amount due that exceeds the entire budgeted revenue," he added.

Policy guidelines

PKF has linked devolution, lack of policy guidelines, and appetite for new mega infrastructures as the reasons behind the ballooning number of stalled projects which continues to draw the country into debt trap. Since 2013, the government initiated various debt-funded infrastructure plans which commenced prudently but gradually spiralled to a reckless borrowing spree as the state approached the Sh9 trillion debt ceiling.

Most of these projects have been funded through Private-Public Partnerships (PPP) involving international companies.

The Sh320 billion Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), Sh87 billion Nairobi Expressway, and Sh40 billion Kipevu oil Terminal have all been contracted to China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC) through PPP. The Kenya Public Expenditure Review released 2021 by the World Bank, showed that Kenya had a stock of 3972 ongoing projects many of which are significantly delayed, incomplete or stalled.



Stalled Itare Dam. Experts say poor planning has left the country with hundreds of stalled infrastructure projects. FILE

DEBT DISTRESS

● Treasury and IMF agreed to a \$2.34 billion loan deal on the condition Kenya Public Service slashes salaries and allowances and tame corruption.

● IMF already downgraded Kenya's risk of external debt distress from moderate to high and the country's debt-carrying capacity from strong to medium in April 2021.

to initiate new projects even before completing the ongoing ones that are accumulating debt following budget cuts and are on the brink of joining the long list of stalled portfolios.

At the end of last year, the gross public debt was high at sh8.2 trillion from Sh7.2 trillion by the end of 2020, which is more than two-thirds of the annual gross domestic product (GDP). About half of the debt was external while domestic accounted for the other half.

Pending bills

"This has resulted in a subsequent squeeze on ongoing projects in the absence of fiscal space, which is now accruing large costs to the government arising from the accumulation of pending bills," the World Bank noted.

It is estimated that at least Sh1.12 trillion (11 per cent of GDP) in expenditure is required to fund all stalled projects to completion. Terminating the contracts can help the government save billions of shillings but this will equally put the government into legal compensation.

The Bretton Woods institution said that 522 completely dormant projects worth Sh1 trillion (\$10 billion) should be considered for cancellation to save billions.

Shockingly, the government continues

The Controller of Budget recently raised a red flag over the huge pending bills amounting to 467.7 billion, which partly included State Corporation bills to contractors or projects. Making the list of defaulters is the State Department of Transport with a Sh6.1 billion pending bill. According to the African Development Bank Policy Note on public debt dynamics in Kenya for December 2021, Kenya was already on a high public debt trajectory before Covid-19.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) recently proposed the cancellation of stalled projects in a new raft of conditions set to shape Kenya's fiscal policies, a move that has seemingly dejected the government.

Salaam Microfinance Bank joins KBA as 47th member

by Bernard Sigei
@PeopleDailyKe

Kenya Bankers Association (KBA) has announced that Salaam Microfinance Bank has joined its membership, bringing its total members to 47 banks. In a statement KBA chief executive Habil Olaka said the banking industry's umbrella body was excited to bring Saalam Microfinance Bank on board. The association, he said is anticipating the bank's contribution in giving its customers excellent experience even as they strive to contribute to the country's economic development. "We are profoundly privileged

to have an institution like Salaam in our fold to sustain our activities to positively impact the banking public," Olaka added. Salaam, formally known as Uwezo Microfinance Bank, is licensed and regulated by the Central Bank of Kenya and was recently acquired by Djibouti's Islamic lender, Salaam African Bank.

Salaam Executive Director, Jaafar Abdulkadir said that as a bank that specialises in lending to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises it is proud to join hands with KBA to deliver the services adequately and give their customers excellent experience while at it.

Mombasa tea auction now fully digital

by Reuben Mwambungu
@reubenmwambungu

Mombasa Tea auction has now been fully automated in a move that stakeholders say will enhance opportunities for marketing and selling value added teas and subsequently increase the volumes of tea sold at the auction. It follows the unveiling of the Integrated Tea Trading System (iTTS) digital platform funded by the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) - through TradeMark East Africa - to the tune of Sh200 million. The Integrated system



will see East African Tea Trade Association (Eatta) automate the manual processes along the tea value chain which covers the dispatch of made tea from the factory and receiving of the tea by the warehouse. It also covers cataloguing and offering the tea for sale by the broker, buying of the tea and paying for it by the

buyer and finally collecting the bought tea from the warehouse.

Edward Mudibo, Eatta Managing director said the introduction of the automated trading platform sought to remedy the limitations in the old manual set-up, such as the lack of in-depth consolidated auction statistics, and limitation on the scale up of the participants in the auction.

"Most importantly the automation of the auction platform shall enable future integration with other systems to enhance efficiency and streamline the process of selling and buying of tea," he said during the launch.

Collapsed banks set to double pay

New law has raised compensation to Sh1,000,000 from Sh500,000 in the event that a bank collapses

by Jacktone Lawi
@PeopleDailyKe

The government extended some relief to bank customers after President Uhuru Kenyatta signed into law the Kenya Deposit Insurance (Amendment) Bill 2020.

The Bill sponsored by Imenti North Member of Parliament Abdul Rahim Dawood will increase compensation to Sh1 million from Sh500,000 in the event a bank collapses.

The compensation is in respect to protected deposits when a banking institution goes into receivership.

Liquidated banks

In the past decade, the sector has witnessed collapse of several banks including Dubai and Imperial Banks in 2015, and Chase Bank a year later.

Dubai Bank has since been liquidated and payments made to depositors while Chase Bank and Imperial Bank had their good loans and deposits transferred to State Bank of Mauritius and KCB Group respectively.

National Bank was also on the verge of collapse before a takeover by KCB reversed fortunes for the government institution.

Other reforms brought by the

new law includes capping the waiting period to six months for customers to be compensated once a financial institution collapses.

Initially, the Kenya Deposit Insurance Corporation (KDIC) had opposed the Bill, saying that if passed, it would raise its exposure from Sh130 billion to Sh950 billion.

Good conduct certificate

Even the National Assembly Committee on Finance and National Planning had shot down the Bill amid concerns that nearly Sh1 trillion would be needed to cover for the exposure. However, amendments to the bill enabled a smooth sailing.

The president also signed into law the new Employment (Amendment) Act that provides employers to demand for clearance or compliance certificates "upon granting an offer of employment to a prospective employee."

Previously, prospective employees were required to avail documents such as certificate of good conduct during job application.

NEW LAWS

● **Others legislations that signed into law also include the 22 Supplementary / Appropriation Bill (Supplementary Budget), 2021 Copyright (Amendment) Bill, the 2022 Industrial Training (Amendment) Bill, and the 2019 Employment (Amendment) Bill.**

● **The Copyright (Amendment) Bill, introduces a new formula in the sharing of revenues collected from ring back tunes.**

NAIROBI SECURITIES EXCHANGE

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	VWAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		AGRICULTURAL	PRICES		SHARES
15.00	10.00	Eaagads Ltd Ord 1.25.		12.65	
425.00	360.00	Kakuzi P/c Ord 5.00		424.50	
101.00	80.00	Kapchorua Tea Kenya P/c Ord 5.00.	99.75	99.75	100
390.00	280.00	The Limuru Tea Co. P/c Ord 20.00.		320.00	
22.80	18.75	Sasiba P/c Ord 1.00	18.40	18.40	23,100
154.75	125.00	Williamson Tea Kenya P/c Ord 5.00.	135.00	132.25	300
AUTOMOBILES & ACCESSORIES					
76.00	20.00	Car & General (K) Ltd Ord 5.00		62.00	
BANKING					
12.95	11.30	ABSA Bank Kenya P/c Ord 0.50	12.30	12.35	93,900
30.00	26.50	BK Group P/c Ord 0.80	30.00	29.90	385,000
80.00	54.25	Diamond Trust Bank Kenya Ltd Ord 4.00	57.00	57.75	4,300
53.00	49.80	Equity Group Holdings P/c Ord 0.50	49.50	49.15	1,403,300
3.40	2.80	HF Group P/c Ord 5.00	3.13	3.03	15,500
22.00	19.80	ISM Group P/c Ord 1.00	20.25	20.75	16,900
46.00	43.00	KCB Group P/c Ord 1.00	43.55	43.50	1,112,200
26.50	23.00	NCA Bank Group P/c Ord 5.00	26.15	25.95	71,500
104.00	95.00	Stanbic Holdings P/c Ord 5.00	104.00	104.00	700
145.00	130.75	Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Ltd Ord 5.00	143.75	143.00	34,200
14.00	12.50	The Co-operative Bank of Kenya Ltd Ord 1.00	12.80	12.75	158,000
COMMERCIAL AND SERVICES					
5.10	0.45	Deacons (East Africa) P/c Ord 2.50		0.45	
0.98	0.81	Eveready East Africa Ltd Ord 1.00	0.84	0.86	1,200
3.40	3.80	Express Kenya P/c Ord 5.00		4.00	
0.00	0.00	Homeboy Entertainment P/c Ord 0.50		4.66	
9.50	0.80	Kenya Airways Ltd Ord 1.00		3.83	
3.90	3.26	Longhorn Publishers P/c Ord 1.00	3.38	3.31	2,100
5.10	4.20	Nairobi Business Ventures Ltd Ord 0.50	4.82	4.57	25,200
21.80	18.50	Nation Media Group P/c Ord 2.50	20.10	20.30	600
2.70	2.18	Sameer Africa P/c Ord 5.00	2.18	2.41	50,200
16.40	11.90	Standard Group P/c Ord 5.00	13.10	13.40	200
13.00	11.60	TPS Eastern Africa Ltd Ord 1.00		11.70	
0.22	0.18	Uchumi Supermarket P/c Ord 5.00	0.20	0.20	11,300
4.37	3.75	WPP Scangroup P/c Ord 1.00	4.00	3.99	20,300
CONSTRUCTION & ALLIED					
8.35	2.40	ARM Cement P/c Ord 1.00		5.55	
37.50	34.05	Bamburi Cement Ltd Ord 5.00	36.00	36.00	1,000
39.35	34.00	Crown Paints Kenya P/c Ord 5.00		36.00	
1.21	1.00	E.A. Cables Ltd Ord 0.50	1.05	1.09	40,100
1.10	6.30	E.A. Portland Cement Co. Ltd Ord 5.00	6.90	6.90	300
ENERGY & PETROLEUM					
4.00	3.49	KenGen Co. P/c Ord 2.50	3.59	3.57	156,300
1.70	1.30	Kenya Power & Lighting Co P/c Ord 2.50	1.50	1.45	822,800
5.50	4.10	Kenya Power & Lighting P/c 4% Pref 20.00		4.11	
6.00	6.00	Kenya Power & Lighting P/c 7% Pref 20.00		6.00	
25.00	23.00	TotalEnergies Marketing Kenya P/c Ord 5.00	24.00	24.35	3,700
7.50	5.50	Umeme Ltd Ord 0.50	7.00	7.22	300
INSURANCE					
7.10	6.40	Britam Holdings P/c Ord 0.10	6.70	6.60	5,400
2.30	1.98	CIC Insurance Group Ltd Ord 1.00	2.13	2.18	15,000
280.00	270.00	Jubilee Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00	273.75	271.75	2,500
2.30	2.15	Kenya Re Insurance Corporation Ltd Ord 2.50	2.18	2.20	122,500
7.18	5.64	Liberty Kenya Holdings Ltd Ord 1.00	6.12	5.96	6,300
13.55	11.83	Santam Kenya P/c Ord 5.00		11.20	
INVESTMENT					
14.40	11.70	Centum Investments P/c Ord 0.50	12.20	12.10	12,000
0.39	0.33	Home Africa Ltd Ord 1.00.	0.35	0.36	39,100
1500.00	1,500.00	Kurwitu Ventures Ltd Ord 100.00.		1,500.00	
2.25	1.90	Olympia Capital Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00	2.10	2.00	1,800
1.28	1.00	Trans-Century P/c Ord 0.50		1.17	
INVESTMENT SERVICES					
8.10	6.90	Nairobi Securities Exchange P/c Ord 4.00	7.80	7.88	25,400
MANUFACTURING & ALLIED					
98.00	61.25	B.O.C Kenya P/c Ord 5.00		80.00	
510.00	420.00	British American Tobacco Kenya P/c Ord 10.00	491.25	488.75	900
13.20	10.00	Carbacid Investments P/c Ord 1.00	11.35	11.40	1,700
194.00	145.00	East African Brewer. P/c Ord 2.00	150.75	151.00	13,100
1.45	1.10	Flame Tree Group Holdings Ltd Ord 0.825	1.29	1.20	100
14.00	10.40	Kenya Orchards Ltd Ord 5.00		10.40	
0.70	0.25	Mumias Sugar Co. Ltd Ord 2.00		0.27	
38.40	26.10	Unga Group Ltd Ord 5.00	28.35	28.35	100
TELECOMMUNICATION					
45.25	33.50	Safaricom P/c Ord 0.05	35.45	35.35	2,648,200
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST					
7.48	5.80	ILAM FAHARI I-REIT Ord. 20.00	6.02	6.38	17,800
EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS					
2075.00	1780.00	ABSA New Gold ETF	2106	203500	

NSE ALL SHARE INDEX: UP 0.37 points to close at 158.61
NSE 20-SHARE INDEX: UP 6.03 points to close at 1855.92
NSE 25-SHARE INDEX: UP 6.58 points to close at 3588.73

MARKET WATCH

TREASURY BONDS ISSUE



RESULTS OF 91, 182 & 364 DAYS TREASURY BILLS ISSUE 244/91, 242/182 & 237/364 DATED: 29/11/2021

The auction outcome is summarized in the table below:

	91 DAYS	182 DAYS	364 DAYS	TOTAL
Due Date	28/02/2022	30/05/2022	20/11/2022	
Amount Offered (Kshs. M)	4,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	24,000.00
Bids Received (Kshs. M)	3,836.66	2,528.43	9,634.53	15,999.61
Performance Ratio (%)	96.12	25.20	96.25	64.55
Total Amount Accepted (Kshs. M)	3,836.28	2,528.19	6,547.11	12,931.59
Of which: Competitive bids	1,514.24	2,273.29	6,003.13	11,790.66
- Non-competitive bids	422.04	254.90	543.98	1,221.92
Bid-to-Cover Ratio	1.00	1.00	1.38	1.18
Purpose / Application of Funds:				
- Refinancing	1,779.20	4,286.50	4,255.40	10,651.10
- Non Refinancing/Reinvestment	2,156.92	2,291.69	2,291.71	6,740.32
Market Weighted Average Interest Rate	7.182%	7.834%	8.972%	
Weighted Average Interest Rate of Accepted bids	7.182%	7.839%	8.944%	
Price per Kshs 100 at average interest	98.241	96.240	91.811	

COMPARATIVE AVERAGE INTEREST RATES OF ACCEPTED BIDS

	This Auction	Last Auction	Variance
91 - day	7.18%	7.14%	0.06%
182 - day	7.83%	7.74%	0.08%
364 - day	8.94%	8.80%	0.14%

NEXT TREASURY BILLS AUCTIONS: Issue No: 248/91, 242/182 & 237/364 DATED 06/12/2021

ENDBL	91 DAYS	182 DAYS	364 DAYS	TOTAL
Offer amount (Kshs. M)	4,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	24,000.00
Auction Dates & Bids Closure	02/12/2021	02/12/2021	02/12/2021	
Results Announcement	03/12/2021	03/12/2021	03/12/2021	
Refinancing				19,391.65
Non Refinancing/Reinvestment				4,608.35

CBK KEY RATES

Central Bank Rate	7.00%	29/03/2022
Inter-Bank Rate	4.79%	04/04/2022
CBK Discount Window	13.00%	29/03/2022
91 - Day T-Bill	7.302%	04/04/2022
REPO	0.00%	23/03/2022
Inflation Rate	5.66%	March, 2022
Lending Rate	12.17%	February, 2022
Savings Rate	2.56%	February, 2022
Deposit Rate	6.61%	February, 2022
KBRR	8.9%	27/07/2016

KEY CBK INDICATIVE EXCHANGE RATES 5/4/2022

CURRENCY	MEAN	BUY	SELL
US DOLLAR	115.0969	114.9969	115.1969
SW KRONER	12.2165	12.2046	12.2284
STG POUND	150.9524	150.8035	151.1012
SINGAPORE DOLLAR	84.8140	84.7310	84.8971
SAUDI RIYAL	30.6810	30.6536	30.7085
SA RAND	7.8818	7.8741	7.8894
S FRANC	124.3283	124.2135	124.4430
NOR KRONER	13.2886	13.2749	13.3022
KES / USHS	30.8871	30.8168	30.9574
KES / TSHS	20.1570	20.0960	20.2179
KES / RWF	8.8366	8.7551	8.9182
KES / BIF	17.8273	17.3933	18.2614
JPY (100)	93.8073	93.7143	93.9003
IND RUPEE	1.5246	1.5227	1.5264
HONGKONG DOLLAR	14.6899	14.6771	14.7027
EURO	126.7059	126.5782	126.8335
DAN KRONER	17.0052	16.9898	17.0206
CHINESE YUAN	18.0882	18.0708	18.1056
CAN \$	92.1992	92.0933	92.3052
AUSTRALIAN \$	86.5011	86.4202	86.5820
AE DIRHAM	31.3355	31.3044	31.3666



Back to work

Kenya Power staff install a new transformer at Kiwaihiga village in Gatanga, Muranga county. The area has been experiencing increasing cases of third party interference on the electricity network that have led to transformer failure causing loss of revenue and disruption of livelihoods for electricity consumers. PD/ALICE MBURU

UK bans celebs from gambling adverts

London, Tuesday

Britain on Tuesday said it would ban celebrities including footballers, TV stars and social media influencers, from featuring in gambling adverts to protect young and vulnerable people.

The Committee for Advertising Practice (CAP) said tough new restrictions would apply to high-profile celebrities from October 1 because of their large social media followings.

It comes as British online betting groups, which have boomed on pandemic lock-

downs, are under increasing pressure to discourage gamblers at risk of addiction.

Sports people, celebrities and influencers who are "likely to be of strong appeal

Appeal to children or young persons, especially by reflecting or being associated with youth culture.

to children or young persons, especially by reflecting or being associated with youth culture" will be banned from gambling and lottery adverts, CAP said in a statement.

CAP added that the ban included top-flight footballers and reality TV stars like those on dating show Love Island.

Sports stars

"The days of gambling ads featuring sports stars, video game imagery and other content of strong appeal to under-18s are numbered," noted CAP director Shahriar Coupal.

"By ending these practices, our new rules invite a new era for gambling ads, more particular to the adult audience they can target and more befitting of the age-restricted product they're promoting."

A series of measures have been taken in recent years to tackle gambling addiction in the UK, from banning the use of credit cards for bets to placing warning messages on TV adverts and limiting stakes on slot machines.

The betting age for the national lottery has also been raised to 18 from 16.

■ We have established that the 15 expelled intelligence officers have conducted spying on Danish soil

EU countries expel Russian diplomats

Italy, Denmark, Spain and Sweden expel more than 70 Russian diplomats in a new wave of anti-Moscow moves

■ Brussels, Tuesday

Italy, Denmark, Sweden and Spain have expelled a total of 73 Russian diplomats, prompting the Kremlin's condemnation.

The Kremlin on Tuesday called the mass expulsions of Russian diplomats by a number of European countries a "short-sighted move" that will only complicate communication.

"Narrowing down opportunities for diplomatic communication in such an unprecedentedly difficult crisis environment is a short-sighted move that will further complicate our communication, which is necessary to find a solution," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters, referring to the Russian war in Ukraine.

"And this will inevitably lead to retaliatory steps," he added.

Spanish foreign minister Jose Manuel Albares said yesterday his country was expelling about 25 Russian diplomats and embassy staff "who represent a threat to



European Commissioner for Home Affairs Ylva Johansson speaks during a debate on EU protection of children and young people fleeing the war in Ukraine, during a plenary session at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, eastern France, yesterday AFP

the interests and security of our country". Sweden will expel three Russian diplomats for spying, according to Foreign Minister Ann Linde.

Earlier Tuesday, Italy's Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio said in a statement his country ordered the expulsion of 30 Russian envoys for national security.

"The measure is in agreement with other European and Atlantic partners and is necessary for reasons linked to our national security and in the context of the current crisis caused by the unjustified aggression against Ukraine on the part of the Russian Federation," Di Maio said.

Meanwhile, Denmark said it expelled 15 Russian "intelligence officers" posing as diplomats, giving them 14 days to leave the country.

"We have established that the 15 expelled intelligence officers have conducted spying on Danish soil," foreign minister Jeppe Kofod told reporters after a meeting in parliament.

Denmark wished to send a "clear signal" that spying on it is "unacceptable," he said. Strong condemnation

Russia's ambassador to Denmark was informed of the decision on Tuesday morning, where the government also expressed

DIPLOMATS EXPULSION

● Italy, Denmark, Spain and Sweden expel a total of more than 70 Russian diplomats in a new wave of anti-Moscow moves.

● Horrific images of corpses lying in the streets in the town of Bucha northwest of Kyiv, some with their hands bound behind them, following the Russian withdrawal

its condemnation of "Russia's brutality against Ukrainian civilians in Bucha".

"Deliberate attacks against civilians are a war crime," it said. At the same time, Copenhagen insisted on maintaining diplomatic relations with Moscow.

"Denmark does not wish to break diplomatic relations with Moscow. The Russian ambassador and the rest of the embassy in Copenhagen are therefore not included in the expulsion," Kofod said.

Horrific images of corpses lying in the streets in the town of Bucha northwest of Kyiv, some with their hands bound behind them, following the Russian withdrawal have drawn international condemnation of Russia, and the EU is considering additional sanctions.

- AFP and Xinhua

BRIEFLY

Sri Lanka MPs leave Gotabaya Rajapaksa-led coalition

More than 40 MPs have left Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's coalition government. MPs from parties aligned with Mr Rajapaksa's Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) led coalition said they would now independently represent themselves. The move comes as the South Asian nation is grappling with power cuts and shortages because of an economic and foreign exchange crisis. This has led to mass protests demanding Rajapaksa's resignation.

It is unclear what the implications of the MPs' actions

are at this point. They have distanced themselves from the government, but have not extended support to the opposition. It could, however, call into question the prime minister's authority over the parliament. Rajapaksa's cabinet has already resigned, but both the president and his brother, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, have so far refused to step down. Instead, the president called on opposition parties to help him form a national government and accept cabinet portfolios. - BBC

Rwanda court upholds Paul Rusesabagina 25 years jail

A Rwandan court in the capital Kigali on Monday upheld a 25-year jail sentence for Paul Rusesabagina, a former hotelier portrayed as a hero in a film called "Hotel Rwanda." Rusesabagina, 67, was last September convicted on eight counts related to acts of terrorism committed by the National Liberation Front (FLN) in 2018 which claimed the lives of nine civilians in Rwanda's southwest. But prosecution in February appealed on grounds

that the lower court had handed Rusesabagina a lenient sentence. However, on Monday the appeals court led by Francois Regis said "there was no reason to extend his sentence." Rusesabagina, who was not in court Monday faced multiple charges including forming an illegal armed group, financing terror activities, murder, kidnap and arson in a trial he boycotted, claiming that there was "unfairness and a lack of independence." - Xinhua

Indigenous tribes protest land, rights

Women from the Kayapo tribe perform a ceremony on the first day of the Terra Livre Indigenous Camp, in Brasilia yesterday. The 10-day annual protest, which is held by indigenous people from tribes that arrive from all over Brazil, calls for greater protection of their land and rights. AFP



President Castillo imposes curfew in Peru capital Lima

■ Lima, Tuesday

Peruvian President Pedro Castillo has imposed a curfew in the capital, Lima, and the port city of Callao following nationwide protests over rising fuel and fertiliser prices.

On Sunday, the government announced it would temporarily scrap the fuel tax in an attempt to stabilise petrol prices.

But lorry drivers and farmers blocked roads in much of the country again on Mon-

day. The government says four people have died in the protests.

President Castillo announced the curfew after a meeting with his Council of Ministers. He also declared a state of emergency for Lima and Callao, suspending some rights such as freedom of assembly and the right to circulate freely.

"I call for calm and serenity. Social protest is a constitutional right, but it must be done within the law," President Castillo said in a TV ad-



dress. The curfew - which will affect some 10 million people - has been widely criticised as "authoritarian" by critics of the president.

The prices of fertilisers

and fuel have shot up in Peru since the start of the war in Ukraine. Lorry drivers started to block major roads last week, which in turn triggered a rise in food prices.

Some of the protests turned violent on Monday, with protesters burning toll booths. The protests come at a time when Peru is already suffering from high inflation and the president's popularity is low. The left-wing leader has been in power since July after winning by a slim majority. - BBC

Eureka ▶ Design, innovate, engineer

Software assists SMEs in making better decisions

With an affordable HR and payroll software, **Peter Muchemi Muriithi** is helping small and medium enterprises transition from tedious manual processes

by **Milliam Murigi**
@amillymur1

Tell us about your company's innovation?
Crew is a modern end-to-end cloud human resource and payroll software for small and medium businesses in Kenya that seeks to address the needs of the future of work, by automating all HR and payroll services from the tap of a finger. It makes it easy to manage your employees both remotely and even at the office.

What inspired Megashift to come up with this software?

We developed Crew HR and payroll because we had made an observation that a majority of small and medium businesses in Kenya processes their payroll manually on paper and on excel sheets. Again the solutions available were offered as one-off software where they would be installed on their laptops or their company servers. This is a big risk because the laptop could be stolen or the physical servers be compromised leading to loss of data. Our vision was to develop cloud software that could be affordable to these businesses because we would then adopt the software as a service model that allows businesses to pay on a monthly subscription basis.

What other problems is the innovation coming to solve?

The key problem we are solving is manual processing of payroll and other HR processing, which is time consuming and tedious. We want to help businesses focus more on their employees and their core businesses thus increasing their revenues and employee retention and productivity. Another key focus is affordability. Traditional software is expensive and hard to maintain. Because of this, many of these businesses opt to use and stick to the manual processes to save that extra coin.

With Crew, the HR can remotely monitor and execute all its required functions such as employee management, leave management, appraisals, payroll management, and applicant tracking systems, training, employee self-service and HR analytics and dashboard. In other words, it's an enabler of working from home because there is zero paper work and 100 per cent management of everything that could be done in the office.

How many people are using your software?

Currently, the software has hundreds of businesses subscribed, with thousands of employees on-boarded. We are growing at a rate of 10 per cent a month and we expect to reach 1,000 businesses by the end of this year. One of the key benefits for using this software is that one is able to work remotely, process payroll, and generate net pay report. It also enables the employer to manage employees' leave and time off since the software allows employees to login and apply for such. Employees are also able to login and download their pay slips and request for working tools from the HR. In short, the software covers the whole employee lifecycle from shortlisting to on-boarding, management of employees and off-boarding.

What challenges have you encountered when trying to sell this solution?

The biggest challenge we have faced so far is that business people don't understand the benefits of storing their data on cloud because of data security concerns. However, we have been able to address these concerns on a case-by-case basis. We have taken the necessary measures to mitigate security risks, thus giving our customers comfort and trust.

Who is your target market?

Our target market is small and medium businesses in Kenya who have 1-100 employees. The Kenya Association of Manufacturers indicate that Kenya's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) contribute approximately 40 per cent of the country's Gross Domestic

PD/MILLIAM MURIGI



MUCHEMI

The greatest barrier to adoption of technology is lack of awareness that there are tools that meet their needs to solve their specific problems

Product with the majority falling in the informal sector. While there are about 7.41 million MSMEs in Kenya, only 1.56 million are licensed. This is a huge market that we want to tap into.

What are the pros and cons of automated HR system?

The main advantage is that the systems reduce the cost of operations and increase productivity. This is largely because the repetitive tasks are automated and the HR has more time to focus on strategic tasks that can add revenue to the business. The disadvantage with the automation is that it requires training, so that all stakeholders can buy in and adopt the new change.

Is the technology coming to make some people lose their jobs?

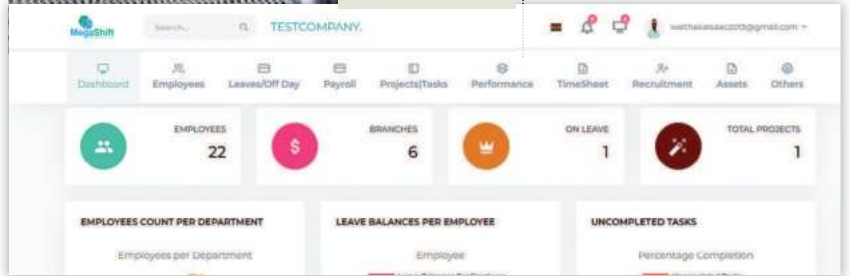
No, technology in the HR ecosystem will never replace the physical HR's jobs due to the fact that HR processes are innately people-centric. Software as of now cannot understand the employee feelings, why is their performance poor, or why did they get to work late. The software is only there to support the HR personnel to carry out their tasks efficiently.

Why should companies bother to switch?

Artificial Intelligence (AI) makes employees work more efficiently; for instance analyse and shortlist thousands of resumes in half the time. AI will also help increase retention of employees by predicting turnover. The solutions can tell which employee is likely to resign in a given period given some specific parameters. Automating your business HR department comes with so many benefits yet most people are still stuck to the manual process.

What do you think needs to be done to change this?

The biggest barrier to adoption of technology is lack of awareness that there are tools that meet their needs to solve their specific problems. Businesses also have this stereotype that it's only large enterprises that can afford these tools, so cost is a big consideration for SMEs to adopt any software in Kenya. Finally, if the founders or owners are not able to buy into technological digital transformation agenda, then the businesses get stuck in their manual processes.



BRIEF

Snapchat allows sharing YouTube videos as a sticker

Snapchat has announced that it's giving users the ability to share YouTube videos within the snap or story. Feature users can now bypass the process of copying, pasting, and attaching the video as a link. The company said the new feature is available on both Android and iOS.

Users are expected to navigate to the YouTube video to be shared, hit the

'Share' button, and then select 'Snapchat'. Once this is done, Snapchat will open, and the video will automatically appear in your camera as its own sticker, showing the name, thumbnail, and creator of the video.

After a picture or video is taken, the user can play around with the size of the sticker on any side of the screen. Friends and followers who choose to

view such a snap or story can click on the link and get redirected to view the video on the YouTube app or in the web browser.

The company says the new approach comes with new stickers that give users a clearer look at the video's thumbnail, and give an insight into the creator behind the video, whereas the plain old link format left crucial pieces of infor-

mation out. A similar sticker was made by Snapchat in 2020 for Twitter, which saved users the experience of having to send screenshots of tweets.

Snapchat recently released an updated app that allows users to change their usernames. The new feature is available for both iOS and Android users globally.

-techbooky



Spice

Flavour your day

STYLE  @martkinel

Phoina 'Tosha'

Wambui is a Kenyan make-up artist turned entrepreneur. She recently launched her cosmetic line dubbed Phoina. She talks to **Faith Kyoumukama** about her journey in the beauty business and everything style

Tell us about you

I am an entrepreneur who is passionate about make-up and the beauty industry.

Growing up, I watched my mum interact with make-up and you know that saying that some things are better learnt than taught. Seeing her love make-up got me so interested. One trend that I loved the most from her had to be the use of the dark line and lip-gloss. This would get me into a lot of trouble, especially in school.

How then did you end up in the make-up business?

About 10 years ago after college, I was working for a tracking company in a control room, which was a 9-5 job that I did not enjoy one bit. Sitting for long hours was boring and not exciting for me, so while at work, I would watch a lot of make-up tutorials on YouTube. So, I set up an Instagram page and slowly started posting make-up videos experimenting on my friends and family. The wake up call was when I first got a bridal job and they paid me Sh20,000. This was a Sh3,000 difference from my then monthly salary and that's when I decided to quit my job to do make-up on full time. My thoughts were if I could earn such an amount in one weekend, what if I put all my energy into it?

Some hurdles you experienced when starting out?

It wasn't the easiest transition journey, because first this was a gamble. In fact, my mum was sceptical about me leaving a corporate job to fully venture into offering make-up services. I created a home studio and I was doing a lot of freelance jobs. I did not own a car at that moment, and also, the affordable car apps were not in existence then. So, moving around was a challenge by itself. Another challenge was some customers would not be impressed with my work, especially since I had not yet perfected my craft, and so, I had to go back to the drawing board and it

took me four years to get it right.

You recently launched your cosmetic line named Phoina. What was the inspiration behind it?

Yes, I have so far launched seven lipsticks, a colour palette and a highlighter. My inspiration behind it was that I saw a niche and a gap.

Phoina Tosha

BEAUTY 101

Most of the time I use international products and there are just a few, and because I understand the craft, I'm able to know what's suitable for the industry. It also allows me to use it in the academy for students who are aspiring make-up artists.

Beauty hack you have learned over the years...

A trick that has worked for me because I have tiny eyes is using a white liner to make my eyes appear bigger by creating an illusion. You can give it a try at home too.

What do you splurge on the most when it comes to matters fashion and beauty?

I love clothes. There is a shop called Boss Babes where I get most of my pieces. I really got the fashion bug from my mum; she loved dressing up.

Which fashion era did you like the most?

The 90s, because in my opinion, it was the beginning of true fashion. It's actually the mother of fashion. It had the belly bottoms, which I loved rocking with a pair of platforms or blocks.

Your go to stylist in Kenya is?

Victor Maina is my go to stylist. He understands my style and what I love. He always picks what is suitable for me depending on the occasion.

If given an opportunity, which celebrity wardrobe would you raid?

Chioma Ikokwu! She has great style coupled with confidence.

An advice for those that look up to you and would want to follow a similar career path.

Follow your dreams, be consistent in everything that you do, and work hard. Hard work and consistency will take you places that talent won't. There is a bunch of people I like to refer to as the 'microwave generation' who don't like to get their hands dirty. I would like to tell them that success will not just knock on your door without your input.

GET THE LOOK

With Nailantei Norari

Flaunt it like a boss lady!

Ugandan fashion star and celebrity Zari Hassan has been trending for her fashion and boldness ever since the Young African and Famous reality series got released on Netflix. This week, we pick a few of her bold fashion choices as inspiration to help guide us curate stylish looks. She loves colour and well-fitting pieces that emphasise her femininity.



Experiment it. Zari looks stunning in a pyjama-inspired print get-up.



A well-fitting suit should be a wardrobe staple; a must have for every style savvy woman.



You stand out among the rest when you simply accessorise with well chosen bag and shoes combo.

Clique & Clicks ▶ Get Spotted

THE LITERATURE

■ by Philip Kamakya

The National Police Service (NPS) Deputy Inspector General Edward Mbugua recently led police officers and other guests in launching a book titled *When The Ancient Tree Falls*, which was held at the University of Nairobi Towers. It's authored by Jared Ojuok, a police superintendent at the Kenya

Police-Public Affairs office. The book documents the culture and practices of the Luo community. Mbugua said wisdom from literature inculcates a culture of responsibility in the youth that equips them with the ability to establish and maintain good relations.

PD/PHILIP KAMAKYA



Police officers Julius Kyuti, Shadrack Opiyo and Victoria Fikiri.



Kennedy Simiyu of the Kenya Police Band hits it.



NPS Deputy Inspector General Edward Mbugua cuts the ribbon to mark the launch of the book.



UoN students Marion Chelangat, Melvin Sereka and Cynthia Khabetsa.



Author Jared Ajuok.



Lawyer Gerald Odiwuor with Kelly Odiwuor.



Maureen Omollo with Sophia Abdilahi.



Shariffa Amour with Halima Moussa.



Grace Kamau with Ann Biomndo.



Jamal Mao, Tawfiq Hussein and Mohammed Jahadhmy.

Of digital finance solutions

■ by Jasmine Atieno

Safaricom and bank Gulf African Bank partnered to launch Shariah-compliant mobile financing solution Halal Pesa at the Fort Jesus in Mombasa recently. Halal Pesa becomes the

first Shariah-compliant mobile and digital financial solution in the country. It seeks to empower customers who have previously been locked out of access to financing due to barriers such as

lack of Shariah-modelled mobile facilities. Present were Safaricom CEO Peter Ndegwa and Gulf African Bank MD Abdalla Abdulkhalik.

PD/NDEGWA GATHUNGU



Gulf African Bank MD Abdalla Abdulkhalik with Safaricom CEO Peter Ndegwa.

Family Fusion ▶ All about kin and kith

How to discontinue breastfeeding in an easy, painless way

Many women tell hilarious stories of how they weaned their children off breastmilk such as applying red pepper on one's nipple, placing a duct tape to seal off the nipple or taking the baby to the village...

by Kwach Wakhisi
@PeopleDailyKe

For any mother, the beginning of your breastfeeding journey can be a hard one — what with dealing with cracked nipples, breast engorgement and the likes? However, it turns out the end can be just as confusing.

No matter how long you breastfeed your baby, and regardless of whether your breastfeeding journey was easy or challenging, there comes a time when breastfeeding stops. The World Health Organisation (WHO) recommends exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of a baby's life, then continued breastfeeding, with the addition of complementary foods, until two years and beyond.

However, the decision about when to stop breastfeeding is a personal one, based on the unique needs of each mother and baby.

Naomi Kago, a mother of three children aged six, five, and three years shares her breastfeeding journey and says it worked differently for each of her little one. "With the first born, it was a bit easy. I remember tricking him that the breasts had salt on them hence they were bitter. He easily fell for it and adapted to the new norm," says Naomi.

"I used to take the salt and sprinkle it around the nipple area on my breast and that was it. However, for the second born, things were a bit tough. She just wanted to nurse and continue nursing. I had to take her to our rural home where she stayed for about two weeks and when she came back home, she came back tougher than she went. She would cry the whole night and I had to breastfeed her because she got to the point where she declined to eat any food," narrates Naomi.

Three babies, different experience

For the third born, she terms the whole experience as a mystery. She offers: "When he hit six months, he started refusing to breastfeed and I found it weird. I would even force him to latch. Sometimes he would cry. When he was eight months old, he completely refused to breastfeed. I had no choice, but to close that chapter. As a mother, I have this principle that when my child turns one year, on their first birthday that very night is the last day for them to breastfeed. This worked well for the first born, but for the second born I had to extend for two more months."

According to Naomi, it worked well with her first born because by the time he hit one year, he was feeding well. "My second born was a poor feeder and that is why she wasn't ready to let go of breastmilk. The third born was also a good feeder. He is also unique in that he not only refused to breastfeed, but also refused to take tea with milk until just recently. He has never taken milk. He says it tastes bad," she explains.

Rebecca Hinnicks, a mother of four children aged five, three, one year and 10 months and a three-month-old says her babies stop breastfeeding when she gets pregnant again.

"It may sound like a joke, but for me it has been automatic. Once I conceive, the older baby just stops breastfeeding. I don't know if there is some science behind it," she says. "Perhaps my last born will breast feed longer than the first three and it may be a challenge stopping her," she adds.

Wangechi Kihara, a lactation counsellor and nutritionist says mothers struggle with weaning baby completely from breast milk because of the bond that they have formed.

"Mums sometimes struggle emotion-



Naomi Kago bonds with her three children. COURTESY



WANGECI

The biggest tip and trick is time... Be gracious with yourself. Also, expect tantrums

ally with letting the baby go, and the baby has also formed such a great bond with the mother, hence it really becomes hard. Breastfeeding does not only give the babies the nutrients required for their bodies to be strong, but also offers them a lot of love and bonding with their mother," says Wangechi.

Also, the breasts really get painful and full, hence the mum becomes uncomfortable when she is trying to stop breastfeeding, which makes it hard, especially when the mum is trying to stop abruptly. By giving your body more time to adjust and decrease milk production, engorgement may be less — which generally means less breast swelling and less boob pain. If you do experience side effects, you can see your doctor

"I usually suggest that a mum takes a few weeks to a few months to prepare the baby and themselves to completely stop breastfeeding. It can be two to three months. If you know you want to stop breastfeeding your baby, start today and start slowly. If the baby was breastfeeding five times a day, drop one session and go to four. Breastfeed the baby four times a day for about two weeks then go to three times. After a week, drop to two times a day. That way, the baby does not get shocked with the abrupt sudden change," she explains.

"As a human being, you are probably used to doing something or are stuck to a certain

routine and when it is interrupted, you get affected emotionally. That is the same thing with a baby. It's really unkind to take your child to your rural home in the name of trying to make them stop breastfeeding," she shares.

Gradual process

The expert says some methods a mum can use to stop breastfeeding their child include: don't ask and don't give. "Usually, when mothers find time to rest say on a couch they usually call the baby to breastfeed. However, in this case, if the baby doesn't ask for breast milk, don't offer it. Secondly, by the time a baby is a toddler, they are more understanding. At this time, you can tell them that they can only breastfeed if you are sitting on a particular chair, and if you are sitting on another chair, they can't breastfeed," she adds.

If the baby breastfeeds only at night, cuddle them more rather than breastfeeding.

"The biggest tip and trick is time. Don't wake up and say, this is the day I am going to stop breastfeeding my child. Your body needs to adjust because stopping abruptly will lead to other problems such as mastitis and other challenges brought about by hormonal changes. Be gracious with yourself. Also, expect tantrums because this child was used to a routine. But if you do it gradually and slowly, the tantrums will be less," Wangechi says.



DADDY'S DIARY WITH JUSTUS NJOROGE

Had a Class Eight candidate? Brace yourself for what's ahead

Last week, Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education examination results were released and as usual, there were mixed reactions. There are those who did exceptionally well and are almost guaranteed slots in top national schools. There are those who missed the magical 400 mark by a few marks, and they are utterly disappointed. Some will continue to blame themselves and crying out for the next few days. It is such an unfortunate situation that your whole eight-year of study is judged on what happens in those three days of national examination.

However, this is not the end of anxiety. In the next few weeks, the selection process will be done, placing pupils in the various secondary schools. Again, there will be some who will be super excited and there are those who will come out disappointed. Some will be admitted in schools that they never applied for and some will miss their dream schools. If you are a parent of a student who just completed his primary education, be ready for this rollercoaster.

The unfortunate bit is that there are some who will get slots in some top schools by

virtue of who they know or how much money they can give. This is a sad reality. And if your child misses to get a slot in their dream school and a former classmate with less marks than them gets admitted into this specific school, you will be left with lots of explanation to make. If you have not thought about these scenarios, start thinking about them.

The last part is the school fees that will be required for pupils to join secondary school. The schools will give you two fees structure. The official fees structure, complete with a school stamp and another one which will

have not many details. This second set of fees will be made known to you once the students have reported to school. If you come from a poor background and your child passed their exams exceedingly well, you will come to understand that education in this country puts children from poor family backgrounds in a disadvantaged position. It is important that this truth is clear to you as a parent sooner than later. But it's not the end of the world. Discuss this with your child and together start working on alternatives where possible or acceptance of the current realities.

PARENTING 101 BY JASMINE ATIENO @SPARKLEMINE

Stigma that comes with raising fat child

For many parents, raising an overweight little one is no laughing matter. One has to deal with both physical and psychological challenges

While being physically big might not always be as a result of fast food or poor feeding habits, the stigma that comes with being labeled fat as a child can be overwhelming. And not just for the child, but for parents as well.

Anthony Ndong'o, a father of three shares that his eldest daughter, a seven-year-old, has been struggling with fear of food since her friends at school labelled her fat.

"It is hard to explain to her that she is just ok. She is a child and should not have to worry about her weight in pre-school. Before schools closed, she had started refusing her meals. She even refuses milk saying she will grow fat. It is really unfortunate because we believe she will shed the weight as she grows. As a parent, of course I sometimes notice the glances we get when we eat out, but I don't think much about it at all. I love my children, they are healthy because they eat right and that is all I care about honestly," he shares.

Emma Ouma on the other hand, joined TV challenge, *Slim Possible* in 2016 trying to work on a weight she has been carrying since she was a baby. Being a big little girl wasn't always easy for Emma and it affected her self-esteem while growing up. Aside from her parents who loved her regardless, she intimates that she had no one to look up to when it came to her confidence.

Weighty issue

"My mum tells me I weighed 5.6 kilogrammes at birth. I was a big child. And that's how my childhood rolled out. Being a big child came with a lot of bullying—the children I played with would compose songs to mock me. At 12 years, I kind of turned tables and became the bully. I did not understand why I was being targeted—from my upbringing, skinny meant you were not eating well at home. Being a young bully basically made me grow a thick skin" she intimates.

However, after secondary school and into college, things changed. Her social life was affected. "People don't care that you are not fat by



choice, they assume you are lazy, which was a hard perspective for me. But I think I started accepting myself either way. After college, looking for work was hard. I attended interviews and instead of being asked about my qualifications... tables would be turned to focus on my weight. How do you manage your weight? What are you doing about it? I gave up on employment and instead decided to be a freelance journalist," shares the mass communication graduate.

Her mum on the other hand is constantly afraid that she might suffer ailments related to obesity. And she constantly calls to check that she is in fact alright. From a previous 150 kilogrammes, she has worked through her weight down to 95 kilogrammes, thanks to stress and portion control.

Obesity, a health condition involving excessive body fat, is of concern to many parents worldwide. It can lead to health problems such as type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol. Some children also may experience teasing, bullying, depression, or low self-esteem. It may make

parenting a challenge too.

As child psychologist Merrab Akinyi shares, in Kenya, studies indicate that obesity has been on the rise in children between three and 15 years old, with urban areas leading as compared to the rural areas and girls being heavier than boys. This is also a worldwide trend.

"Parenting children who are overweight may be a challenge. Both the family as well as the child may be stigmatised. Parents may feel blamed and embarrassed as other people make snide remarks about their parenting. Parents may hear expressions such as, they are overfeeding their child, they are wasting food and many such similar expressions," shares Merrab.

On the other hand, children may feel sad, embarrassed, ashamed, have hatred for themselves, pain, hurt and many other negative feelings. Among the words one may hear a child saying are, "Nobody likes me", "Everybody hates me", "I feel bad to be fat," and many more such expressions.



MERRAB AKINYI

Parents may feel blamed and embarrassed as other people make snide remarks



EMMA OUMA

My mum tells me I weighed 5.6 kilogrammes at birth. I was a big child

How then can parents overcome the stigma of parenting a child who is overweight or obese as they also protect themselves from how other people think about them?

"For children, the most important things they need from their parents is love and care. Although there are many things that parents can do, I would like to mention a few. In modern parenting unlike in the past when children were to be seen and not heard, parents can talk about obesity and being overweight openly. They can find out from their children how it is affecting them and how they can work around it, especially if the obesity is brought about by modern lifestyles such as inactivity and poor eating habits," she shares.

Way forward

She adds, "They can talk about ways they can reduce sedentary lifestyle by going for a walk outdoors, doing some house chores together, playing a game with each other and many more. This, of course requires consistency and discipline on both parent and child," shares the counsellor.

In addition, take note of what your children are going through—their hurts and pains. "Parents can also encourage, model and adopt healthy foods such as eating more vegetables, fruits and water in their family meals. Saying, for example, lets take a fruit instead of soda and cutting the fruit together helps not only in checking your diet, but also bonding," she advises.

Through positive thoughts, a parent can make the child feel comfortable to talk about themselves thus enhancing a positive sense of identity and making the child feel loved as he or she works on his weight with family support. Parents can also search for parents going through similar challenges and form support groups and if necessary, seek professional support.

HELPING TIPS

- **Teach children about body diversity. Raise your children to understand that thin is not the default, but just one point on a vast spectrum of different body sizes. Some bodies are thin, others fat. Some bodies are muscular and burly. Some are fat in some places while being thin in others. And they are all good.**

- **Expose your child to positive representations of fat people. Have conversations with your children about the representation of fat people in books and movies where fat means villainous, dishonest, lazy, bad, stupid or mean, as well as balancing these portrayals with positive ones.**

- **You can help your child by making healthy choices with them. You can start small and gradually introduce new healthy habits. Get everyone in your home on board, so your child who is overweight doesn't feel singled out.**



MOMINTHEMIX
WITH FANNE MWAMBI

Should your teenage sons hang out with their sisters?

"Don't mix maize and beans," my brother-in-law said, further explaining that boys should not be raised together with girls in the very same environment. I was taken aback when my mum in-love echoed the same and applauded my brother-in-law for leaving his sons out when the girls, my daughters included, went for a sleepover at their aunt's.

"So, you're saying that you should raise them away from each other because they will get into a relationship and have children together?" I posed. While this can happen, and I heard of some cases, especially during the curfews and lockdowns that were necessitated by Covid-19, separating them sounded like raising a child in a bubble and expecting them to get used to the world.

Solve it, don't shift it.

I tried to research this topic and surprisingly got nothing in line with raising teenage siblings away from each other. Is there such a thing even? When the cases of siblings performing sexual acts with each other erupted, the first alarm that sounded was a lot of trapped energy, so in my understanding, separating siblings by gender is more or less separating 'trapped energy' from other 'trapped energy'. It doesn't solve the problem where it exists, it shifts it.

Learning self-control, values and respect are critical lessons to having a socially upright teenager and knowing what is ok and what isn't in the home helps them know their siblings are their relatives and not just the opposite sex. I discovered when my daughter turned 10 that children are exposed to a lot more than we think. They already know the answers to the questions they ask you and sometimes only ask to see if you are honest. Other times, they simply want to make you uncomfortable!

My thoughts?

Focus on channelling their energy through activities that are fun and educative. Remember, trapped energy is like empty debs. It can become destructive. Talking to your children opens up a conversation that lets them become aware that it's wrong and help each other steer clear of their sexuality. Let them set respectful limits and enjoy the fact that these sexual opposites are their only knowledge of what their peers won't share with them.



Relatively Speaking

From errand boy to professional biker

Award-winning cyclist **Sule Kangangi** never thought there was more to cycling than just riding around, as his mother **Teresia Njoki** shares

by Harriet James
@harriet86jim

Sule Kangangi, never imagined he would pursue cycling as a career. Born and bred in Eldoret, his mother, Teresia Njoki only recalls him using his black mamba bike to run errands for her.

However, when he was 16 years old, one event made Sule realise there was more to the black mamba than just running around with it—a cycling event organised by Trust Condoms that brought the entire Eldoret town to a standstill.

"It was the first time he saw people racing. He was amazed and stunned by the speed. Everybody was in the streets cheering for the people participating," recalls his mother. After racing was over, Sule approached the organisers of the event. He got to know that the next event would be held in Bungoma, which was a month away. Since he had his black mamba, the organisers told him that he could participate in the black mamba category.

"I watched him prepare himself every morning for the race. When he participated in the race in Bungoma, he came up fifth in his category. I still remember how he was excited and proud of his achievement when he came home with his trophy," she says.

While Teresia was happy about the win, she thought that this would just be a one-time event, but the events that followed shocked her. Sule quit his job as a shop attendant, cutting off money that was meant to assist the house in paying bills and food

TERESIA

I couldn't believe that he quit his job to cycle. I was wondering where we would get the money to pay our house bills

to concentrate on cycling.

"I couldn't believe that he quit his job to cycle. I was wondering where we would get the money to pay our house bills since he would chip in and add into the money that I made from my small business. He would wake up every morning to cycle the whole day and come back home without money and very hungry," she narrates.

It was one of the most difficult decisions Sule has ever made, but he pushed through it, determined to make it work. In 2010, a man called Nicholas Leong from Singapore, came to Kenya to train cyclists. He had a vision that if Kenyans could produce marathoners, why not cyclists?

"The first time I heard of Leong, he was conducting recruitment in Iten where he would test one's cycling endurance and how long it would take for one to cycle. There was this 25-kilometre climb where you would go up the valley and then descend down as fast as possible with the bike. He wanted one to do this within 65 minutes and the first time I did it, I took two hours since I had never experienced such a climb and it was just too much for me. But he kept on coming and recruiting and the second time, I dropped to an hour and 23 minutes. I kept improving on my time until it took me one hour eight minutes. When one attained the mark that he wanted, he would support them, but for me, I never got to attain this time," recalls Sule.

Giving back to society

When he saw that he couldn't make it to the mark, Sule opted out and headed to Lodwar to become a boda boda rider.

"He stayed there for a few months, but Leong began looking for him to come back and continue cycling. He travelled all the way to Lodwar when he heard that Sule was there. It surprised me to see how determined he was to see my son cycling again," says Teresia.

With the support of Leong, he began cycling again in 2011 and Sule's performance greatly improved thanks to the training he received. He also received money to take care of the family expenses. His first international trip was in France where he, and 13 others, went to compete in Haute Route race.

"I was excited that cycling was now paying off. Sule told me that the climbs in Alps Mountains, France were tougher compared to Kenya. When they competed, the first Kenyan emerged position eight and second was position 13. Sule was the first one from Kenya at position 21," she recalls.

Though he didn't win, Sule says that the lessons he learnt in France were fundamental in enabling him reach higher heights. In 2015, the team travelled to Australia since the country held a lot of local races where they could practice weekly. "We realised that to be good racers, we need to go to places where professional races are held weekly. We stayed there for three months just participating in the races and learning. In 2016, I joined Bike Aid, a German professional cycling team whose aim is to develop African cycling and athletes. They took me to Rwanda in 2017," he continues.

► Inner circle truth



Sule Kangangi at a past event. PD/COURTESY

AT A GLANCE

- Sule Kangangi is a professional cyclist
- In 2020, he rode for 1,000km from Nairobi to Mombasa and back in three days with the aim of collecting donations for disadvantaged children.
- Sule's charity bike ride aimed to raise Sh500,000 in support of Aswani Kizito's Project of Hope, a children's shelter located in Nairobi's Kawangware area, and Happy Rock Centre, a children's home in Eldoret. He managed to raise Sh2.3 million.
- In future, Sule desires to have his own cycling team, called the Amani team, where he is targeting to recruit and mentor new talent, both boys and girls.

In Rwanda Sule came out third position in general classification. In 2017, he participated in a cycling event in Quiyan, China, where he took the first place.

"Racing in China was much easier in terms of terrain. He told me that it was

quite a good feeling winning the race. I was happy for him and supported him because I now began to understand his journey. In 2018 he participated in Commonwealth games in Australia and came out position 21," narrates his mother.

In early 2020, Sule participated in a cycling tour of Saudi Arabia. The Covid-19 pandemic hit him hard as he couldn't race. But he managed to organise a charity ride. He cycled for 15 hours, from Nairobi to Mombasa and back to Nairobi and managed to raise Sh2.3 million for two children's homes.

"At first, I thought that he wouldn't be able to make it, but knowing how determined he is when he sets his mind on something, I supported his idea to make a difference in the children's lives. He is happy that he was able to put a smile on the children's faces," says his mother.

This year, he participated in the Tropic Air 10to4 bike challenge, whose aim is to raise funds for the conservation of Mt Kenya ecosystem where he became the male winner of the race.

"The race was amazing. I got to meet other cyclists and also participate in conservation. I wanted to see how I would fare in it and I'm glad I won," says Sule.

Sule is also a supportive son, who has managed to buy land and build his mother a home, changing her mind on that cycling can be a career too.



Professional cyclist Sule Kangangi and his mother Teresia Njoki.

PD/HARRIET JAMES

Taboo ▶ Let's talk about it



Fear of tears and why it is crucial for men to cry



Crying can help release stress hormones and toxins from the body, which is healthy for all people — including the male gender

by **Jasmine Atieno**
@sparkleMine

All human beings are naturally designed to cry and there are many reasons people will shed tears. Could be the eyes natural way of clearing dirt, tear induced by cutting onions, smoke or as a result of expressing sad or happy emotions.

Tears are naturally in the eyes to keep the eyes lubricated and protected against germs and bacteria.

But well, as healthy as tears have been proven to be for all human beings, society largely considers it a taboo for men to express their emotions through shedding of tears

Cyrus Ngonyo, 27, shares that it is close to impossible for anyone to ever catch him crying as it is 'less-manly'. "I do cry, but then it also depends with the situation. But what I completely can't do is cry in front of people. If I have to... I will do it secretly—for instance in the toilet. This way, no one catches me crying. As a man, if you expose your emotions by crying, many people would see you as useless," shares Cyrus.

He alternatively channels the emotions, which would have been let out through crying, in other ways such as talking or exercises such as running.

Equally, James Katana, a 34-year-old spare parts trader explains that as much as he might be unable to hold back tears in some situations, a man should never wail or scream as this is just plain cowardice.

"As a man, don't cry out loud in front of people. You might not be able to hold back a few tears, but do it silently. The sound given out during crying is now the actual taboo. Also, shedding tears depends with the circumstances. If it is a funeral and you have lost a loved one, it is okay to cry... but getting emotional at your wedding the way the bride also gets emotional is a no-no for me. You just can't be that happy. Or say, crying because your girlfriend dumped you... just accept and move on. That's nothing to shed tears about. There are more pressing matters in this life," he shares.

Negative coping mechanism

For a long time, crying has largely been considered as weakness in our society. Many men are socialised from a young age not to cry unlike women. But psychologists say this might actually have a negative impact on a person's health.

"When we shame the natural act of crying, people end up suppressing their emotions, which eventually causes more stress. This makes individuals to find negative ways to let out stress, such as substance abuse, whether alcohol or drugs. Substances abuse ends up caus-

ing more harm to the body and does not deal with the stress. Studies indicate that when an individual is under stress, they release stress hormones in their bodies. Crying is one way of getting rid of stress in the body. It enables people to calm themselves, if they are overwhelmed by sad emotions," shares psychologist Tracy Nyaguthii.

The expert says crying is another way of alleviating pain. The body releases endorphins and oxytocin, which helps an individual feel good and reduce pain. It could be physical or emotional. The release of these feel-good hormones improves your mood and hence relief.

"The frequency of crying differs from one person to another. There are those who are more empathetic or sympathetic than others. While it is normal for human beings to cry, there are times when people struggle to cry. People could have eye problems that can cause their eyes to be dry or have tear duct issues. Other times, people are overwhelmed by issues such that they numb their emotions. Traumatic situations can cause people to be distant from their emotions. Research indicates that many people diagnosed with clinical depression cry less. This is because many of them are not in tune with their emotions and have a flattened affect. As a result, they do not enjoy the benefits of crying," she says.

Support each other

There is ample evidence to suggest that crying in public can have some benefits too. Crying can provoke emotional support from others – for instance, we are quicker to deduce that crying faces are in need of support, and we're more inclined to give support to criers.

However, when people randomly cry in a work situation, the psychologist says it is important for fellow work mates to find ways to support each other. Maybe they need a break. And not to forget that we are still in a pandemic and people are going through a lot of challenges, many have lost loved ones, not to forget the high cost of living. It is important that work environment provide mental health support for such breakdowns. Nyaguthii further advises that work environments should normalise mental health and encourage people to go for counselling.

"Whereas it is healthy to cry, doing so at work depends on an individual's environment or situation. If an individual is crying when giving a presentation or at a meeting, they can be perceived as weak, that can look bad in front of a boss," she says.



NYAGUTHII

When we shame the natural act of crying, people end up suppressing their emotions, which eventually causes more stress. This makes individuals to find negative ways to let out stress, such as substance abuse

BRIEFLY

Bride reconsiders wedding over peculiar family ritual

A bride-to-be is less excited for her big day after discovering her fiancé's 'disturbing' family wedding tradition. The woman took to social media to explain how her soon-to-be husband wants to cut her wedding dress on their special night.

"They even have a special knife they use to do it and the next day everybody makes a big deal about the cut-up dress," she wrote.

She added: "I told my fiancé I don't want to do it, but he said he wants to and that it's the only tradition he isn't willing to budge on. There are other traditions he's agreed to scrap, but he said this one is harmless and it's important to him that we keep some of their traditions."

The woman added that her fiancé and his family are now 'upset' with her, as they feel like she's erasing so many of their important traditions'.

The post sparked outrage online with many urging the fiancée to 'reconsider' the marriage altogether. One user wrote: "This was a tradition for several different peoples/cultures from back in medieval and Victorian times. You know, back when women were property, not people. It has no place in modern society."

Yet another branded the whole thing 'disturbing', adding: "The men dragging the bride and groom to their room once the wedding is over and offering encouragements from outside, being woken up early the next day by the women in the family so they can help you get ready... (It's just an excuse to see if they can find any evidence that you actually had sex and then go and gossip about it with everyone else during brunch). This whole thing is beyond disturbing."

The introduction of a veil was not to give the bride a dramatic chic look, but to protect her from the evil eye and jealousy. And during the times of arranged marriages, the bride's face would be covered until the groom had committed to the marriage, as the fear was he'd think she was ugly and bolt for the exit.



- 5.00 Inuka
- 5.30 Wake Up, Shape Up!
- 6.00 K24 This Morning
- 9.55 Wisdom Moments
- 10.05 Inuka
- 11.00 Daily Brief
- 1.00 News Cut
- 1.30 Jungu La Spoti
- 2.00 Bongo Movie
- 3.00 Ubongo Kids
- 3.30 Akili & Me
- 4.00 Inuka
- 4.30 BBC Mitikasi Leo
- 4.50 Akili & Me
- 5.00 Beatbox
- 6.00 Laura
- 7.00 K24 Saa Moja
- 7.00 Full Impact-Serie A
- 8.00 Made In Cartagena
- 9.00 K24 Evening Edition
- 10.00 Lotto Live
- 10.20 PI World Programme
- 10.50 Bongo Movie
- 12.50 Playlist
- 1.50 Al Jazeera



- 5.00 Ime Ria Rucini
- 6.00 Rikiratha- Live
- 10.00 Riigu Mix- Rpt
- 10.30 Satai
- 11.00 Kurekereria Kodi- Live
- 1.00 Mohoro Gitau-Live
- 1.30 Thirika
- 3.00 Kiengei Live- Rpt
- 4.00 Ririmbuca -Live
- 7.00 Kameme Maturaini-Live
- 6.00 Maisha Bure- Rpt
- 6.30 Wendo Wa
- Githagathago
- 7.30 Njungwa Ya Muthee Kihenjo
- 8.30 Maisha Bure
- 9.00 Mutamburuko Wa Mohoro- Live
- 10.00 Lotto- Live
- 10.15 Therna
- 11.30 Ririmbuca
- 12.30 DW



- 05.00 Command Your Morning
- 06.00 Tech24
- 06.30 Wild Planet
- 07.00 Life And Style
- 09.00 Music Interlude Rnb
- 09.30 Afriscreen
- 11.00 The Promise
- 12.00 Labour Of Love
- 01.00 Newsdesk
- 01.30 Afriscreen
- 03.00 Music Interlude Rnb
- 03.30 Wild Planet
- 04.00 Sanaa Ya Watoto
- 05.00 Baseline
- 06.00 Family Jewels
- 07.00 Kin Leo
- 07.30 My Two Wives
- 08.00 Foods Of Kenya
- 09.00 Kin Prime News
- 09.45 Voa Red Carpet
- 10.00 Kenya Lotto
- 10.15 E-Curve
- 11.15 Andrew Wommack
- 11.45 CNN

TIME OUT!

3.30pm AKILI & ME



IN THEATRES NOW

ANGA DIAMOND PLAZA: 11:30,13:30,15:30,17:30,19:30,12:30: **MORBIUS**
 ANGA SKY PANARI:14:25,16:20:18:35: **MORBIUS**
 ANGA DIAMOND PLAZA:10:30,13:50,18:40:21:30: **ATTACK**
 WESTGATE CINEMA: 11:15,14:00,16:30,19:00,21:00,11:20,19:05: **ATTACK**
 ANGA SKY PANARI:20:35: **ATTACK**



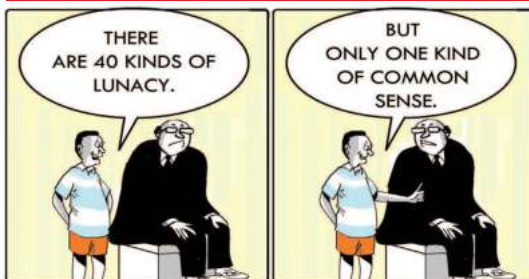
			4	3	8		1	2	
8	4			9	7	5			
7					6		9	8	
9		7						5	
			6						9
1	8		2						5
		9	3	6				8	7
6	7		8	1	9				

Sudoku

8	3	6	1	7	2	4	5	9
4	2	5	3	9	6	8	7	1
9	7	1	4	8	5	6	3	2
7	8	9	5	4	1	2	3	
1	9	2	6	3	7	5	8	4
5	4	3	8	2	1	7	9	6
3	1	7	2	4	8	9	6	5
2	5	4	7	6	9	3	1	8
6	8	9	5	1	3	2	4	7

The aim is to fill the grid so that each row, column and every 3x3 shaded box contains only one of the digits 1-9. You need to reason out where to place the missing numbers by using the numbers given in the grid and a process of elimination. It is a game of logic not mathematical ability.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT! | BY TUM



- 5:00 BBC
- 5:30 Gear Up
- 6:00 Good Morning Kenya
- 9:00 Layd Back
- 9:30 Parliament Live
- 11:00 Hypochondriach RR
- 12:00 Top Mashariki Rpt
- 13:00 Lunch Time News
- 13:30 Business Defined
- 14:00 Business Africa
- 14:30 Parliament Live Club 1
- 18:30 The Great Debaters
- 19:00 Taarifa
- 19:30 Bold Conversations
- 20:00 First Lady Channel 1
- 21:00 News CCTV
- 23:30 Lay'd Back



- 5:00am Password Plus
- 6:00am AM Live
- 9:00am NTV Today
- 11:00am NTV Sasa
- 1:00pm NTV at 1
- 1:30pm Auntie Boss!
- 2:00pm The Good Son
- 3:00pm The Girl Named Feriha - RPT
- 4:00pm NTV Alasiri
- 4:30pm Barbie Living
- The Dream House
- 5:00pm The Heat
- 6:00pm Asintado
- 7:00pm NTV Jioni
- 7:30pm The Real House helps Of Kawangware
- 8:05pm The Three Sides of Ana
- 9:00pm NTV Tonight
- 10:00pm Smart Money
- 10:30pm Movie
- 12:30am The Heat
- 1:30am CNN

HOROSCOPES



ARIES (MAR. 21-APRIL 20)
 You can make gains if you look at long-term investments. Don't give up what you have until you can be certain just what it is you're getting.

TAURUS (APR. 21- MAY 21)
 It might be best not to spend your money on luxuries today. Don't let your stubborn nature get the better of you. You will be prone to carelessness that could result in accidents.

GEMINI (MAY 22-JUNE 21)
 You can get the attention of important individuals but it might not be the time to get them to help or to back your ideas.

CANCER (JUNE 22-JULY 22)
 You can make headway if you share your intentions with someone you care about. Travel will enhance romance and adventure.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG 22)
 Those close to your heart may be difficult to reason with. Be an observer before getting involved.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 23)
 People trying to entice you to join in will be less than trustworthy. You will have to watch out for minor health problems related to stress.

LIBRA (SEPT. 24-OCT. 23)
 Minor accidents are likely if you take risks. Ferret out information that will hold them responsible. False information from someone trying to start problems is likely.

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)
 You might be overly emotional concerning situations at work. A residential move may be in order.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23-DEC. 21)
 You may need help with your financial situation. Travel and communications will not run as smoothly as you had hoped.

CAPRICORN (DEC 22- JAN. 20)
 Pamper yourself for a change. Stop those bad habits. Situations could easily get blown out of proportion if you have made unreasonable promises.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 -FEB. 19)
 You have more energy than the rest of the people you live with anyway. Find out exactly what's expected of you and you'll be surprised to find out how capable you are.

PISCES (FEB. 20-MAR. 20)
 You should be trying to clear up legal contracts that have been pending. Your self confidence will attract members of the opposite sex. Don't be surprised if your partner doesn't understand your needs.

1	2	3	4	5	6
7			8		
			9		
10				11	
12			13		
			14		
				15	16
	17			18	
19	20			21	
22			23		
24				25	

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1. Superb | 1. Sparse |
| 4. Adores | 2. Psalmis |
| 9. Anaemia | 3. Rumba |
| 10. Cogency | 5. Dragoon |
| 11. Simba | 6. Ruin |
| 12. Odour | 7. Sawyer |
| 14. Brawn | 8. Backpacking |
| 15. Ditty | 13. Overstep |
| 17. Benl | 14. Bygones |
| 18. Marconi | 15. Dumped |
| 20. Negated | 16. Blades |
| 21. Drossy | 17. Bagey |
| 22. Nymphs | 19. Rice |

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| ACROSS | (3,2) | 4. Daydream (7) |
| 7. Body shape (6) | 23. Employment vacancy (7) | 5. Ditches (5) |
| 8. Decline to do something (6) | 24. Pay attention to (6) | 6. Water holes (5) |
| 10. Aerial (7) | 25. A small handbook (6) | 9. Saving grace (9) |
| 11. Remove from school (5) | | 14. Large spotted cat (7) |
| 12. Rodents (4) | | 15. Doubtful (7) |
| 13. Egg-shaped solid (5) | DOWN | 16. Chieftly (7) |
| 14. Weighty (5) | 1. Business matters (7) | 19. Burning (5) |
| 17. Large US feline (4) | 2. Disturb (7) | 20. Saying (5) |
| 22. Frustrated and annoyed | 3. Main stem of a tree (5) | 21. Started (5) |

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... visit us at DSM Place, Ground, 1st & 2nd
Floors, Kijabe Street, Nairobi or
email: peopleads@mediamax.co.ke

PUBLIC NOTICE
THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT
(NO. 13 OF 2019)
CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner of Land Parcel No. Mweiga Block 3 Kimenju#87 proposes to change from agricultural user to residential user (multi-dwelling units), subject to approval by the County Government of Nyeri. Individuals, institutions, organizations, etc. with objections or comments to the proposal are requested to forward the same in writing within 14 days of publication of this notice to:

The CECM Lands, Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development, County Government of Nyeri, P.O. Box 112-10100, Nyeri.

PUBLIC NOTICE
THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT
(NO. 13 OF 2019)
CHANGE OF USER

The owner of Plot No. TETU/UNJIRU/3712 located at Kamakwa area off Nyeri-Tetu Road, within Nyeri County intends to change its use from Agricultural to multi-dwelling residential, subject to approval by County Government of Nyeri. Individuals, Institutions, Organizations etc. with objections or comments to the proposal are requested to forward the same in writing within 14 days of publication of this notice to:

COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER, LANDS, HOUSING, PHYSICAL PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, NYERI COUNTY, P.O. Box 112-10100, NYERI.

DA DIKWAI MERCHANTS AUCTIONEERS
Class "B" Auctioneers, Repossessors, Realization of Securities, Sale of Immovable Properties & Debt Collectors.
Mandev Complex, Mombasa Road, Warehouse 8, P.O. Box 63218-00115, Nairobi. Cell: 0726-864626, Email: mordred@gyahoo.co.ke

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our principals the landlady, we shall sell by public auction the under mentioned Motor vehicle and household goods on 15th April 2022 at 11:00am before noon at Daikwai Yard Regan Kihumo Road off Waiyaki Way.

1. LANDLORD -VS- MICHAEL MUTINDA MUTEM
2. LANDLORD -VS- MARTIN NJENGA

1. Motor vehicle Reg. NO KBP 733E Hyundai Saloon.
2. Wall units, sofa sets, Sony tv, fan, coffee tables, kitchen table, drawers, carpets, water gallons, tabletop gas cookers, Meko cylinder, hoovers, home theatres, plastic chairs.

CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. Health Ministry Covid-19 Protocol to be followed.
2. Cash at fall of the hammer.
3. Viewing any day except Sunday and Public Holidays between 8:00am to 5:00pm.
4. Bidding to begin on line after the advert is placed.

Laura
LA SANTA COLOMBIANA

A powerful telenovela based on the life and times of Laura Montoya, an educator and Catholic Missionary, from her birth to her youth.

Starring Julieth Restrepo and Linda Lucia Callejas.

LAURA, AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE

**MONDAY - FRIDAY
AT 6PM**

K24
It's what's on

PUBLIC NOTICE
THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT
(NO. 13 OF 2019)
CHANGE OF USER

The owner of the land parcel Plot No. Kiambaa/ Kihara/4005 located at Gachie (River Road), Kiambaa Sub-County in Kiambu County, wishes to change the use of this land from agricultural to residential multi-dwelling (flats), subject to approval by County Government of Kiambu. Any individual, institution or member of the public with comments or objections to this proposal should forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

The County Executive Committee Member Lands, Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development, County Government of Kiambu, P.O. Box 2344 00900, Kiambu.

PUBLIC NOTICE
THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT
(NO. 13 OF 2019)
CHANGE OF USER

The owner of Plot No. TETU/MUTHUAINI/1640 located at Kamakwa area off Nyeri-Tetu Road, within Nyeri County intends to change its use from Agricultural to multi-dwelling residential, subject to approval by County Government of Nyeri. Individuals, Institutions, Organizations etc. with objections or comments to the proposal are requested to forward the same in writing within 14 days of publication of this notice to:

COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER, LANDS, HOUSING, PHYSICAL PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, NYERI COUNTY, P.O. Box 112-10100, NYERI.

PHILLIPS INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS
AUCTIONEERS, OFFICIAL COURT BROKERS & BAILIFFS
Head Office: Kiambu Kihamba Road off Githungo Road P.O. Box 70336-00200 Nairobi
Cell: 0726 864 626 Website: www.phillipsinternational.co.ke

GOODS FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our PRINCIPALS, THE LANDLORDS, we shall sell by public auction the under mentioned GOODS on: **THURSDAY 14th APRIL 2022 AT OUR OFFICES SITUATED WITHIN KILELESHTA ALONG KANDARA ROAD - OPPOSITE WHITESTAR RESTAURANT - NAIROBI COUNTY - STARTING AT 11.00 A.M.**

A) LANDLORD -VS- NANCY NGENDO KIHARA TO BE VIEWED AT OUR OFFICES SITUATED AT KILELESHTA

- 21" TV
- TABLES & CHAIRS
- BEDS & MATTRESSES
- ASSORTED BEDDINGS
- ASSORTED CURTAINS
- MOSQUITO NETS
- FIRE EXTINGUISHER
- FEW OTHER ITEMS

B) TEXTILES MANUFACTURING CO. LTD TO BE VIEWED AT GO-DOWN NO. 18 & 19 SAPPHIRE BUSINESS PARK

- 4PCS OF 45KG GAS CYLINDERS
- COMPRESSING MACHINE
- CARTON FEEDER MACHINE
- CUTTING & ROLLING MACHINES
- BALE OPENING MACHINE
- TABLES & DESKS
- METALLIC LADDER
- PILLOW FILLING MACHINE
- WOODEN CABINETS
- FEW OTHER ITEMS

CONDITIONS OF SALE:

- Viewing to be done AT THE VARIOUS LOCATIONS INDICATED ABOVE to verify the details, as these are not warranted by the Auctioneer or our principals.
- Interested bidders are required to pay a refundable deposit of Ken 20,000.00 to obtain a bidding number.
- Successful bidders will be required to pay for the items through DIRECT DEPOSIT INTO THE PROVIDED BANK ACCOUNT to be provided at the site.
- Sale is subject to reasonable reserve prices.

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

MZEE ALOYS PAUL CHISAKA TULESI

We regret to announce the untimely passing on of Mzee Aloys Paul Chisaka Tulesi which occurred on 28th March, 2022 following a road accident.

He was the son of the late Ibrahim Chisaka Tulesi and the late Mariamu Murabula Chitechi. The late Aloys was husband to the late Mama Virginia Makokha, Maria Okusimba, Mary Chitechi, Prisca Aswani, the late Rose Nguku, Christine Chibayi and Lydia.

He was brother to the late Oloo Tulesi, the late Callistus Wang'a, the late Arnest Tulesi, Nelson Chisaka, James Chisaka, Dismas Chisaka, the late Samuel Chisaka, Filgona Nechesa, Arnold Okwang'a Tulesi, the late Benedict Tulesi, Francis Tulesi, the late Maurice Chisaka, Angeline Opondo, Christopher Wang'a among others.

He was father to the late Rose, Michael, the late Stephen, Vincent, Ignatius, the late Crusfixa, Moses, Rosemary, the late Beatrice, Susan, Janet, Leonard, Inviolata, Catherine, Gaudencia, Andrew, Phaustine, Boniface, Ibrahim, Anastacia, Caroline, Constance, Nancy, Lawrence, Jackline, James, Lillian, Angeline, Robert, Martin, Violet, Jacinta, Dennis, the late Felistas, Jane, Peter and Beth.

Mzee Aloys was father-in-law to many and a dotting grandfather and great grandfather to many.

He was also an uncle to many.

The cortege will leave St. Mary's Mission Hospital mortuary on Friday, 8th April 2022 for a requiem at St. Peter's Catholic Church at 9am.

Burial will take place on Saturday, 9th April 2022 at his home in Butunyi Village, Lusheya Luburu Ward, Mumias East Sub-County, Kakamega County.

May his Soul Rest in Eternal Peace.



Athletics Kenya Youth Development Director Barnaba Korir addressing the media in a past function. PD/DAVID NDOLO

Athletics Kenya scouts for more young talent

by Kiprono Ericson
@PeopleDailyKe

Athletics Kenya has set up 25 youth athletics camps countrywide to nurture talent ahead of 2022 World U20 Championships slated for Cali, Columbia, in early August.

Athletics Kenya Youth Development Director Barnaba Korir said junior athletes need to prepare early so that a strong team can be selected in the end.

"Juniors are crucial in transition and we have a lot of talent across the country.

That is why we want to start early preparations so that we can select a strong

team that will be heading to Cali to represent Kenya," said Korir. Despite success in middle and long-distance events, Kenya has for a long time struggled in sprints and field events in major championships and according to Korir, early scouting and exposure from the grassroots is the only way out if Kenya is to break the jinx.

"For long Kenya has failed to emerge top in global events because we usually fall short of medals in sprints and field events, we now need to focus on these events. We have the talents in these young kids, they only need support and they will deliver the medals," Korir who also doubles as AK Nairobi branch chairman said.

Kenya will be seeking to defend its title for the third consecutive time after bagging a total of 16 medals; eight gold, one silver and seven bronze.

National trials for the World U20 Championships team shall be held on July 8 and 9 at the Moi International Sports Centre, Kasarani in Nairobi.

World Athletics Council selected Cali, Colombia, to host the 2022 World Athletics U20 Championships after staging a successful edition of the World U18 Championships in 2015.

More than 1,500 athletes from 175 countries will participate in the five-day Championship.

Tusker freshens up ahead of top league next season

FOOTBALL: Tusker FC midfielder Humphrey Mieno says the two-week international break has helped players rejuvenate and recover well, saying they are now better focused heading to the home stretch of the FKF Premier League season. "It was very important for us. We needed the rest because we were a bit fatigued due to the congested fixtures but now we are rejuvenated. We have the strength back and are ready for the next task," says Mieno. Meanwhile, the former international described their weekend match against KCB, which ended 1-1, as one of their toughest. In hindsight, Mieno said, "It was a very tough match with few chances because KCB is a really good side and have

improved over the years. The players were dejected at the final whistle because currently we are holding ourselves in high regard and we wanted all three points.

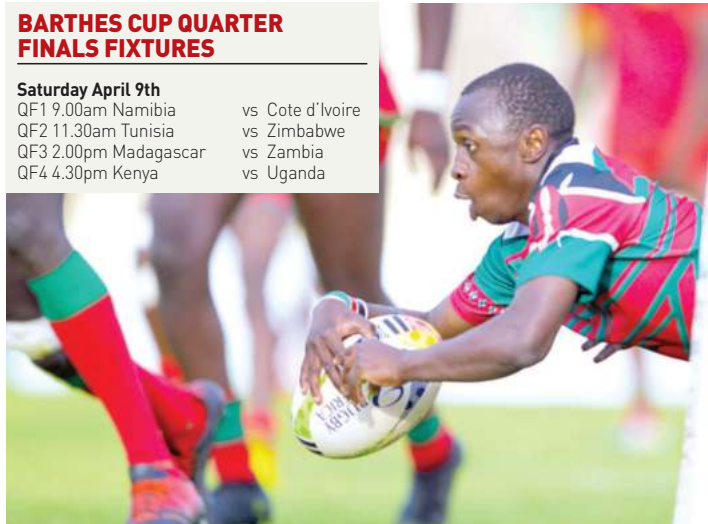
-Charles Thuku



BARTHES CUP QUARTER FINALS FIXTURES

Saturday April 9th

QF1 9.00am Namibia	vs Cote d'Ivoire
QF2 11.30am Tunisia	vs Zimbabwe
QF3 2.00pm Madagascar	vs Zambia
QF4 4.30pm Kenya	vs Uganda



Chipu's fullback Anderson Oduor scores a try during Barthes Cup opener match against Senegal at the Nyayo National Stadium last year. PD / ALEX NJUE

Kenya, Uganda meet at Barthes Cup event

Defending champions Chipu hope to outfox their neighbours during in a match dubbed Migingo Derby

by Alex Njue
@PeopleDailyKe

Battle lines are drawn between Kenya and Uganda during the 2022 Barthes Rugby Trophy quarter final at Nyayo National Stadium on Saturday.

Kenya's Chipu who are the defending champions are expected to name their 23-man squad by Friday.

Uganda Cranes have already sent their travel itinerary to Kenya Rugby Union with their 33-man squad set to land in Nairobi on Thursday morning.

Six other countries: Madagascar, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Tunisia, Zambia and Ivory Coast start arriving to-

day and shall use St Mary's School as their training venues.

Eight African national U20 teams are expected to kick off the 2022 trophy beginning with quarter-final knockouts.

The event will be played over three days with the semifinal scheduled for Wednesday 13 while the grand final will be on April 17. Former champions Namibia will start the quarter finals against Cote d'Ivoire at 9.00am while Tunisia and Zimbabwe, both of who are making a comeback, will clash thereafter at 11.30 am on Saturday.

Last season runners up Madagascar will renew rivalry with Zambia at 2pm with the match curtain-raising the Migingo derby pitting Kenya's Chipu and Cranes of Uganda.

The premier African Under-20 tournament is expected to produce thrills and thrills although only at

stake for participating teams are the bragging rights of emerging winners.

According to the original arrangement of the International Rugby Board, the winner would have automatically qualified to feature in the World Rugby junior championships which have twice been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The tournament has traditionally been the pathway for cropping a new breed of players as the feeder to the national teams. In Kenya, Shujaa and the Simbas have over the years enjoyed the quality of internationally tested players in the event and have shown hunger for more titles.

World Rugby has been working with regions and unions to identify safe playing conditions due to the vagaries brought about by the coronavirus.

Joho boosts Savannah Golf Tournament overall prize

GOLF: The fourth leg of the Savannah Golf Tour has received a major boost following a Sh400,000 personal sponsorship from Mombasa Governor Hassan Joho. The sponsorship raises the prize money for the tournament that was held yesterday at Karen Country Club to Shs 800,000 following another Shs 400,000 contribution from the players' entry fees. Speaking ahead of the tournament, the event organizer Taufiq Balala said the move would give the players greater motivation as they compete in the tournament. "We are grateful for the sponsorship we have received from Governor Hassan Joho. This



is a true manifestation of his commitment to supporting golf in the country.

-Barry Silah

Kombo appointed as KRU vice-chairman

by Alex Njue
@PeopleDailyKe

Kenya Rugby Union board has appointed Kikechi Kombo to be the acting vice-chairman as allowed by clause 10.2.2 of the KRU constitution. The new changes will see the Muhuri Muchiri High School rugby patron and Kiswahili teacher assume one of the highest ranks in KRU after serving as a director for three years. Kikechi took over from the immediate former Vice-Chairman Thomas Opiyo who vacated office during the Union's AGM on Wednesday last week after his term expired. The Union

hailed Opiyo for his service in the game, first as a Kenyan international player then as the chairman of Nondescripts and vice chairman of the Union. "We take this opportunity to thank him for his exceptional service and selfless contribution to the game and wish him well in his future endeavors," Union's secretary Ian Mugambi said.

Mugambi also notified the Union's affiliates and stakeholders of a further two-month extension to comply with the provisions of the Sports Act to enable the Union to hold elections within the given period.



Kikechi Kombo (right) with veteran administrator Maina Muniafu at the RFUEA grounds during a recent AGM.

PD/ALEX NJUE

Florenzi may miss rest of season after knee surgery

Milan, Wednesday
@PeopleDailyKe

Alessandro Florenzi's season is at risk after AC Milan announced on Tuesday that the Italy full-back would undergo knee surgery.

In a statement the Serie A leaders said that Florenzi would go under the knife in Rome on Wednesday to repair damage to a meniscus in his left knee picked up during his team's goalless draw with Bologna on Monday night.

That stalemate left Milan just one point ahead of Napoli and four in front of reigning champions Inter Milan, who however have a game in hand.

Florenzi, 31, joined Milan



on loan from home town club Roma in August and has since played 27 matches for the seven-time European champions in all competitions, scoring on ce. -AFP

Kenya's doping menace persists

Despite government's efforts to fight use of drugs in sports, country is still on watch-list of countries with high prevalence

by Amos Abuga
@PeopleDailyKe

For the sixth year running, Kenya remains in category A of the global body's watch-list of countries with a high prevalence of doping cases, Athletics Kenya (AK) revealed yesterday.

The new development comes as a big blow to AK, Anti-Doping Agency of Kenya (ADAK) and the ministry of Sports who have been working towards cleaning the tainted image of the sport in the country.

As a result of the latest categorisation of nations by the World Athletics, AK has warned that athletes invited to June's national trials for the World Championship slated for July 15-24 in Eugene, Oregon (USA) must have undergone three out-of-competition testing before the championships within ten months.

Testing requirement

Under the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) rule 15.3, athletes hailing from countries in category A of the watch-list are subjected to a rigorous test before the World Athletics Championships.

AK president Jackson Tuwei while addressing the press at Riadha House yesterday said besides the testing requirement for category A countries, attending educational seminars and hitting qualification marks are the other mandatory factors that will be looked at for those seeking to represent Kenya at the Championships.

"We might be looking at a scenario whereby we shall be taking a smaller team to

the World Championships, I am not saying that is what will happen but all the laid down requirements must be adhered to," Tuwei warned.

"The federation will ensure that all athletes who have not attained the measures don't go to the national trials," Tuwei said.

His remarks shadowy pointing to the 2019 case of Michael Kibet and Daniel Simiu who were both dropped from the final team to the Doha World Championships after failing to meet anti-doping requirements.

Additionally, last year's Tokyo Olympics team had the same situation with 1500m runner Kamar Etiang, who finished second at the national trials being dropped for not complying with AIU doping measures, Tuwei said the federation will be thorough.

"The rules and regulations are there for everyone to see and adhere to. Despite the sustained efforts to contain the doping menace, Kenya remains a hotbed of drug cheats in the latest categorisation of nations by the World Athletics," added Tuwei while warning dopers that they have got nowhere to hide and will be exposed while also vowing to push for the criminalization of the vice.



Athletes competing during a past event. Inset, Athletics Kenya President Jack Tuwei. PD/David Ndolo.

It's all systems go for Eldoret City Marathon

by Emmanuel Masinde
@PeopleDailyKe

Preparations for Eldoret City Marathon slated for this Sunday have been finalised and the route is already mapped out. The 42km race will start from the University of Eldoret and finish at TAC Centre in Eldoret town.

Race director Moses Tanui speaking after completion of route marking said that it is all systems go for the race. He wished all participants good luck as they compete for the prizes.

The race is one of the highest paying marathons in Africa where winners both men and women will pocket Sh3.5 million.

Double Boston Champion Tanui said the organisers will ensure the event attains global standards.

"We have gone around and marked the route. We are aware that the police have done their bit to ensure security will be top-notch on Sunday as well as identify optional routes to divert traffic from the venue," he said.

Uasin Gishu Deputy County

Commander Zachaeus Ng'eno said that some parts of the roads will be closed to pave way for the event.

"We have briefed police commanders about Sunday's activity thus security officers will be deployed along the route. We have also done recce on all the affected areas and we wish to assure the athletes and the general public of their security come Sunday," said Ngeno. He said they will be closing some parts of the Uganda highway where motorists will be directed to alternative roads.

He said Eldoret-Iten road will be closed at the University of Eldoret junction from 5.30am.

The route from Western region Town to Nakuru and Nairobi through Eldoret town will be closed at Raiply to allow the event to go on smoothly, he noted.

The route from Kapsabet to Eldoret, he said, will be closed at Rivatex East Africa while the Nairobi Highway will be closed at Annex and motorists heading to Western Kenya from Nairobi and Nakuru can exit Eldoret through the Old Nairobi road.



Eldoret City Marathon race director Moses Tanui during a past function. PD/FILE

We miss Sir Alex

Manchester United top scorer Wayne Rooney says his club's performance have deteriorate ever since Ferguson left

Manchester, Wednesday

@PeopleSports11

Manchester United legend Wayne Rooney insisted the club has struggled ever since 'a void was left' by the departure of boss Sir Alex Ferguson.

The Red Devils went from a Premier League powerhouse right up until Ferguson's retirement at the end of the 2012/13 season to a team struggling to reach the top four ever since.

They have had the odd moments of success along the way, but a long string of managers have failed to live up to the Scotsman, including big names such as Jose Mourinho and Louis Van Gaal.

Rooney, the club's all-time greatest goal scorer, revealed that the era following Ferguson's departure left a void at the club and it was arguably an impossible task for now West Ham manager David Moyes.

'When Sir Alex retired, I think everyone knew it was going to be a very difficult job,' Rooney told Sky Sports' Monday Night Football.

'David Moyes came in and it didn't work out and from then, Louis van Gaal, Jose Mourinho, Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, we've had good managers but Manchester United is a different club to many clubs around the world.'

The former England international has openly backed Mauricio Pochettino to become the next Red Devils boss.

But the Derby County manager knows whoever is going to turn it around at Old Trafford needs to be given time.

He added: 'It needs someone to come in with that time to get that club back to where it deserves to be. It's not going to happen if you keep changing manager every two years.'

'Ferguson was like the godfather of the club, not just the players but the staff, the academy, he was on top of everything.'

Rooney noted that when you lose someone like that from the club, someone else is coming in and it's a massive change.

'For David Moyes I always thought, "this is an impossible job to come in and replace Alex Ferguson".'

-Daily Mail



MAN UTD RESULTS IN 5 PAST MATCHES

Watford	0-0 Man Utd
Man City	4-1 Man Utd
Tottenham	2-3 Man Utd
Atletico Madrid	1-0 Man Utd
Leicester	1-1 Man Utd

Arsenal's top four bid rocked by Palace defeat

London, Wednesday

Mikel Arteta (pictured below) apologised for Arsenal's "unacceptable" performance in a 3-0 defeat at Crystal Palace that dealt a significant blow to their bid to finish in the Premier League's top four.

Arteta's side were destroyed by first half goals from Jean-Philippe Mateta and Jordan Ayew at Selhurst Park on Monday.

Unable to muster a revival after the break, Arsenal's second defeat in their last three league games was sealed by Wilfried Zaha's late penalty.

Arsenal had gone into the weekend in fourth place, but Tottenham's 5-1 win against Newcastle on Sunday piled pressure on the Gunners and their response could not have been any less convincing.

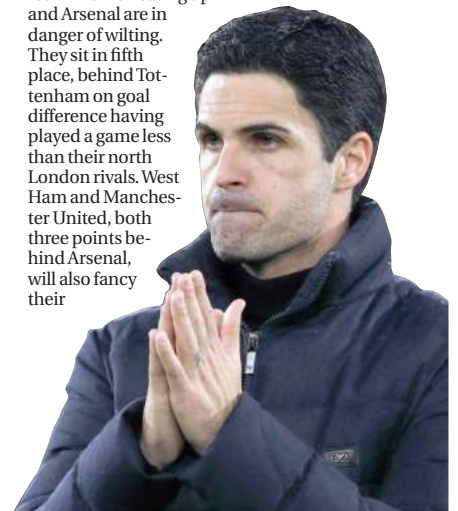
The battle to qualify for next season's Champions League via a top four finish is heating up and Arsenal are in danger of wilting. They sit in fifth place, behind Tottenham on goal difference having played a game less than their north London rivals. West Ham and Manchester United, both three points behind Arsenal, will also fancy their

chances after a result that blew the top four battle wide open.

'We made it impossible for ourselves with the way we competed. You have to be physical and run and then you earn the right to play. We were really inconsistent on the ball and that is unacceptable,' Arteta said.

'We were poor, especially in the first half. I apologise to our supporters. We didn't have the presence or the composure to dominate the situation. That's what I'm most annoyed with.'

It was an especially painful result for Arsenal fans given the presence in the Palace dug-out of Eagles boss Patrick Vieira, a Gunners legend after his trophy-filled playing career with the club. How they could have done with the kind of tenacious performance that was Vieira's hallmark in midfield during Arsenal's glory days. -AFP



BRIEFLY

Rangers threaten to abandon next league match over salaries dues

NAIRBI: Football Kenya Federation (FKF) Premier League side Posta Rangers players are threatening to boycott their next league match against Bidco on Sunday due to unpaid salary. The players claim to have gone for four months without pay and can no longer concentrate on the pitch with empty pockets. 'We have not received any salary in 2022. That is how serious the matter is. It may sound like a joke but we are suffering: players, members of the technical bench and even the club officials, especially with

the current tough economic times," said a player who sought anonymity to avoid being victimised. He added: "Whenever we go into the field, we always give our best and that is why we are on the better half of the table, so we deserve to be paid for our sweat." Rangers who beat Mathare United 2-1 in their last fixture at the weekend, have been enjoying a good season so far and can rest easy without fear of being relegated, unlike last season when they were involved in a relegation dog fight.

-Webster Nyandika

Sydney cricket Ground to host third test of England's, Australia tournament

SYDNEY: The Sydney Cricket Ground will host a rugby union international for the first time since 1986 when England tour Australia this summer. The SCG will stage the final Test on Saturday 16 July after games in Perth and Brisbane on the two previous weeks. In 2021, the ground was set to host a Test against France, but a lockdown meant the match shifting to Brisbane. 'The Australia tour is a great opportunity for growth for this team,' said England coach Eddie Jones. England completed a 3-0 whitewash over Australia in 2016, their first series win Down Under. The SCG hosted Australia's



first rugby union international - a 13-3 win over Great Britain in 1899 - and the 48,000-capacity venue continued to be the Wallabies' Sydney home until 1986 when they moved into the then-new Sydney Football Stadium.

-BBC

Chinese FA releases solutions for wage arrears of professional football clubs

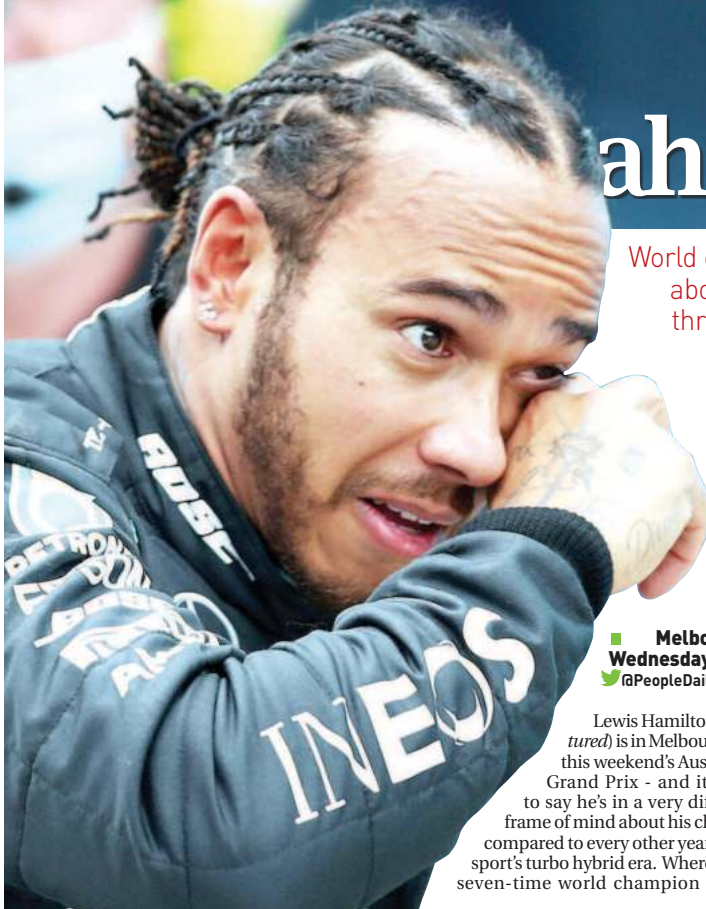
BEIJING: Chinese football's governing body has released a three-stage plan and related punishment measures to address professional football clubs' wage arrears issues. These solutions were announced after the Chinese Football Association (CFA) and the preparatory group of China professional football union convened clubs from the Chinese Super League (CSL), China League One and China League Two to hold an online meeting, along with the list of clubs admitted to three-tier professional leagues in 2022.



The CFA told Xinhua that 18, 17 and 22 football clubs had passed the admission audit of the CSL, China League One and China League Two respectively.

-Xinhua

Hamilton anxious ahead of Aussie race



World champion Lewis Hamilton concerned about his competitiveness as Grand Prix thriller head to Melbourne this weekend

Melbourne, Wednesday
@PeopleDailyKe

Lewis Hamilton (pictured) is in Melbourne for this weekend's Australian Grand Prix - and it's safe to say he's in a very different frame of mind about his chances compared to every other year in the sport's turbo hybrid era. Whereas the seven-time world champion would

usually make his way to the Albert Park track full of confidence that he could stand atop the podium at the end of the race, this year is a very different proposition.

His usually field-leading Mercedes is proving very uncompetitive so far in 2022, with Hamilton lucky to come third in the opening race in Bahrain after both Red Bulls retired ahead of him, followed by a very disappointing 10th in Saudi Arabia the following week.

Hamilton said Mercedes have 'got a lot of problems' with their car ahead of the Bahrain Grand Prix, and for once he wasn't foxing.

Formula One has undergone one of the biggest regulatory changes in its history leading into the 2022 season, with new rules making for radically different cars in an attempt to produce closer racing by bringing back ground-effect technology to suck the vehicles to the road.

Early evidence

Ferrari and Red Bull look to have aced the switch on early evidence, while Mercedes have done anything but. Team principal Toto Wolff admitted it is 'extremely painful' to see his cars struggling in the middle of the field this season,

with their competitors in the paddock saying their engine is lagging behind those of Red Bull and Ferrari.

Mercedes' problems with 'porpoising' - which sees the car bounce up and down as the ground effect that nails it to the track stops working properly, then kicks back in - are well documented, and the team has so far been unable to find a fix.

The setbacks are so bad that Hamilton found himself in uncharted territory during qualifying in Saudi Arabia, where he could only manage 15th spot on the grid.

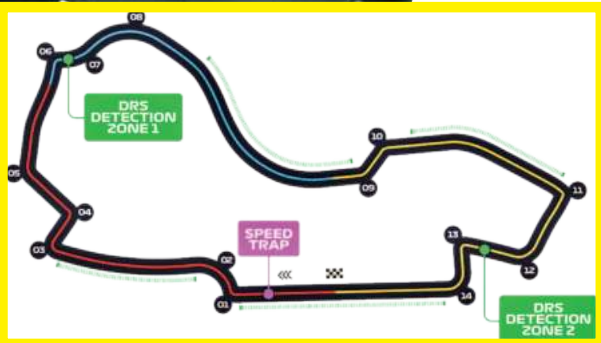
It's a stark counterpoint to the team's incredible winning run since the turbo hybrid era began in 2014, with Mercedes winning eight constructors' championships in a row.

Between those struggles, his controversial loss of the driver's championship to Max Verstappen last year and the pall cast over the Saudi race by a missile strike near the track and controversy over the country's human rights record and conflict with Yemen, it's little wonder Hamilton is feeling far from his usual self.

After the race in Jeddah he shared a candid social media post in which he confessed he is 'struggling mentally and emotionally' and finds it a 'constant effort to keep going'.

'It has been such a tough year already with everything that is happening around us,' said the 37-year-old.

-Daily Mail



Tuchel strives to show calm amid Chelsea storm ahead of Real clash

Chelsea, Wednesday
@PeopleDailyKe

Chelsea face Real Madrid on Wednesday reeling from their heaviest defeat of the season, but Thomas Tuchel's (Pictured) battle-hardened ability to keep his players focused should ensure the Champions League holders are ready for the latest test of their resilience.

While Saturday's shock 4-1 home defeat against Brentford was hardly ideal preparation for the quarter-final first leg against Real, Chelsea boss Tuchel has dealt with worse setbacks during a turbulent period for his club.

When Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich was sanctioned by the British government for his alleged links with Russian Presi-



dent Vladimir Putin following the invasion of Ukraine, the Blues were plunged into a financial meltdown that threatened to engulf Tuchel's team.

Unable to negotiate new contracts with players due to the sanctions, Chelsea have had to sit by while key defenders

Antonio Rudiger, Andreas Christensen and Cesar Azpilicueta considered their futures.

As if that wasn't potentially distracting enough, fears were mounting that Chelsea might be pushed into administration amid the mayhem triggered by the sanctions.

Restricted on the amount of money they could spend on travel to away games, Tuchel joked he was willing to drive the team bus himself before their Champions League last 16 win at Lille.



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betPawa BIG winner Rophus brought a borehole to his area after being awarded an extra prize to support a local cause.

The water plant engineer bet KSh93,02 on 24 legs and cashed out for KSh211,896.09 (before tax).

betPawa's new Win BIG, Give Back initiative saw the betting company hand Rophus a further KSh700,000 for his community.

The Taita-Taveta County resident said: "It is a very dry area and most of our neighbours walk for 3-5 hours to get water.

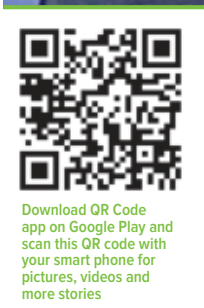
Find out more about betPawa by visiting betpawa.co.ke

"I'm hoping that, with my support, my community can start irrigation farming so we can get enough food locally and upgrade our living standards.

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Walking on thin ice

Ancelotti, who missed London flight over Covid test, is in the spotlight as wounded Real Madrid takes on limping Chelsea

■ Madrid, Wednesday

@PeopleSports11

Carlo Ancelotti knows better than anyone how quickly things can change at Real Madrid. After the sensational comeback against Paris Saint-Germain, Madrid were euphoric. They had defeated one of Europe's elites, humiliated an economic rival, neutralised Lionel Messi and, many believed, convinced Kylian Mbappe.

They were about to win La Liga and suddenly looked like contenders in the Champions League too. Three weeks later, the advantage in the league is still intact thanks to a scruffy, albeit morale-boosting, win over Celta Vigo on Saturday.

But Ancelotti's credit has all but evaporated. Real Madrid were waiting until Tuesday to decide if their coach will be able to travel to the first leg of their Champions League quarter-final against Chelsea on Wednesday after he tested positive for Covid last week.

The outcome of the tie could decide if he continues as coach next season.

It says something about the weight of the Clasico fixture that eight months of largely impressive work can be almost entirely erased by one, disastrous, 90 minutes.

There has been criticism of Ancelotti -- of Madrid's counter-attacking style, his lack of rotation and, in particular, the manner of the passive first-leg defeat by PSG -- but a dominant position in La Liga had mostly kept the sceptics in check.

Doubts to the fore

Losing 4-0 to Barcelona, though, at the Santiago Bernabeu, when Madrid could easily have shipped six or seven, has brought doubts to the fore, not least because that result served as a warning for what may be to come.

Barca are 11 points behind Real Madrid in the table but it is Xavi Hernandez's resurgent young side who are finishing the season as the strongest team in Spain.

For Ancelotti, the Clasico defeat means winning La Liga may no longer be enough. How they win the title, with eight games to go, and how they fare against Chelsea will now frame how the first year of Ancelotti's second tenure is viewed.

Real Madrid's president Florentino Perez met Ancelotti over the international break and while Perez reassured Ancelotti his future was secure, the need for talks was significant.

When Ancelotti was sacked by Real Madrid in 2015, a year after winning the Champions League, he later admitted the moment he was told to meet Perez was when he first knew his days were numbered.

Ancelotti's arrival last summer was a surprise, for everyone, including Ancelotti and Perez.

It was only a chance conversation between them that saw the idea floated and then quickly take shape. "It's happened fast," Ancelotti said at his unveiling.

That contributed to the sense that this was a short-term appointment, one that could be curtailed without much fuss or financial penalty.

If there is a parting this summer, it is unlikely to be bitter. With the league title is won, both parties would consider it a success.

But Ancelotti's appointment was also perhaps a reflection of the market last summer when there was a dearth of top coaches available.

Barcelona looked to replace Ronald Koeman but stuck with the Dutchman after finding nobody else was suitable. Manchester United continued with Ole Gunnar Solskjaer. Juventus turned back to Max Allegri.

This summer, there could be more persuasive options, with Mauricio Pochettino expected to part ways with PSG. Erik Ten Hag may be prepared to leave Ajax and Raul Gonzalez, Real Madrid's legendary former striker, will have completed three years with the B team and could be ready to follow the path of Zinedine Zidane.

-AFP

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FIXTURES

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Villa Real vs Bayern Munich

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WINNING COMBO: 1,1,1,X,2,1,2,2,1,2,2,1,X,2,2



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MEGA JACKPOT

DATE	TIME	GAME	1	X	2
1. 09/04/2022	17:00	Watford vs Leeds	2.77	3.37	2.52
2. 09/04/2022	17:00	Burton vs Plymouth	2.92	3.32	2.37
3. 09/04/2022	17:00	Preston vs QPR	2.53	3.23	2.37
4. 09/04/2022	17:00	Cheltenham vs Portsmouth	2.88	3.38	2.78
5. 09/04/2022	17:00	Bolton vs Sheffield Wed	2.69	3.19	2.64
6. 09/04/2022	19:30	Hertha BSC vs Union Berlin	2.71	3.26	2.61
7. 09/04/2022	20:00	Amlens vs Bastia	2.71	3.02	2.82
8. 10/04/2022	14:00	Strasbourg vs Lyon	2.60	3.35	2.65
9. 10/04/2022	15:15	Sevette Geneva vs FC Zurich	2.40	3.53	2.74
10. 10/04/2022	16:00	Sivasspor vs Basaksehir	2.54	3.34	2.69
11. 10/04/2022	16:00	Angers vs Lille	3.21	3.21	2.29
12. 10/04/2022	16:00	Brentford vs West Ham	2.76	3.31	2.56
13. 10/04/2022	16:00	Norwich City vs Burnley	2.81	3.16	2.61
14. 10/04/2022	16:00	Brest vs Nantes	2.43	3.24	2.94
15. 10/04/2022	17:15	Espanyol vs Celta Vigo	2.81	3.16	2.61
16. 10/04/2022	17:30	St. Gallen vs FC Basel	2.42	3.58	2.69
17. 10/04/2022	19:30	Elche vs Real Sociedad	3.31	3.26	2.24

WEDNESDAY 6TH APRIL 2022

TIME	GAME ID	GAME	1	X	2
15:00	5628	Parma FC vs Como	1.63	3.79	5.38
18:00	1523	Real Kings vs Tshakhuma	1.55	3.74	6.59
18:00	4748	Golden Arrows vs Stellenbosch FC	2.21	2.99	3.59
18:30	1513	Sekhukhune United vs Orlando Pirates	3.63	2.48	2.58
19:00	2277	Rakow Czestochowa vs Legia Warszawa	2.06	3.33	3.53
19:00	2904	FC Rostov vs Kryliya Sovetov	2.73	3.13	2.63
19:00	4753	Molde vs Stromsgodset	1.41	4.88	6.37
19:30	5990	Augsburg vs Mainz	3.21	3.31	2.24
20:30	3902	Mantzburg Utd vs Cape Town City	2.28	3.03	3.37
20:30	4592	Moroka Swallows vs Mamelodi Sundowns	5.76	2.93	1.82
21:30	1588	Burnley vs Everton	2.56	3.11	2.91
21:45	1091	Nottingham vs Coventry	2.07	3.44	3.44
21:45	2238	Dunfermline vs Raith Rovers	2.22	3.38	3.14
21:45	4813	Middlesbrough vs Fulham	3.24	3.34	2.19
22:00	1828	Chelsea vs Real Madrid	2.05	3.38	3.73
22:00	5575	West Bromwich vs Bournemouth	2.55	3.25	2.75
22:00	5842	Villarreal vs Bayern Munchen	5.04	4.34	1.60

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