THE STAR

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15
OCTOBER 2019
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SGR HAULAGE

PROTESTERS TO BOYCOTT MASHUJAA DAY



PG 2

TUSSLE DAUGHTER-IN-LAW CLAIMS IDA'S STATEMENT TRIGGERED FALLOUT

Raila family at war with Fidel widow



DISPUTE: Fidel Odinga, his widow Lwam Bekele and Ida Odinga at All Saints Cathedral during the memorial service on January 8, 2015 /FILE / STORY ON PAGE 6

BY-ELECTION



Kalonzo Musyoka /VICTOR IMBOTO

MCA aspirants slam Kalonzo for playing 'village politics'

Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka has been accused of stooping too low and engaging in 'village politics' in the Mutongoni Ward by-election campaign. At the weekend, the Wiper leader led a high-profile party delegation on a two-day campaign tour in Mutongoni, Kitui West, to campaign for Stephen Kithuka.

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CLOSURE

Ethiopian plane crash: Remains flown back home

The plane carrying the remains of 28 Kenyans who perished in the Ethiopian crash landed at JKIA yesterday morning. At least 32 Kenyans were on board in the Boeing 737-Max airliner during the March 10 tragedy, which killed 157 passengers and crew.

PAGE 2

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ETHIOPIAN AIRLINE TRAGEDY

Families receive remains of Boeing crash victims

CS Juma says the government has accounted for all deaths



Pallbearers carry coffins of the victims of the March 10 Ethiopian plane crash at JKIA, Nairobi, yesterday /REUTERS



PATRICK VIDIJA
@TheStarKenya

The 38 Kenyans who perished in an Ethiopian Airline have been accounted for.

The government, through Foreign Affairs CS Monica Juma, yesterday said they had met with all the families and discussed how they would end the matter.

Juma spoke at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport when she received the remains of the victims. The families gathered at the presidential pavilion where they held an interdenominational prayer service before being handed the remains.

The Nairobi-bound aircraft had left Adis Ababa when it crashed on March 10 barely six minutes after takeoff, killing all the 157 people on-board.

"Today, we've received the remains of 28 victims. The remaining were either laid to rest elsewhere due to dual citizenship or cremated as per the wishes of the families," Juma said yesterday.

"We know the accident was a great tragedy to us because we lost lots of professionals, but we are here to put a closure to seven months of sorrow."

Juma said the government had followed through the events to ensure the needs of each family were well taken care of. She said though compensation will likely take longer than expected, the government and the Ethiopian authorities are working round the clock to ensure everything is settled.

Her sentiments were echoed by Ethiopia's Ambassador Meles Alem, who said his country was greatly sorry to the families affected.

"When Kenya mourns, Ethiopia, too, mourns. When you celebrate, we, too, celebrate. Our Prime Minister Aby Ahmed has sent his deepest condolences to all the families," Meles said.

Transport CS James Macharia said it is high time he Aviation Industry put stringent measures in place to ensure security and safety of all passengers. He said the measures should be extended to aircraft manufacturers so they do not take anything to chance.

The families' representative Richmond Muriithi told reporters they were happy with how the issue was handled. He said the government has worked closely with them to settle pending issues.

The families took the remains to funeral homes of their choice to allow them finalise burial plans.

"We can confirm all the passengers were insured so the airline's insurance company has catered for all the expenses. The government or the families have not incurred any expenses," he said.

The bodies were badly damaged and DNA had to be carried out to identify them. The families had travelled to Ethiopia to witness the process. "Whatever remains they've brought, we're confident they did the right thing and we'll lay them to rest," Muriithi said.

Some families have sued Boeing while others have opted for the Sh15 million the company has issued per passenger.

"This means each family has its own needs and interests. There are those who are okay with the gift from Boeing while others want to pursue the case," he said.

REQUIREMENTS MET

Vivo Energy manager allowed to adopt child

SUSAN MUHINDI/ A manager at Vivo Energy has been allowed to adopt a baby found abandoned at Kibera Wanga on February 26, 2013.

High Court Judge John Onyiego allowed the adoption after being satisfied that all the legal requirements for a local adoption under the Children Act were met. He said the baby will be presumed to be a Kenyan citizen and that its date of birth shall be February 26, 2013, and her place of birth shall be Nairobi. The registrar general was also directed to enter the adoption in the adopted children register.

The 48-year-old manager filed the matter in court in 2014 seeking to be allowed to adopt the minor who was dumped at Kibera. According to the court records, she has never been married but has one child aged 13. She told the court that the motivation to adopt the minor was borne out of the desire to have a companion to her biological daughter as well as to give back to society by assisting a needy child.

The child was abandoned within Kibera slum by an unknown person and every effort to trace her relatives have been futile. The documents indicate that nobody has laid claim to the baby, despite every effort made to trace the relatives.

NAIROBI ASSEMBLY CHAOS

My life is in danger, MCA Guyo claims

MAUREEN KINYANJUI/ The clash at the Nairobi county assembly on Wednesday last week is now the subject of a more serious investigation — beyond the physical violence and property damage.

Majority leader Abdi Guyo told reporters that he had obtained an audio clip of a conversation between two city politicians that, he said, reveals how the chaos at the assembly was planned and contained plans to assassinate him.

While playing the audio to the media yesterday outside the DCI headquarters, Guyo said the audio exposes how the whole fracas was planned.

It was not possible to independently confirm the authenticity of the audio.

"I'm here to record a statement with the head of DCI, George Kinoti, because I know he is just and will act without being compromised," he said.

In the audio, one man is heard telling another that they have been looking for Guyo's car since last week, but have not found it. Photos of Guyo's car had been taken for easy identification, a man is heard saying.

In a letter dated October 4, Governor Mike Sonko called for the removal of Guyo as the Majority leader, replacing him with Maringo MCA Mark Ndung'u.

STAR SURVEY

TODAY'S QUESTION

Should frustrated tea farmers uproot their crop?

YESTERDAY'S QUESTION

Do you think Eliud Kipchoge should run for president?

YES 16%

NO 84%

WILLIE KIMANI MURDER CASE

Court blocks playing of confession video

ANNETTE WAMBULWA/ The DPP suffered a major setback yesterday in the Willie Kimani murder case after the court barred them from playing a video confession allegedly linking the accused to the crime.

Justice Jessie Lessit allowed the application by former police informer Peter Ngugi to stop the state from using the video as evidence.

In the case, four police officers Fredrick Leliman, Stephen Cheburet, Sylvia Wanjiku, and Leonard Mwangi are charged, alongside Ngugi, with the murder of Kimani, his client Josephat Mwenda and taxi driver Joseph Muiruri was hatched and executed in 2016.

Through lawyer Kevin Michuki, Ngugi had asked the court not to allow the prosecution to play the video evidence arguing it would be prejudicial to him. In the video, which was to be played in court, he explains how the murder was hatched and executed in 2016.

Joseph Muindi, an officer who recorded the video footage, argued that they were taking evidence to identify the crime scene so they could know where the killings were done.

However, Lessit ruled the police officer who recorded the video did not follow the rules of evidence taken out of court.



Former police informer Peter Ngugi in court on July 16 /ENOS TECHE

The judge said the law requires that when an investigating officer decides to have a suspect take him to the scene of a crime, he should take another qualified officer, not himself. In her view, an investigation officer can't be involved during an exercise of alleged scene construction. "The officer made a blunder to do that when he went ahead to the scenes and record. Being the one interviewing and taking the record was a blunder," said ruled.







Left: Nicholas Kimali from Maker Space on October 7. Right (top and bottom) The speed governor /MERCY MUMO

APPROVED AND AFFORDABLE

Inventor makes first locally designed speed governor

Slows down by itself, warns of bumps and potholes, tamper-proof black box



JOHN MUCHANGI
@TheStarKenya

A speed governor invented by a University of Nairobi student has been approved by authorities to compete with devices in China.

It slows down vehicle automatically according to speed limits set by the National Transport and Safety Authority.

A vehicle fitted with the Gentec HB 002 speed governor will automatically begin to slow down when, for instance, a driver enters a 30kpm zone around schools.

It features the only locally developed intelligent speed assistance system that warns drivers when approaching bumps and potholes.

Users of Gentec pay Sh25,000 to Sh35,000 for installation and a much lower annual subscription fee than other speed governors.

"Our aim is to reduce accidents," says Nicholas Kimali, the 32-year-old electronics specialist and inventor who guided the development.

"Remember in 2016 when a fuel tanker hit an unmarked speed bump in Naivasha and exploded, killing more than 33 people in the vehicles behind it?" he asks. This speed governor would have prevented that, the inventor says.

Kimali says the Gentec speed limiter works as a vehicle's black box. In case of an accident, all the data can be retrieved to help establish the cause.

"If you tamper with it, it can show. So we have made it tamper-proof because that's a requirement by the NTSA. It has many features and you can enable and disable the features that are not required by the law," he says.

Kimali, an engineering graduate of UoN, led the development at the Maker Space, the university's innovation laboratory and incubation centre hosted by the College of Veterinary Sciences at Upper Kabete.

He has filed for patent to protect the algorithm, believed to be the first such by a Kenyan.

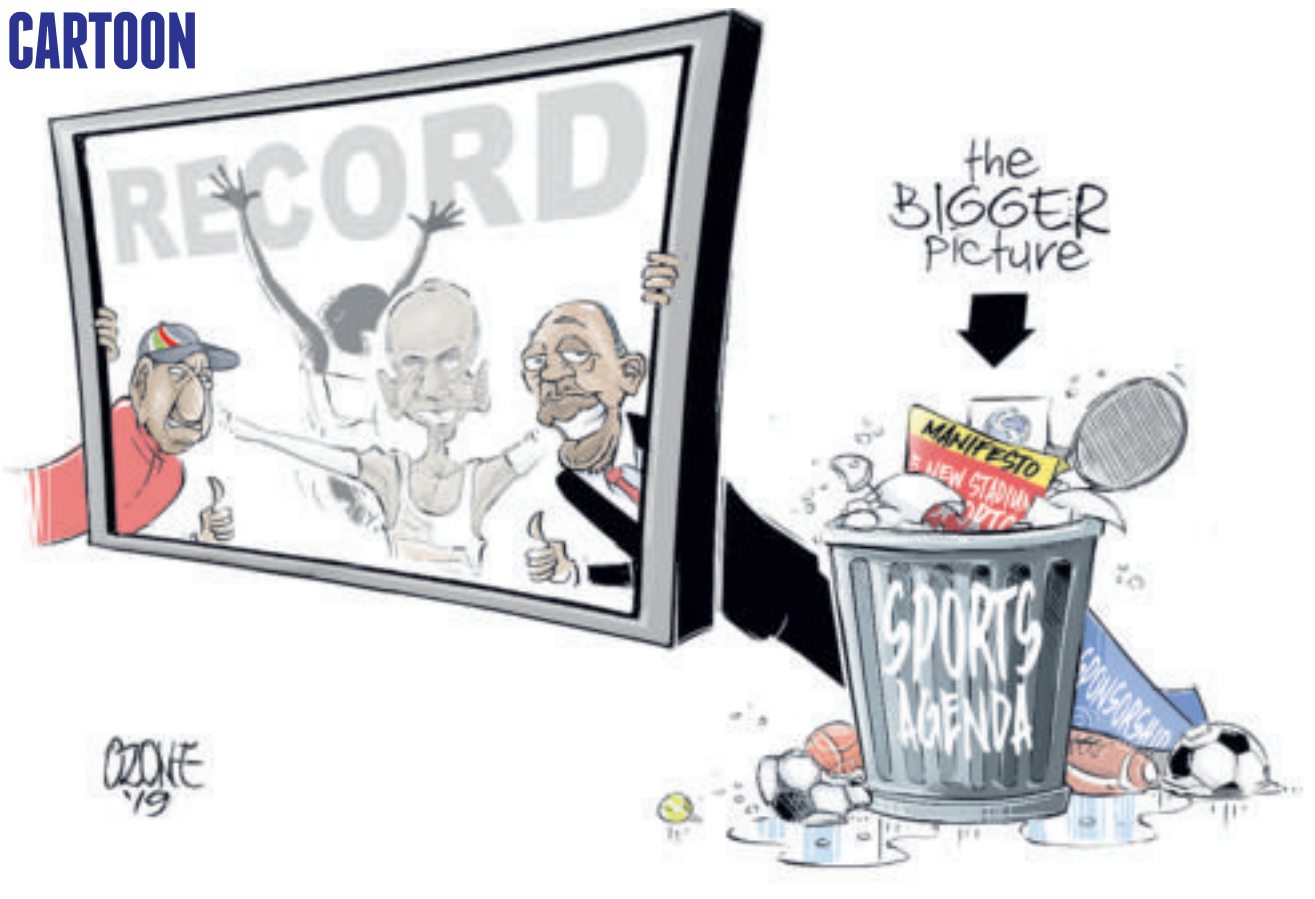
"This was my master's project at the School of Computing and Informatics at Chiromo campus," he says. "The speed limiter uses telematics and will adapt to different speed limits along the road," he says.

Recently, the Kenya Bureau of Standards and the NTSA both approved the Gentec HB 002 speed governor, giving it the green light for the market.

All public service vehicles in Kenya must be fitted with speed governors, a Sh6 billion market.

HE HAS FILED FOR A PATENT TO PROTECT THE ALGORITHM, BELIEVED TO BE THE FIRST SUCH BY A KENYAN

CARTOON



CORRIDORS OF POWER

POLITICAL GOSSIP

Who is doing what and where in the world of politics



★ **RAINS POUNDING NAIROBI** on Sunday almost caused the Amani National Congress candidate in the Kibra by-election, **Eliud Owalo** (pictured), the embarrassment of his life. Owalo had just arrived at the venue of the rally in the company of his party leader **Musalia Mudavadi** when it started to drizzle. The rain persisted as Owalo was addressing a jubilant crowd and as expected, event organisers fetched an umbrella for their candidate. Then the unimaginable happened when the umbrella was opened. It was a screaming orange colour — an ODM umbrella at an ANC event. Mudavadi was quick to notice and he told the aides to immediately get rid of the offensive umbrella.

★ **A WOMAN MP** is crying foul to her faceless rivals who she claimed were giving her a hard time in her constituency. According to the female lawmaker, her rivals have a way of including her name in all fundraising cards in the villages, sometimes without confirming with her office her availability. And in cases where she fails to attend or was not aware, the rivals use that as fodder, traversing the village 'broadcasting' how she agreed to be part of the fundraiser only to go missing on the day when she was needed. Corridors overheard the MP pledging to do everything to bring to book the forces behind her anguish.

★ **A FORMER GUBERNATORIAL** candidate from Western Kenya who, after losing out in the primaries negotiated a working formula with the incumbent, is a bitter man. The arrangement, which would have seen the middle-aged man join the incumbent's cabinet, backfired and has now left the man bitter and broke. A mole has told Corridors the man's hope vanished last month when he missed the plum position he was promised in the deal. In retaliation, he has unleashed a pack of bloggers on the governor who criticise every move by the county boss.

★ **A CANDIDATE IN** the Kibra by-election on Sunday found himself in a tight corner after youths who were hired to provide security during a rally pelted his convoy with stones over what they claimed was the candidate's breach of their deal. The youths hired locally complained of braving the afternoon rains only to be ignored at the end when the leaders entered their vehicles without paying them, as they had agreed. The youths who ran out of patience descended on the convoy with stones and demanded their pay. This forced a senior party official who was blocked in the melee to plead with the youths but not before his vehicle's windows were smashed.

If you have any tips send them to Tips@radioafricagroup.co.ke

NEWS

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS REPORT STATES MONEY WAS LOST THROUGH INFLATIO

Senate wants 5 curre investigated over los

Watchdog wants the anti-corruption and criminal investigations agencies to recover public funds from the county chiefs named





JULIUS OTIENO
@TheStarKenya

A parliamentary oversight committee has recommended that five current and former governors be investigated and prosecuted over the loss of public money.

Machakos Governor Alfred Mutua and former county chiefs Cleophas Lagat (Nandi) and Samuel Ragwa (Tharaka Nithi) have been named for investigations.

Siaya Governor Cornel Rasanga and former Nairobi Governor Evans Kidero should be surcharged on recommendations of the committee.

The Senate County Public Accounts and Investments Committee wants the anti-corruption and the criminal investigations agencies to recover public funds from the county chiefs named.

This is the first-ever report on the financial operations of the county governments since devolution began.

The report reveals that top finance officers (Finance CECs, chief officers and accounting officers), under the watch of the governors, violated procurement laws and misrepresented county revenue.

Thay also inflated legal fees and irregularly compensated employees among other malpractices that caused the loss of public funds.

It further reveals that public money was lost through inflation and faking of pending bills, irregular procurement of goods and services, poor book and record-keeping and failure to recover imprests advanced to employees.

"The committee noted that the non-compliance of the law resulted in loss of public funds and recommends that the DCI and EACC should investigate the violation of the process and law with the view to prosecuting those responsible," the report reads.

The Homa Bay Senator Moses Kajwang led-committee has filed reports for financial operations of 10 counties for 2013-14 financial year. The reports will be debated in the House today.

The counties covered by the report are Nandi, Elgeyo Marakwet, Baringo, Laikipia, Machakos, West Pokot, Tharaka Nithi, Siaya, Embu and Nairobi.

The reports exposed weak employee management systems, poor financial controls, budgeting and budget control and lack of audit committees that contributed to the loss of money.

"The committee noted that various counties irregularly procured goods and services through single



Turkana Governor Josphat Nanok before Senate CPAIC committee on May 23 /FILE

QUOTE

"The committee noted that various counties irregularly procured goods and services through single sourcing methods, kept their records and books poorly, as well as failed to automate their accounting systems.

N AND FAKING OF PENDING BILLS, IRREGULAR PROCUREMENT

ent, ex-governors st public finances



Moses Kajwang', Senate Public Accounts and Investment Committee chairman and Homa Bay senator in a meeting on October 3 /EZEKIEL AMING'A

sourcing methods, kept their records and books poorly, as well as failed to automate their accounting systems.

"In addition, most counties were very slow in the implementation of IFMIS systems as required by the law," the report reads.

In Machakos, the committee wants Mutua investigated for loss of taxpayers' money through several illegal and irregular procurement of goods and services.

In particular, the committee recommends Mutua be probed over the possible loss of money in the procurement of 17 generators for Sh10.40 million through restricted tendering.

"The Department of Decentralised units procured and paid for one 17 KVA generator and six 9 KVA generators for Sh10,400,000 and a Cummins Power Generator with Automatic change over switch plus installation and commissioning at a cost of Sh9,257,776 through quotations which were way above the threshold for quotations," the report reads.

Further, the same department procured and paid for goods and services worth Sh8.68 million without following the procurement rules and regulations.

"The committee noted the manner in which the tenders were awarded, and recommends that the CEO (governor) and the accounting officer should be investigated to provide adequate evidence that the expenditure was properly spent and therefore chargeable to public funds, with a view to holding them to account," it says.

It wants the governor and his finance officers held personally responsible for irregular and illegal transfer of Sh30 million to Kenya Rural Electrification Authority.

The committee concluded that the money was illegally advanced to the authority as electrification is a function of the national government.

"The committee also recommends that EACC should investigate and establish loss of funds arising from non-compliance with Article 187 of the Constitution, with a view to taking appropriate action on the officers found culpable," the report says.

In Nandi, the report indicted ex-governor Lagat for failing to bank revenue totalling to Sh844,378 collected locally.

The money was not accounted for during the audit period thus possibility of it being embezzled.

"The committee, further, recommends that the county CEO, the accounting officer and other officers responsible for any mismanagement of internal revenue should also be surcharged to the extent of the revenue that may have not been properly accounted for," it says.

The former county chief should be held responsible for Sh5.6 million that the county officers could not account for during Lagat's reign, the committee says.

The money was purportedly spent on planting trees including in schools and by the roadsides but the documents were not availed to auditors for scrutiny.

Senate CPAIC also censured Lagat for the mismanagement of Sh8.313 million meant for bursaries for needy students in the county.

The report notes that while the county officers claimed to have disbursed the cash, there was no evidence of the procedure and criteria used to identify the needy students.

"The committee noted with concern the manner in which the bursaries were not properly managed and recommends that the county CEO, the accounting officer and other officers responsible for any mismanagement should be held responsible to the extent of any funds lost or not properly accounted for," the report reads.

Former Nairobi boss Kidero and his finance officers risk being surcharged for spending some Sh252.83 million at source during the financial year.

"The committee noted that there was underreporting of revenue collected and this may be attributed to spending of revenue at source which is a contravention of the Article 207 (1) and Section 109 of the PFM Act," it states.

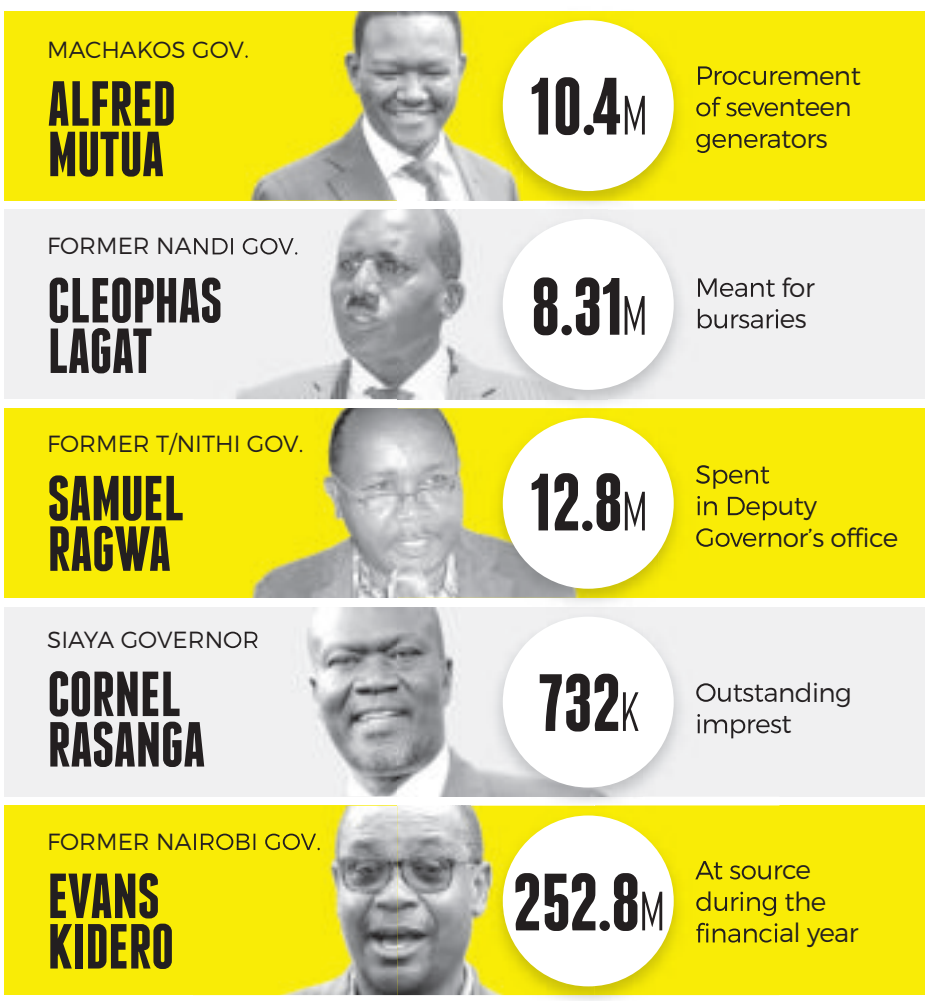
The report flagged several procurement flaws in Finance, ICT, Environment and Roads departments that could have cost the taxpayer millions of shillings.

In Tharaka Nithi, former governor Ragwe could be probed over Sh12.81 million that was spent in the office of the deputy governor.

No supporting documents for the expenditure were availed to auditors.

"The committee recommends that since the county government did not submit documentation to the auditors contrary to the Public Audit Act Sect. 62, the CEO and CEC Finance who were in office should be investigated by the DCI, and if found culpable, prosecuted by the DPP," it says.

WHAT THEY ARE ACCUSED OF...





EXPERT COMMENT

JAVAS BIGAMBO

Senators should not intimidate governors

The Public Investments and Accounts Committee is a critical organ in the Devolution architecture. The Senate is the defender of devolution and therefore the PIAC committee plays a very crucial oversight role.

The Auditor General has been returning damning verdicts on the counties prudence in the expenditure of public funds.

Once such reports reach the Senate, they are delegated to the committee. However, in some instances, senators have been accused of witch-hunt and corruption. The accusations and counter-accusations have resulted in a not so harmonious relationship between the counties and the Senate. For instance, the other day we saw Machakos Governor Alfred Mutua being sanctioned by the committee for failing to appear before it over audit queries.

It is important that the Senate cultivates a culture of professionalism.

The committee must endeavour to make its sittings more accessible to members of the public in accordance with the Public Finance Management Act.

There is always a missing link between the committee's reports and the state agencies that should take them up for action. Such a disconnect is costing Kenyans dearly as there lacks a legal framework to make the committee's reports automatically actionable once they have been released. That explains why the committee must step up its public participation model to give them more public confidence. The oversight committee's work must not be seen as trying to undermine the office of the governor. There have been reports of some interested parties trying to use the committee to either intimidate, blackmail or witch-hunt governors.

The Senate must make the committee's sessions professional and conducive for governors to honour invitations without feeling threatened or harassed. The Senate must ensure the harmonious and congruent relationship with the county governments for the best interest of devolution.

If the Senate and the governors worked closely to complement each other, devolution would be a massive success story.

The governance and policy analyst spoke to the Star

DISPUTE

Raila family in fight for property with Fidel's widow Lwam Bekelle

Ida says her daughter–in–law kept off family efforts to establish what his son owned



Fidel's widow Lwam Bekelle, Ida and Raila Odinga /FILE

STAR REPORTER
@TheStarKenya

A statement to the police by opposition chief Raila Odinga's family over the mysterious death of their son has triggered a bitter falling-out with the widow that has spilled into court.

In the case, Raila's wife Ida and her daughter Winnie are seeking to block Fidel's widow Lwam Bekelle from solely administering her late husband's estate.

In the court papers seen by the Star, Bekelle says a statement Ida recorded with the Directorate of Criminal Investigations detectives regarding Fidel's death was at the heart of their fallout.

"I believe the statement she recorded with the DCI following the death of Fidel Castro Odhiambo Odinga informs the 1st objector's [Ida's] averments and is the genesis of our differences," Bekelle said.

Bekelle accuses her mother-in-law of "unjustifiably and continuously making false, defamatory and/or unkind remarks about her family friends and herself".

In their affidavits, Ida and Winnie accuse Bekelle of taking off from her matrimonial home in Karen soon after Fidel was laid to rest and cutting all contact with the family.

They also say Bekelle kept off as the Odingas pushed to get to the bottom of what could have killed Fidel.

"That even though the death of the deceased remained a mystery and efforts were made to establish what suddenly transpired, the petitioners herein, kept off from the family," Ida and Winnie said in a joint affidavit.

They went on: "It remains unclear why the petitioner hastily ran away and kept off the family, whereas, there have been various efforts to establish contacts."

But Bekelle termed the statement "preposterous, offensive and made in bad taste". She said Ida was in possession of Fidel's autopsy report.

Fidel, Raila's heir apparent, died on January 4, 2015, after a night-out with friends. He left behind one son, Allay Raila Odinga. Fidel's autopsy reports have remained under lock and key.

In the court papers, Ida and Winnie give several reasons the widow should not be allowed to be the administrator of Fidel's estate. For the first time, the two said Fidel had twins with a different woman — a girl and a boy — who are legally also his dependants.

The said woman is named in the court battle as Phoebe Akinyi Ogweno.

"The petitioner has deliberately failed to include and provide or otherwise show the intention of providing for the said minors hence a red flag on her intentions," Ida said.

However, Bekelle, through her lawyers, termed her mother-in-law's assertions as a concoction of facts given that the said twins were born six months after Fidel's death.

"In the birth certificates attached to the affidavit in support of the cross-petition, there is no indication of the father of the said minors. The said birth certificates do not thus prove paternity of the minors," Bekelle said.

She rubbishes Ida's arguments that Fidel supported the twins yet they had not been born at the time of his death.

"It's evident that the objector's pleadings in relation to the claims therein are inconsistent, disjointed, incoherent and can best be described as a concoction of facts. It remains inconceivable how the deceased supported minors even before they were born," Bekelle argues.

She, however, says that should it be proved that the twins were Fidel's biological children, she would include them in the list of beneficiaries.

However, in their affidavit, Ida and Winnie state that they are worried that Fidel's son, Allay, may not be adequately provided for.

They claim Bekelle had removed him from school and kept him at home while also hiding him from the Odinga family.

"The objectors are further worried that having been the only child between the petitioner and the deceased, he is the only living memory of her son and will be disadvantaged if the petitioner continues to block them from his life," Ida through Owiti, Otieno and Ragot advocates claims.

However, Bekelle blasts Ida for contradicting herself by claiming Fidel had other kids yet in the same document, she acknowledges that it is only her son that Fidel had sired during his lifetime.

"I addition, in paragraph 13 and 14 of the objectors' answer to the petition for grant, they averred that my son Allay Raila Odinga was the deceased's only descendant and he is the only living memory of the deceased. This averment is in itself contradictory to the objectors' earlier assertion that the deceased sired other children in a different relationship," she responded.

The widow also claims the Odinga family is not supporting her son and disputes claims he has dropped from school.

The dispute also revealed the multi-billion empire left behind by Raila's firstborn who died at 41.

Ida and Winnie listed 10 properties and seven bank accounts that they say belonged to Fidel.

The properties include Fidel's home at Tipuana Park, house number six in Karen, three parcels of land; two in Kisumu and one in Kajiado, 250 shares each in both Axum Investments Limited and Ambesa Investments Limited.

Others are two Range Rovers, KBS 027Y and KCA 026V, a Nissan Sunny KBR 301F and a Mercedes Benz KBG 595B.

Ida and Winnie also listed three accounts at Gulf Bank – two for Kenya shillings and one for US dollars, another one at Diamond Trust Bank, Capital Centre Branch, Standard Charted Bank, Kenyatta Avenue, Stanbic Bank, Chiromo Branch where he ran a credit card.

A seventh account was held at ABC Bank, Industrial Area branch. However, according to Bekelle, the KBY Range Rover now belongs to one Hossein, Fidel's business partner who claims the car was sold to him.

The second Range Rover KCA, she says, is registered under a Yunis Muhammed and was purchased by trading off another vehicle.

She claims she personally paid for the balance after Fidel's death.

Bekelle says the account at Gulf Bank was jointly operated between her and Fidel and has since been closed. She denies knowledge of the accounts at DTB, ABC and Stanbic.

Bekelle also claims that the Karen home was held under a joint tenancy with herself and Fidel.

" Upon the deceased's demise, the property automatically reverted to my ownership. It, therefore, does not form part of the deceased's estate," Bekelle argues.



Fidel Odinga /FILE

RAISED TO SH9 TRILLION

New debt cap spells doom for economy — Mudavadi

ANC party leader says raising debt cap shows MPs are not in touch with real issues affecting the common mwananchi



ANC party candidate for the Kibra parliamentary by–election Eliud Owalo and party leader Musalia Mudavadi at Laini Saba grounds in the constituency on Sunday /ENOS TECHE



LUKE AWICH
@TheStarKenya

ANC party leader Musalia Mudavadi has slammed MPs for their move to raise the debt ceiling to Sh9 trillion.

He hit at the lawmakers for "overburdening Kenyans at a time the country is chocking from borrowing", saying Kenyans should be worried by the move.

Mudavadi, who was at one time the country's Finance minister, said Parliament erred in increasing the country's borrowing ceiling.

Speaking during a rally in Kibera's Laini Saba on Sunday, Mudavadi said the move shows MPs are not in touch with real issues affecting mwananchi.

"Recently in Parliament, the MPs without consultation voted to increase the debt limit. The move is in bad taste since as we are already suffering from existing debts," he said.

In a day of intense lobbying, MPs on Thursday gave President Uhuru Kenyatta leeway to borrow up to Sh9 trillion. Kenya's current public debt stood at approximately Sh5.9 trillion as of June. This is 42.8 per cent up from 2008.

In other words, the country owes more than half the value of its economic output (GDP).

The lawmakers adopted the Delegated Legislation regulations that were forwarded by Treasury CS Ukur Yattani that remove the percentage of Gross Domestic Product as the determinant for the debt cap.

The move means the Treasury would no longer factor its debt caps on 50 per cent of the GDP which is currently about Sh6 trillion.

But Mudavadi says allowing room for more debts in the country's current status spells doom for its economy.

Apart from Mudavadi, ACK head Jackson Ole Sapit has also warned against over–borrowing.

Speaking during a farewell ceremony for the retiring Southern Nyanza ACK Bishop James Ochiel in Homa Bay town on Sunday, Sapit said more taxation will make life unbearable for Kenyans.

"Excess taxation makes the environment for doing business unfavourable hence low economic growth. Kenyans will become poorer than they are today," Sapit said.

'THE MOVE IS IN BAD TASTE SINCE WE ARE ALREADY SUFFERING FROM EXISTING DEBTS'

NOT PAID FOR FIVE MONTHS

Baringo clinical officers strike to demand salary payment

JOSEPH KANGOGO/Health services were disrupted at Baringo County Referral Hospital after some 30 clinical officers went on strike against nonpayment of salaries for five months.

Led by Laban Yego, the group matched around Kabarnet town with placards on Monday and chanting solidarity slogans while accusing Governor Stanley Kiptis of ignoring their plight.

"We have not been paid a single penny since we were hired way back on May 20," Yego said.

But health Mary Panga exonerated her department from blame, saying it is the duty of the national government to pay the interns while on training.

"The national government should actually look for a way of providing their up–keep while we look for ways of employing them," Panga said.

She said the county has 200 medical interns but has no money to pay them.

Yego said the clinical officers decided to fully withdraw their services and will not resume duty until their salaries are paid in full. "We are saying enough is enough. Today, we have come to see Governor Kiptis to pass our grievances but we couldn't find him in the office. So, we will have to wait for him until the time he is available to talk to us," he said.

"Our parents at home are happy thinking that their children are working with the government but it is very unfortunate that we still depend on them for our upkeep in town," Gladys Kandie said.

She said due to lack of money, they cannot meet their basic needs like paying rent, buying clothes and food.

REGULATIONS NEARLY READY

State to go after e–waste producers to curb pollution

GILBERT KOECH/Producers of e–waste such as computers, tablets and other large household items will be held responsible in the latest war against pollution.

This became apparent on Monday as the country joined the rest of the world in commemorating International E–waste Day. The day creates awareness on the impact of e–waste on the environment.

Environment CAS Mohamed Elmi presided over the event on behalf of CS Keriako Tobiko at Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Centre, Utawala, Nairobi.

The centre offers the service of awareness creation (training) and safe disposal of electrical and electronic waste (e–waste) in accordance with the waste regulations of the National Environment Management Authority.

Elmi said the e–waste regulations, which are almost ready for gazettement, spell out the concept of extended producer responsibility.

EPR aims to make producers responsible for the environmental impact of their products throughout the product chain; from design to the post–consumer phase.

The government hopes the move will alleviate the burden on municipalities and taxpayers for managing end–of–life products, reduce the amount of waste destined for final disposal and increase rates of recycling.

Globally, 50 million tonnes of e–waste are generated annually. Only 20 per cent is recycled, meaning 80 per cent is dumped in landfills, burned or illegally traded.

TO END FAMINE

Meru to have enough food in three years — Kiraitu

GERALD MUTETHIA/The Meru county government has started distribution of avocado, macadamia and banana seedlings worth Sh109 million to farmers to improve food security.

"My top priority is food security. You cannot do anything on an empty stomach. You can't even teach when hungry. We must have enough food," Governor Kiraitu Murungi said.

He said in three years Meru will have enough food and there will be no need for famine relief.

"In three years there will be no relief food coming to Meru. You will never ask for food," he said. He urged farmers to practice crop diversification to as a way to deal with failure of of crops and lack of ready markets.

"I didn't say people should uproot miraa but we should add more. Within your miraa farm find a corner to plant macadamia and avocados," he said

The governor addressed farmers groups at Thiiri centre in Imenti North during issuance of cheques.

His administration has partnership with the World Bank's National Agriculture & Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP) to fund the project.

Kiraitu said that his government will initiate another agricultural program for youths to create employment.

Deputy Governor, Titus Ntuchiu cautioned farmers against harvesting premature crops, sprayed fruits and vegetables which makes consumers susceptible to cancer.

Agriculture executive Carol Mutiga said the programme targets youth and other marginalised groups through sustainable agricultural productivity.



FAO director Gabriel Lugarema, Governor Kiraitu Murungi and Public Service CS Margaret Kobia with gadgets donated by FAO to Meru farmers /GERALD MUTETHIA



PHOTO STORY

Kenya Industrial Estate board chairman Mugambi Imanyara (3rd left) leads the board members on a tour of Kaka James Concrete Enterprise in Nakuru county during the board's familiarisation tour of the SMEs projects incubated and financed by KIE in South Rift. KIE incubates and finances SMEs countrywide /COURTESY

ON THE SPOT

Ministry's variation of medical equipment contract queried

Officials on the spot for varying contract from Sh38 billion to Sh63 billion



JULIUS OTIENO
@TheStarKenya

The Ministry of Health is on spot the for 'arbitrarily' varying the leased medical equipment contract from Sh38 billion to Sh63 billion.

The Auditor-General had disclosed that a Health Information Management System (HIMS) that was to be used for inter-link within the health facilities was not installed as contained in the contract.

According to the auditors, the ministry explained that it varied the contract because of the addition of 24 hospitals to the initial list of facilities to receive the equipment.

However, the officials did not provide documents to authenticate the variation of the contract.

The Senate ad hoc committee probing the scandal sought to know from the auditors why the amount was increased despite not having needs assessment or requests from the counties.

The team is chaired by Isiolo Senator Fatuma Dulo. Bungoma Senator Moses Wetang'ula questioned why counties were being forced to pay Sh105 million more for equipment that was not confirmed to have been delivered and software installed.

"Was there any needs assessment done or request by the counties to get more supplies for the additional health facilities?" he asked.

The contract entailed leasing of assorted medical equipment – renal, laboratory, ICU, radiology and theatre equipment – to at least two hospitals in each county for seven years.

It also included the installation of the equipment and training of technical staff. The contract had envisaged training of the medical practitioners to handle the equipment but it was not done.

Special Audit deputy director Sammy Kimunguri told the senators that comprehensive details of why the variations were done will be revealed once the auditors complete auditing the Ministry of Health for 2018-19.

"Needs assessment of the variations or requests from the counties could be there but they have not been provided. We can only conclusively say they are not there when we finish the audit process," Kimunguri said while tabling a list of the 24 health facilities.

He disclosed that despite the agreement that suppliers were to deliver the equipment to the health facilities, they had not physically verified whether they had been supplied.

"We have not physically confirmed if the equipment were supplied as per the contract. We can only conclusively state that once the audit is completed."

WETANG'ULA QUESTIONED WHY COUNTIES WERE PAYING SH105M MORE

THREE-YEAR TERM

Laboso widower appointed to state advisory committee

PATRICK VIDIJA/ The widower of Bomet Governor Joyce Laboso has been appointed as a member of the State Corporation Advisory Committee.

In the latest appointments by President Uhuru Kenyatta through a Gazette notice dated October 14, Edwin Jacob Abonyo will be a member of the committee for the next three years.

Abonyo is among seven individuals appointed including Winfred Kaburu, Cecil Kuyo, Cyrus Gituai, Tom Maina Macharia, Roselyn Tumpeyo and Gloria Ndekei.

Laboso died in July this year aged 58. She passed on after succumbing to cancer at the Nairobi Hospital.



Bomet Governor Joyce Laboso's widower Edwin Abonyo at All Saints Cathedral, Nairobi, on August 1 /DOUGLAS OKIDDY

INDEPENDENCE AT RISK

Matiang'i sued for denying judges diplomatic passports

JILLO KADIDA / A man has challenged the withdrawal of High Court judges' diplomatic passports in court.

Jonathan Munene has sued Interior CS Fred Matiang'i and Director of Immigration. The passports were withdrawn following a legal notice of 2012 which, Munene says, excluded High Court judges without any explanation from the list of government officials with diplomatic passports.

He says the decision poses serious threats to the independence of the Judiciary and ought to be reversed.

COINCIDENCE

How retired chief convinced suspected killer to surrender

GERALD MUTETHIA / A former chief in Meru coincidentally met the Tigania trader wanted by the police for allegedly stabbing a man to death.

Julius Kang'ote recalled meeting the trader "who looked confused and had a polythene bag on his head". He said Joshua Kileru, 34, said he was trying to find his way home and was aware that the police were looking for him "but he did not know why".

"He was not in his right mind and feared angry people would kill him but I assured him that no one will attack him."

Kileru had been on the run for 13 days. It was after Kang'ote's reassurance that Kileru agreed to be escorted to Nchiru police station where he surrendered.



AUTOPSY TODAY

Ferry tragedy family records statement

BRIAN OTIENO/ A member of the family that lost a mother and daughter in the September 29 ferry tragedy has recorded a police statement as investigations gather pace.

This brings to six the number of people who have recorded statements on the accident that highlighted the need to improve and enforce safety measures by the Kenya Ferry Services.

Likoni police boss Benjamin Rotich told the Star yesterday that more people will record statements if necessary.

"Today, one family member is recording a statement as we speak," Rotich said on the phone.

It is understood to have been widower John Wambua.

Wambua lost his wife Mariam Kighenda and four-year-old daughter Amanda Mutheu when their car plunged from the MV Harambee ferry into the ocean mid-stream. There were no working restraints.

Their bodies were recovered last Friday, 13 days after their death. A multi-agency team was formed to find them.

Mother and daughter were found in an embrace in the back seat of the car. Earlier they had gone to their Kwale farm to harvest vegetables — their Sunday routine.

The government pathologist was not available on Monday as planned to perform the postmortem at Jocham Hospital.

A hospital employee said the post-mortem would have to be postponed until today.

"We normally prep the bodies for post-mortem by 3pm. We don't do it past that time," said the staff member said.

NEWS JUDICIARY

EIGHT COUNTS

Precious Talent owner charged with manslaughter

CLAUSE MASIKA/ The Precious Talent Academy accident was an act of God, the owner of the school yesterday told a Kibera court when he was charged with eight counts of manslaughter.

Moses Ndirangu (pictured) pleaded not guilty before chief magistrate Joyce Gandani. The charge sheet says that on September 23 on Ng'ong Road, Nairobi, Ndirangu caused the death of eight children.

Through his lawyer Lynne Muchira, Ndirangu told the court that he was a respected man in society who loved children and life.

He said the state had denied him a chance to mourn the pupils and requested the court to release him on Sh300,000 bail and lenient bond terms. Ndirangu also said he is a father of five and the breadwinner of his family.

While releasing Ndirangu y, Gandani ordered him to deposit his passport in court until his case is heard and determined. She released him on Sh1 million bond and Sh500,000 bail with a surety of the same amount and a credible contact person.



DETAINED SEPARATELY

Six officers deny robbing trader of Sh6m in Eastleigh

CAROLYNE KUBWA/ Six police officers and three others yesterday pleaded not guilty to eight counts related to robbery with violence, conspiracy to defraud and other charges.

Officers Wilson Kiprotich, Daniel Kipkorir, Alex Kandie, Simon Mwandiki, Caroline Waithera and Kelvin Marangu were accused of conspiracy to commit robbery with violence.

They were charged alongside Cameroonian national Esome Jean Baptistae, Petronila Njeri and Martin Mbae. They allegedly committed the offence between September 27 and October 4, 2019

In the second count, the charge sheet says that Esome, officers Kiprotich, Kipkorir, Kandie and Mwandiki on October 4 at Barwako Lodge in Eastleigh, violently robbed Abdullahi Hussein of $50,000 (Sh5 million) while armed with firearms.

The five were further charged that they violently robbed Hussein of $10,000 (Sh1 million).

OVERREACH

Court sets aside orders freezing Humphrey Kariuki's accounts

Judge says DPP cannot seek to benefit from an illegality and claim to act in the public interest



SUSAN MUHINDI
@TheStarKenya



Businessman Humphrey Kariuki on August 19 /ENOS TECHE

The High Court has set aside orders freezing several accounts belonging to companies associated to businessman Humphrey Kariuki.

Justice Luka Kimaru dismissed the application filed by the Director of Public Prosecutions because the order they received from a Kiambu court did not authorise preserving the bank accounts.

"For the DPP to argue before this court that the said order ought to be enforced in the interest of the public is, to say the least, a misdirection and misapprehension of the law," he said.

Kimaru said the DPP cannot seek to benefit from an outright illegality and claim that they are acting in the public interest.

"The application is clear they sought orders from the court to access the said accounts to enable them to investigate whether an offence had been committed under the tax laws," he said.

The judge said how the respondents sought, in their application, to deal with the bank accounts in questions, some of which were held in the name of Africa Spirits and Wow Beverages, was disturbing.

The DPP and the Inspector General of Police had on 16 August filed an application before the Kiambu chief magistrate seeking a warrant to enable them to access the Kariuki's accounts.

They sought to obtain information from as well as documents relating to various bank accounts held at National Bank of Kenya and Kenya Commercial Bank by Africa Spirits and Wow beverages and other companies. Their case was that they required access to the said bank accounts to facilitate investigations into the commission of offences of failure to pay tax.

The trial magistrate in Kiambu allowed the DPP's application.

But Africa Spirits filed an application at the High Court seeking a review of the magistrate's ruling.

They also sought as stay to proceedings at the Kiambu magistrate's court pending hearing and determination of the matters filed before Milimani law courts.

Yesterday Justice Kimaru said it was evident that there was an element of jurisdictional overreach by the Directorate of Criminal Investigations on matters under the jurisdiction of the Asset Recovery Agency and the Kenya Revenue Authority.

"It was evident that the application made before the chief magistrate's court at Kiambu breached the established law," he said.

'BREACH OF UNIVERSITIES ACT'

Kenyatta University hospital ownership challenged in court

JILLO KADIDA/ President Uhuru Kenyatta's decision to make Kenyatta University Teaching and Referral Hospital a parastatal has been challenged in court.

Activist Okiya Omtatah has filed a case seeking to block the launch set to take place between October 14 and 16.

Omtatah says the hospital is part of the university and that plans to register it as a parastatal are wrong.

In a gazette notice published on January 25, Uhuru moved to hive off the hospital from the ownership and control of the university and establish it as an autonomous parastatal. The Sh8 billion facility is expected to provide specialised treatment, especially for tumours, alongside training and research. It has a bed capacity of 650.

It has been lying idle for two years after a row emerged between the university and the government on who should manage it.



Kenyatta University Hospital /FILE

NATIONAL CEREALS AND PRODUCE BOARD
Leaders in Grain Management

ADDENDUM

AMENDMENT TO TENDER NO. NCPB/JUTE/04/2019-2020 – TENDER FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 2,000,000 BAGS OF NEW B. TWILL STANDARD JUTE BAG x 50 KG

National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) issues an addendum on the above mentioned tender that appeared in "the Star newspaper on **Friday 27th September, 2019** and East African newspaper on **Monday 30th September 2019.**

In line with the pronouncements contained on page 4 clause 2.5 of the tender document of the above captioned tender, National Cereals and Produce Board hereby clarifies that jute bag must conform to the provided specifications in the tender document or Indian standard IS 12650:2003.

The specific parameters are further clarified as follows:-

1. The requirement on moisture for the bag is varied to 22%.
2. The mass for the bag remains unchanged (as indicated in the tender document).

Interested bidders may view and download the details of the addendum from the public procurement information portal ***http://www.tenders.go.ke*** or/and NCPB website ***www.ncpb.co.ke***

Except for the amendments contained in this addendum, all other terms, conditions and instructions remain as indicated in the tender document.

NEWS GENERAL

160 TUTORS BLACKLISTED

TSC bans teachers involved in cheating from managing exams

Magoha cites Migori among hotspots where exam leakage led to cancellation of results



A county commissioner receives padlocks from Education CS George Magoha as TSC chief executive Nancy Macharia looks on at the Kenya School of Government in Kabete yesterday /**MERCY MUMO**



LEWIS NYAUNDI
@TheStarKenya

TSC has banned teachers involved in previous cases of examination cheating from administering this year's KCPE and KCSE.

Teachers Service Commission CEO Nancy Macharia said the decision was taken to combat cheating.

In this year's exams, 1,088,987 learners will sit KCPE while 689,746 will sit KCSE.

It is four years since the introduction of stringent measures to weed out rampant examination cheating that had affected the integrity of the tests prior to 2016.

The measures were introduced by the then Education CS Fred Matiang'i.

TSC records indicate since adoption of the measures, some 160 teachers involved in exam malpractices have been flagged, investigated and some punished.

"All those who are contracted to administer the exams have to be registered by the TSC whether in public or private schools," Macharia said on Monday.

She spoke during the issuance of safety padlocks to officials that will secure the exams set to begin at the end of the month.

The padlocks will be used to secure 479 containers to be used to store the examinations at the sub-counties. TSC has cancelled leave for its staff to give time for proper preparation for the exams.

LOOPHOLES

In this year's exams, 179,149 teachers will be involved in management of the tests.

TSC says 28,000 will be head teachers who also double up as centre managers while 145,429 will be supervisors and invigilators.

Another 33,720 will be involved in marking. The government has raised concern over collusion between schools and examination officials to cheat soon after collecting the papers from safety containers.

Education CS George Magoha yesterday gave examples of Northern Kenya and Migori as hotspots where such collusion led to exam leakage and cancellation of results.

To correct this, the ministry yesterday gave stern orders to head teachers to adhere to the start and finish time of every paper.

CHALLENGES

Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiangi yesterday warned police officers who will be involved in the exercise against lapses during the distribution of materials and the actual sitting of examinations.

To have real-time updates on the exercise, both the Education and Interior ministries will have a command and control centre based at Harambee House.

This years's national examination will begin with assessment of orals and practicals on October 21 to 25.

KCPE will take place between October 29 and 31 October. KCSE papers will be sat between November 4 and 27.

The examination council says it has embarked on a security assessment that will inform about challenges that might affect the exams.

In particular, Knec is concerned with the security in some areas that could lead to displacement of learners.

Adverse weather effects such as heavy rain or floods are also part of the ministry's concerns over a smooth examination process.

Interior CS Fred Matiang'i yesterday said the gvoernment will airlift examination materials to any areas that will be affected.

GROWING CONCERN

Doctors asked to document diabetes at the clinic level

MAGDALINE SAYA/Improved data collection and publication is important in the fight against diabetes, the Health Ministry says.

Doctors have been asked to facilitate the process by documenting data collected in health facilities and sharing it with the national health data registry.

Zachary Muriuki, national programme officer, Diabetes Prevention and Control Program, Division of Non-Communicable Diseases at the Ministry of Health, made the announcement yesterday.

He spoke in Nairobi during the launch of Africa Diabetes Pacesetters Initiative by pharmaceutical company Novo Nordisk. Muriuki said there is a need to equip the national health data registry with all findings from healthcare facilities.

"This will help us intervene effectively and respond to the needs on the ground. We cannot do this alone. We need to work with all the clinicians who are the main interface with our patients," Muriuki said.

The Africa Diabetes Pacesetters Initiative aims at building capacity amongst physicians in diabetes care in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Diabetes is one of the NCDs on the rise in Sub-Saharan Africa, with seven out of 10 adults having type 2 diabetes but are not aware.

Delayed diabetes diagnosis and treatment increases the risk of complications such as kidney damage, heart disease, blindness, neural damage leading to amputations and reduced life expectancy.

Late-stage complications are also the most costly to treat.

Once seen as a disease of affluent societies, diabetes has become a growing problem in developing countries, an increase driven largely by a rise in obesity.

The World Health Organisation says that most people with diabetes do not die of causes uniquely related to diabetes, but of associated complications like a heart attack.

POLICE LAUNCH PROBE

Fears as two KCSE candidates go missing from Utumishi Boys High

GEORGE MURAGE/Two KCSE candidates have gone missing from Utumishi Boys High School in Gilgil barely a week to the start of the national exam. The two disappeared in unclear circumstances on Thursday last week.

Gilgil police boss Emmanuel Opuru said the case had been reported and that investigations had been launched.

There is anxiety at the national school following the incident.

Parent Brian Nyakundi, whose son is missing, said he was informed about the incident on Friday. Nyakundi said his family was living in fear. "The information even from fellow students is trivial but we are cooperating with the school and police so that we can trace the two boys," Nyakundi told the Star on Monday.

"It's really worrying as KCSE exam is starting soon," he said.

Principal Samuel Maina said the students are believed to have sneaked out of the school on Friday morning. He said the school was not aware of the motive behind the incident, saying it was not the first time the two students had been caught up in cases of indiscipline.

"Our files indicate that the students have in the past sneaked from school before returning but we are working with police to trace them," Maina said.

GROSS MISCONDUCT CITED

Moi University expels five student leaders over last week's protests

MATHEWS NDANYI/Moi University has expelled five student leaders who allegedly organised last week's violent protests that led to indefinite closure of the institution.

Vice chancellor Isaac Kosgey confirmed the students had been banned from the institution due to gross misconduct.

Kosgey wrote to the students on October 11 stating that they would not be allowed to set foot in the institution.

Those expelled are officials of Moi University Students organisation (MUSO). They are chairman Timothy Kemboi, secretary general Ian Rusei, finance director Hezbon Ondari, co-curricular coordinator Ronny Alex Kimathi and Emmanuel Sahrabhai (special needs coordinator).

"It has come to the attention of this office that on 11th October 2019 you with other students participated in the illegal demonstration by planning, leading and later destroying university property at the main campus," the VC's letter said.

Kosgey said the students' conduct was unacceptable and lacked the expected decorum of a student while at university.

"As a result of this and by the powers conferred to me by statute XXX5 (k) of the Moi university statutes (2013), I do hereby expel you from the university with immediate effect."



Moi University VC Isaac Kosgey addresses students at the Medical School in Eldoret on March 9 /**MATHEWS NDANYI**

MET FORECAST

Rains to increase next month, end in December

Last month, department accurately predicted rains would begin in the second week of this month in most places across the country



JOHN MUCHANGI
@jomunji

The ongoing heavy rains will end in December, according to the Meteorological department.

In the short-rains forecast, head of the Met department Stella Aura yesterday said the rains will be heaviest next month, then begin to taper in the second week of December across the country.

Further, in a five-day forecast, Aura said showers and thunderstorms will continue in Western Kenya, especially around Lake Victoria. "Rainfall is expected to continue over several parts of the country," she said.

Other areas likely to be pounded by downpours this week include highlands west of the Rift Valley, including Kakamega, Vihiga, Nandi, Elgeyo Marakwet, West Pokot, Trans Nzoia, Bungoma, Bomet, Uasin Gishu, Kisii, Kericho and Nyamira.

The department said counties in Central Rift Valley such as Nakuru, Narok, Laikipia and Baringo will also receive heavy rainfall and thunderstorms.

However, counties in the highlands east of the Rift Valley such as Nyeri, Murang'a, Embu, Meru, Tharaka Nithi, Kirinyaga, Kiambu, Nyandarua and Nairobi will only receive showers over few places.

The rest of the country will receive showers in a few places, especially in the afternoon and at night. These areas include the Coastal strip, South Eastern, Machakos, Makueni and Taita Taveta, as well as the Northwestern part of the country, Western parts of Turkana, the Northern parts of Marsabit and Samburu.

The advisory shows the rains in these places will reduce compared to last week when the department had warned of heavy rains. Other regions that will receive rains in a few places are Ukambani and Northeastern part of the country such as Wajir, Garissa and Mandera.

"Strong southeasterly winds of more than 12.5 metres per second are expected over the Northwest and parts of the Northeast," the department said.

However, floodwaters may suddenly appear even in places where it has not rained and can be deeper and faster than they look.

The department advised residents in such areas against diving through or walking in moving water in open fields. They are also urged not to shelter under trees or near grilled windows to minimise exposure to lightning strikes.

"People in landslide-prone areas should be high alert," the report said.

Last month, the department accurately predicted the rains will begin in the second week of October in most places and end in December.

"The distribution of rainfall in time and space is expected to be generally good over most places especially during October and the peak month of November," she told the media on Monday at the Met headquarters in Nairobi.



Matatu drivers and a boda boda operator drive on a flooded Bamburi-Utange road in Kisauni, Mombasa, on Sunday /JOHN CHESOLI

HEALTHY LIVING

Kenya to receive share of Sh2.5bn HIV self-test fund

Two self-testing kits already authorised at Sh500 each

JOHN MUCHANGI/ Kenya is expected to benefit from a new Sh2.5 billion fund to increase HIV self-testing.

The $25million (Sh2.5 billion) was announced by the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) last week at the just-ended Global Fund replenishment summit in France.

The new fund will support countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa region and Kenya is eligible to apply.

Kenya has already authorised two self-testing kits, but each costs at least Sh500 for a single-use, which is considered out of reach of many people. The CIFF said it would help lower the cost of self-tests, trial alternative distribution channels and fund education and promotional activities. "This contribution is CIFF's latest milestone in its broader effort to increase young people's access to healthcare services," it said in a statement.

Paulyne Chemeli, a Nairobi pharmacist said self-testing is best for improving the uptake of HIV testing among individuals who require confidentiality or who do not trust healthcare workers. "Thanks to HIV self-testing, we now have more male clients. We encourage them to take at least two self-testing kits, including one for their partner," she said.

THE NEW FUND WILL SUPPORT COUNTRIES IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA AND KENYA IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY



Kenya Power site /FILE

ATHI RIVER

Man dies from electrocution while stealing power cables

GEORGE OWITI/ A 35-year-old man was electrocuted yesterday while vandalising Kenya Power cables along Mombasa Road in Athi River, Machakos county.

The victim, who was not immediately identified, met his end at 9.30am after he attempted to steal the high-voltage power cables, which were still under installation.

Authorities suspect he was part of a five-member gang that has been stealing cables. His accomplices escaped unhurt. Barely a month ago, cables worth more than Sh10 million were lost in a similar incident in the same subcounty.

Subcounty police commander Samwel Mukuusi termed the incident unfortunate. He said police had launched investigations and would pursue to those on the run. The body was retrieved and taken to Machakos hospital mortuary.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KAKAMEGA

KAKAMEGA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES

Following the advertisement that appeared in the local Dailies on the 9th of September, 2019 and pursuant to Section 18(1) of the County Assembly Services Act, 2017, the County Assembly Service Board (CASB) hereby publishes the names of applicants shortlisted for the position of Clerk of the County Assembly as well as their respective interview dates.

	NAME	GENDER	ID/PP NO.	SUB-COUNTY	DATE	TIME
1.	DR. EMILY SITATI MUNG'ASIA	FEMALE	10800595	HAMISI	29/10/2019	9.00 AM
2.	YVONNE ADAMBA SIGANGA	FEMALE	20949042	MALAVA	29/10/2019	10.00AM
3.	JOHN MOLENJE SIMWAH	MALE	8637422	LUGARI	29/10/2019	11.15 AM
4.	EDWARD LIBENDI ANGUCHE	MALE	22503507	MUMIAS EAST	29/10/2019	12.15 PM
5.	LABAN MALOBA ATEMBA	MALE	9509159	MATUNGU	29/10/2019	1.15 PM

IMPORTANT NOTICE;-

1. All interviews shall be held at Bishop Stam Pastoral Centre, along Kakamega-Webuye Road.
2. Applicants are requested to bring with them the originals of their national identity cards or passports, academic certificates and/or testimonials.
3. Applicants should also bring with them current clearances from the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI), Ethics and Anti-Corruption Authority (EACC) and any of the Credit Reference Bureaus.
4. Members of the public are invited to avail by way of written statements on oath, any information of interest with respect to the suitability of any of the shortlisted candidates to serve as Clerk of the County Assembly.

Rt. Hon. Morris I. Buluma, MBS, EGJ.
Chairperson – County Assembly Service Board (CASB).

BIG READ / THE WEEKEND GETAWAY

BETTING ADDICTS THRONG TO ESCAPE 20% TAX ON WI

Having grown into a source of income for many, earnings from betting were too precious for gamblers in border towns to 'share' with the government



EMOJONG OSERE@TheStarKenya / If the government thought it would deter youths from betting by taxing their winnings, it did not see this one coming.

Gamblers living along the border with Uganda have simply exported their betting to ensure they get value for their money.

"In Uganda, the issue of 20 per cent withholding tax is not there, so you get your money. You stake and you get the expected earnings," Hillary Etyang', who owned a gaming account with Kenya's former betting giant SportPesa, told the Star in an interview.

He is among hordes of border residents who, equipped with Ugandan mobile phone SIM cards, cross into the landlocked country and convert their Kenyan currency into Ugandan shillings.

Thereafter, they walk to the nearest Uganda mobile money agents, deposit the cash into their foreign lines and start betting.

On weekends, when most local and international leagues are played, it's common to see youth crossing the border in large numbers. They flood betting shops as they follow league matches from morning to night.

"We place our live bets, win our money, do shopping for our families and come back to Kenya," Etyang' said.

"We will continue doing this because betting was like an alternative source of income for us on the Kenyan side."

He said with the new tax, which the government introduced on whoever wins money after gaming, sports gambling has lost meaning and has subsequently become unprofitable.

"I once staked Sh10,000 for one match, expecting a possible win of Sh13,000. That would have given me a profit of Sh3,000 but to my shock, I received Sh10,900, which translated to a profit of only Sh900 from that huge amount," Etyang' said.

This, to him, was not reasonable since before the introduction of the new levy, he would place two bets with a similar amount and earn Sh6,000. But this is now impossible because he would be risking his money for the government's gain.

BETTING CRACKDOWN

Etyang's woes paint a picture of how Kenyan youth have become addicted to gaming, an industry the government is trying all means to regulate.

On July 2, the Betting Control and Licensing Board (BLCB) declined to renew operating permits for 19 gaming companies after the firms were accused of failing to comply with tax payment guidelines.

According to the BCLB, anyone who bets and wins money pays 20 per cent of his or her total earning as tax to the government.

The new rule came into operation after July 1, when Interior CS Fred Matiang'i announced the suspension of betting permits for 19 firms.

Matiang'i had accused owners of gambling companies of tax evasion, alleging they owe the Kenya Revenue Authority Sh26 billions in unpaid dues.

Interestingly, SportPesa, which has since departed the Kenyan market, was in March 2016, 2017 and 2018 honoured by KRA as one of the country's top taxpayers.

At the time of their suspension, the gambling industry alone controlled over Sh200 billion.

Matiang'i said the licences would only be renewed if the firms complied with the law, including paying all accumulated taxes.

> **RETAIL SHOP OWNER SAMUEL MKOKO**
>
> *I have friends who are unemployed but are good at betting. They entirely rely on gambling to pay rent, buy food and clothes and even save money. I know of one who has bought a plot of land*

As reality sinks in, in Malaba town, retail shop owner Samuel Mkoko occasionally sneaks out of his business to bet in Uganda. He said the decision to halt the renewal of betting firms' permits was ill-timed.

"I have friends who are unemployed but are good at betting. They entirely rely on gambling to pay rent, buy food and clothes and even save money. I know of one who has bought a plot of land," Mkoko said.

"Suspension should have come after the government has provided alternative sources of income. We are only lucky because we are near Uganda. Uganda will support us. There is nothing like withholding tax there. I will bet in Kenya if the 20 per cent withholding tax is done away with."

Before the latest developments, the gambling industry in Kenya had grown tremendously the last five years, to the tune of Sh202.67 billion, employing approximately 5,000 people, official data shows.

To Etyang', the new tax's introduction is only a ploy by the government to cash in from where it never invested since it takes the lion's share of what gamers earn.

"Gaming is not as profitable as it was before the new tax was introduced. That is why we have gone to Uganda. Government should get an alternative way of taxing but not from our hard-earned money. Let it tax the gambling firms but not us," he said.

He said he does not see himself abandoning gambling since the boda boda motorcycle he owns was bought with betting money.

Just like Etyang' and Mkoko, Elizabeth Anyaa, who completed college in 2015 and is still unemployed, has also not been spared by the new gaming rules.

"I am not familiar with the betting firms currently in the Kenyan market. I know SportPesa. Since they have closed shop, I have no option but to follow my friends to Uganda," she said.

In her free time when she is in Malaba town, she hops onto a motorbike and rides to the Ugandan side of the border, where she deposits money to her Ugandan MTN mobile line, places her bets before returning to Kenya.

If she wins, she returns to Uganda for mobile money withdrawals before deciding on whether to spend the money in Uganda or Kenya.

She says she meets at least 50 Kenyans in the gambling shop she frequents in Uganda every weekend. There are five such shops in Malaba, Uganda.

SPORTPESA, BETIN DEPARTURE

SportPesa and Betin on September 28 officially announced their departure from Kenya after accusing the government of cultivating what they termed a hostile investment environment for them.

The two firms said they would only resume operations when the President Uhuru Kenyatta-led administration puts in place satisfactory taxation policies.

Betin on the same day announced that its staff had been rendered redundant. SportPesa followed suit on October 2, when chief executive Ronald Karauri sent home 400 employees.

The companies described the 20 per cent tax on them as "damaging to customers and the National Treasury".

Before closing shop, SportPesa had expressed disappointment with Parliament's imposition of the 20 per cent excise tax on all betting stakes, adding that the new levy was a fundamental misinterpretation of how revenue generation works.

The firm, which controlled the largest market share, argued that with the new tax rule on winnings, profitability levels for their individual clients would be low and this in return would deprive customers of their expected winnings.

UGANDA NNINGS



Gamblers follow Saturday's matches in one of the gambling shops in Malaba, Uganda /EMOJONG OSERE

The betting companies argued that the new tax would have severe effects for them as they have been paying taxes, lead to a drop in government tax revenue and halt all investments in Kenya's sports industry.

The decision by Kenyans to bet with Ugandan-registered gaming companies is a big boost for the Ugandan economy as most of them buy goods and flock entertainment joins in Uganda apparently after winning their stakes.

It is also a mega uplift for Ugandan telecommunication investors since they cash in whenever Kenyan gamblers withdraw money using their Ugandan mobile lines.

On weekends, the Ugandan side of Malaba border is usually a beehive of activity as Kenyans cross to game and later on have fun.

Juliet Amoding, who operates a beer joint adjacent to Malaba police station, said in an interview 90 per cent of her clients, particularly on weekends, are Kenyans.

However, it's not all doom and gloom for local betting firms. Among the suspended companies that have bounced back to operation are BetPawa, which has rebranded to Bet254, Mozzart Bet, Bet Lion, Odi Bets, Betway and Betika.

GOVERNMENT'S JUSTIFICATION

The government argues in its bid to regulate the gaming industry that the sector relays negative effects on society and must, therefore, be checked.

One of the new guidelines it issued in a new Gaming Bill is a requirement by the firms involved to run messages on the negative effects of gambling, similar to the ones relayed on the consumption of alcohol and cigarettes. The messages must also warn that gaming is addictive.

Among politicians who have spoken loudly on the recent suspension of gaming companies are outspoken Gatundu South MP Moses Kuria.

He said the Kenya Revenue Authority indiscriminately accused betting investors of tax evasion, and should have closed all firms before seeking fresh individual clearance.

"The success of any economy is based on a predictable business environment and fidelity to the rule of law," the MP said on July 12 on his official Facebook page.

"It is presumptuous and preposterous for government to close down betting pay bills allegedly on tax-related matters when KRA has not issued agency notices.

"To make matters worse, the directives are being issued in a skewed manner, sparing some well-connected platforms. Until we pass a law banning betting, we should stick to the law of fair play."

GAMBLING TO THE LAST COIN

The Kenyan Crisis

1. High unemployment rate among youth
2. Overtaxation of gamblers by the government
3. Desperation and hunger to grow rich
4. Limited alternative income sources

Proposed Gaming Bill, 2019

1. Kenyans must own shares in firms
2. Companies pay 15 per cent gaming tax
3. Investors reveal company's physical location
4. Those online must have websites
5. Firms must have customer care centres

Global Trends

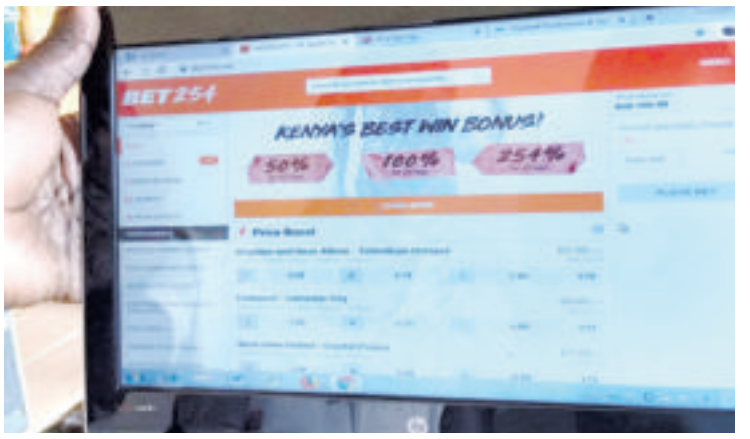
1. China, the US and UK are the top gamblers
2. World gaming revenue rose from Sh22 trillion in 2001 to 49.5 trillion in 2019
3. By 2023, gambling is projected to hit Sh52.5 trillion
4. Online gambling alone will control Sh8 trillion



"We need to clean up this sector. We are destroying our children and families.

PURSUIT OF LIVELIHOOD

Lack of jobs, IT growth fuel obsession with gambling



A gambler compares bonuses offered by Kenyan and Ugandan betting companies /EMOJONG OSERE

EMOJONG OSERE / Few people ever win a jackpot. The majority lose what they have staked, while most earn peanuts. But it is a game of luck, easy to access and a chance for income many people don't get elsewhere. Hence its popularity in Kenya.

According to Geopoll, a mobile-based research organisation, Kenya is among countries in Africa with the highest number of youth engaged in gambling. It ranks high alongside Nigeria and South Africa. Sports betting has also turned into one of the most celebrated modes of gambling on the continent. A survey the institution conducted in April shows that the trend is growing.

Geopoll said gaming had gained popularity not only in Kenya but across the world. It estimated that by 2022, the industry will be boasting of circulating revenue amounting to approximately Sh63.5 trillion, an amount that is more than 10 times Kenya's annual budget. "In sub-Saharan Africa, gambling has become a multi-billion dollar business," Geopoll said in an online article published on September 28.

The organisation's survey is reinforced by a 2017 report by PWC, which said Kenya was positioned high in the gambling industry due to its active young population that is largely sports-passionate. "Across the age groups, it is notable that about half of low-income gambling consumers are 18-25 years. It is likely that the youth are most involved, given the high affinity to sports and unemployment rates," PWC said.

Besides joblessness, among the things perpetuating gambling, according to another 2017 survey conducted by Geopoll, is the increasing penetration of information technology, aided by mobile phones. Geopoll said with mobile devices that have access to the Internet, gamers do not necessarily need desktop computers to gamble, giving them ample time to bet even during their leisure time at the comfort of their homes.

Data from the Communications Authority of Kenya released in December last year showed that the country's mobile penetration had hit the 100 per cent mark for the first time following a rise in active customer subscription, which stood at 46.6 million.

Most of these mobile device users are youth. Before the government declined to renew betting company licences on July 1, there were over 30 gambling firms operating in Kenya, and the number may soon hit the same level as new entrants position themselves to storm the lucrative market.

Geopoll also said in its surveys that Nairobi leads in gambling in Kenya. This is primarily supported by the nature of the city's population, most of which is tech-savvy. It said the city's population is comprised of a well-informed and up-to-date group that uses every available means to make money.

In Kenya alone, sports betting is projected to control over Sh50 billion by 2020 as the industry grows because of the skyrocketing demand for gambling. Before the government cracked the whip on betting firms, SportPesa, which was the most popular sports betting platform, controlled 82 per cent of the market share followed by Betin (40 per cent), Elitebet (22 per cent) and Betika (12 per cent). Mcheza and BetPawa controlled 12 per cent and 10 per cent respectively.

Some seven million Kenyans are unemployed, according to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics. Out of this, 1.4 million have been looking for jobs but to no avail, and this perhaps explains why most of the low-income gamers are not in employment.

Two years ago, data from KNBS showed that nine out of every 10 unemployed Kenyans is below the age of 35 years, the age bracket that constitutes the most active, optimistic and wealth-hungry people.

PUMP PRICES

Drop in global crude prices drives a litre of Petrol down by Sh 4.76

ELIZABETH KIVUVA / Motorists and industries are set to pay less for their fuel following a decline in prices in the monthly review.

According to the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA), retail prices for petrol and diesel have decreased by Sh4.76 and Sh1.08 per litre respectively, while kerosene increased by Sh0.44 per litre.

Therefore, petrol will now retail at Sh108.05 in Nairobi, while diesel at Sh101.96 and kerosene at Sh101.08.

Pump prices are set to take effect from today to November 14, 2019.

This month's review is a turn around from the last month's review when the price of petrol had jumped marginally to Sh112.81 per litre in Nairobi. Diesel also rose by Sh2.44 to Sh103.04 per litre

EPRA had cut its ceiling price for kerosene by Sh3.31 per litre to stand at Sh100.64 per litre.

The decline is a relief to consumers and investors, with high anticipation of price hike following the drone attack on Saudi Arabia's two major oil facilities which saw the country's output cut by more than half.

The attack on one of the world's main oil producer in September is expected to lead to a price surge on crude due to a dip in exports, affecting the country which orders its products a month earlier.

This may likely cause a change in prices with reflection from November.

Reuters in September reported that Saudi Aramco's full return to normal oil production volumes may take months, according to two sources from the company.

EPRA has however maintained its commitment to maintain the prices at reasonable levels for local consumers and observe fair competition for investors exporting to neighbouring countries.

In a statement, EPRA said the changes in this month's prices have been as a consequence of the average landed cost of imported super petrol decreasing by 7.66 per cent from $497.36 per cubic metre in August to $459.27 in September.

Diesel decreased by 2.32 per cent from $503.61 to $491.94 while kerosene increased by 0.47 per cent from $484.29 to $486.55 per cubic metre.

The free on board price of crude ol lifted in September was $64.42 per barrel, an increase of 3.40 per cent from $62.30 in August.

DELAYED PROJECT

Uhuru to launch SGR phase 2A

Rail services along the Nairobi–Suswa route were expected to commence by June 1

GEORGE MURAGE AND MARTIN MWITA
@TheStarKenya

President Uhuru Kenyatta is tomorrow expected to commission the second phase of the Standard Gauge Railway, finally operationalizing the rail between Nairobi and Suswa after a five-month delay.

Commissioning of the 120.49 kilometres (Phase 2A) project will see Madaraka Express passenger and freight services commence along the route.

Completion of the line had been delayed by compensation where 1,810 persons were affected.

The most affected area was a 35-kilometers stretch between Embul Bul (Ngong) and the Nairobi National Park, where stalled compensation slowed down the contractor- China Communications Construction Company (CCCC).

President Uhuru is expected to use the occasion to also commission works on the Inland Container Depot (ICD) located within the planned Dry Port near Mai Mahiu town, Naivasha sub-county commissioner Mbogo Mathioya has confirmed.

"The SGR extension to Naivasha is now complete and on Wednesday, the Head of State will officially launch it by opening all the stations along the route," Mathioya said during an update on the preparations for the Presidential event.

Phase 2A which commenced in 2017 cuts across Nairobi, Kajiado, Nakuru and Narok with four passenger stations- Ongata Rongai, Ngong, Mai Mahiu and Suswa. It has one inter-change station at Nachu station.

"The President will also use the occasion to launch the Inland Container Depot which will be located around the 1,000 acres gazetted for the industrial park," he said. The main function is set for Mai Mahiu.

The project was set for completion in May with rail services expected to have commenced by June 1, according to both Kenya Railways and CCCC.



A railway motor trolley on the Nairobi–Suswa SGR project on March 19 /**FAITH MUTEGI**

"By July we were supposed to be handing over but now the plans have been affected by land issues" Jasper Liu, assistant manager-public relations and cooperation department at CCCC had said earlier.

To date a total amount of Sh17.6 billion has been spent on compensation, through the National Lands Commission.

Acting managing director Philip Mainga had assured Kenyans that they would begin enjoying train services both passenger and freight from Mombasa to Mai – Mahiu from June 1, 2019.

Meanwhile, the Maasai community has moved to court to oppose the planned dry port.

Narok East MP Ken Aramat has said there are over 10,000 families that would be affected by the project, noting that the proposed 4,000 acres alternative land would not be enough.

"The case is being handled by the concerned government department as the affected families had been compensated by Kedong ranch with 4,000 acres," Mathioya said yesterday.

Aramat however said initially, Kedong had offered 12,000 acres but this was changed after the "interference of some senior government officers."

"It's true I do not agree with the 4,000 acres from Kedong as this will see tens of families living around the gazetted land locked out," he said.

Traders along the line are however optimistic the project will open up business opportunities.

"We have seen the number of companies seeking office space in this town rise and this will mean more job opportunities, need for houses and food," said James Mugo, a Mai Mahiu based trader.

Nahashon Ole Kipenchu from Suswa said: "Already we have seen more commercial buildings coming up and once the SGR train is operational we shall definitely see more business opportunities."

Plans for Phase 2B (Duka Moja-Kisumu) hit a snag in April after the government failed to secure the much needed Sh368 billion for the project.

Instead, the state has opted to upgrade the old Mete- Gauge Railway to connect the dry port to Kisumu, mainly for transit cargo into the hinterlands.

THE DATA

103.77

The indicative value of the shilling to the dollar

The shilling was stable against the dollar on Monday with inflows from offshore investors buying government debt and tightening liquidity in the local money market helping meet dollar demand

FINANCIAL MARKET

FOREX EXCHANGE RATES

Currency	Buy	Sell	Mean
US DOLLAR	103.6678	103.8678	103.7678
STG POUND	131.2628	131.5450	131.4039
EURO	114.6356	114.8861	114.7608
CHINESE YUAN	14.5990	14.6354	14.6172
KES / USHS	35.5741	35.7392	35.6566
KES / TSHS	22.0954	22.2345	22.1649
AE DIRHAM	28.2204	28.2803	28.2504
SA RAND	6.9870	7.0030	6.9950
IND RUPEE	1.4603	1.4635	1.4619
JPY (100)	95.6257	95.8367	95.7312

NSE BIGGEST WINNERS

	Price	Change (%)
UNGA GROUP	34.50	9.35
EXPRESS	7.10	9.23
SCANGROUP	14.50	7.41
LONGHORN	7.20	7.14
HAOME AFRIKA	0.49	6.52

NSE BIGGEST LOSERS

	Price	Change (%)
UCHUMI	0.27	6.90
CARBACID	7.10	6.58
KQ	2.57	6.20
STANDARD	26.05	4.40
KENYA POWER	2.95	4.22

Harvard Business Review

TIP OF THE DAY

WHAT NOT TO SAY WHEN AN EMPLOYEE MAKES A MISTAKE

When one of your employees makes a mistake, what do you say? You might feel frustrated or angry, and ask something like "What were you thinking?" or "What went wrong?" But those kinds of past–focused questions only reinforce the mistake and make the person feel defensive. Instead, ask a question that looks forward: "How will you do it differently next time?" Focusing on the future this way allows the person to acknowledge their mistake and demonstrate what they've learned. Additionally, it shows that you're confident in the person's abilities and gives you the chance to point out any problems in their thinking. Future–focused questions aren't easy to ask when your emotions are hot. Take a deep breath before speaking, and remember that your goal in this situation is to help the employee grow — not to make them feel worse than they already do.

BUYOUT

National Cement winds up ARM takeover, to retain employees

Devki Group plans to resuscitate ARM's ailing manufacturing plants within the next one week



VICTOR AMADALA
@ItsAmadala



Athi River Mining plant on October 14 /**DOUGLAS OKIDDY**

Devki Group yesterday took over the cash strapped Athi River Mining Plc which was put under administration in August last year by some of its creditors over $190 million (Sh19.3 billion).

Speaking during the handover ceremony, Devki Group chairman, Nerandra Raval said 1,100 employees of the embattled firm which has since been suspended from trading at the Nairobi Securities Exchange will be retained by the new operator, National Cement Company.

Raval said the decision to retain all affected staff was deliberately anchored in Devki Group's resolve to protect their livelihoods and support job creation.

The company has continued to play a significant role in boosting the country's manufacturing output and support affordable housing drive by reducing cost of construction materials.

"We are happy to inform you today that we have been able to complete the ARM acquisition and cleared all the transaction cost amounting to Sh5 billion to the PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PwC)," Raval said.

The steel billionaire acquired ARM at $50 million and plans to invest $36 million (Sh3.7 billion) to modernize the production plants it has acquired. The transaction applies to ARM Cement's Kenyan assets only.

ARM, which was previously controlled by the wealthy Paunrana family, started crumbling over heavy debt after an investment in its Tanzanian business failed to generate a return in the face of stiff competition from Dangote Cement and Heilderberg's Tanzania Portland Cement Company.

In October, the creditors of ARM Cement, once the country's second-largest cement maker, approved the sale of a subsidiary or assets to reduce its debt.

The company has seen its market share plunge to just 10 per cent after the clinker plant it built in Tanzania in 2014 failed to generate income.

ARM has been unable to recover from losses which started in the first half of 2015. In December, Oman's Raysut Cement said it planned to acquire ARM Cement as part of its expansion plans.

The final takeover is coming 10 days after the Competition Authority of Kenya (CAK) gave a nod for the transaction.

The Authority has asked the receiving firm to retain 95 per cent or 1,054 of 1,100 ARM Cement (Under administration) employees.

Raval said the new development underscores Devki Group's commitment in the production of quality and affordable steel and cement to spur development in the construction industry and job creation.



Devki group chairman Narendra /**DOUGLAS OKIDDY**

"Increased supply of construction materials like steel and cement in the market will significantly reduce prices and overall construction costs to make it easier for more Kenyans to own homes," he said.

ARM operations in Kenya include a clinker and cement grinding plants in Kaloleni and Athi River.

(+) INVESTORS SHOW VERY KEEN INTEREST

National Cement Company Ltd beat Oman's Raysut Cement to secure the acquisition of Athi River Mining's cement and non–cement assets in Kenya valued at Sh5 billion.
In December, the Oman–based firm had made a sh10.2 billion bid to acquire 70 per cent of the struggling cement manufacturer as part of its expansion plans into the East and Central African markets.
A month earlier, Nigeria's Dangote was approached about a potential transaction by ARM advisers.

THE DATA

19.3BN

Amount in Kenya shillings

ARM owed about $190 million (Sh19 billion) to a range of creditors, including African Finance Corporation, Stanbic Bank as well as Standard Bank Ltd

IMPEDIMENTS

Duplication of laws, standards killing enterprises — UN

MARTIN MWITA / Duplicate standards and regulations across different state agencies are stifling businesses and investments in the country, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has warned.

The UN specialized agency that promotes industrial development yesterday called for harmonization of standards and regulations, both in the private sector and government, to ensure the cost of doing business remains low.

According to UNIDO, the private sector has for long suffered from regulations and standards that are similar across the 'numerous' state agencies, where costs such as licensing and inspection fees are payable.

This has continued to 'punish' business and the private sector at large, the agency notes.

''Government needs to have regulations and standards that address the real problem not just over regulating, it needs to address only the problem, we don't want laws to become roadblocks we want laws that are facilitative,'' said Andrew Edewa, UNIDO standards expert.

He spoke during the World Standards Day(2019) celebrations in Nairobi.

According to the UN, there are laws in the health department, trade, industry among other state organs that are duplicated, adding pressure to the private sector.

These add to B2B standards which when all put together, continue to stifle businesses.

DEBT REPAYMENT

HF Group pays back Sh3bn bond

The firm sold more homes in 8 months compared to the last 2 years

ELIZABETH KIVUVA / Housing Finance Limited has announced full repayment of a Sh3 billion corporate bond which was issued to investors in 2012, over improved liquidity from high house supply.

The seven-year tenor bond which matured on October 14 was first listed on November 14, 2012 at the Nairobi Securities Exchange at a coupon of 13 per cent.

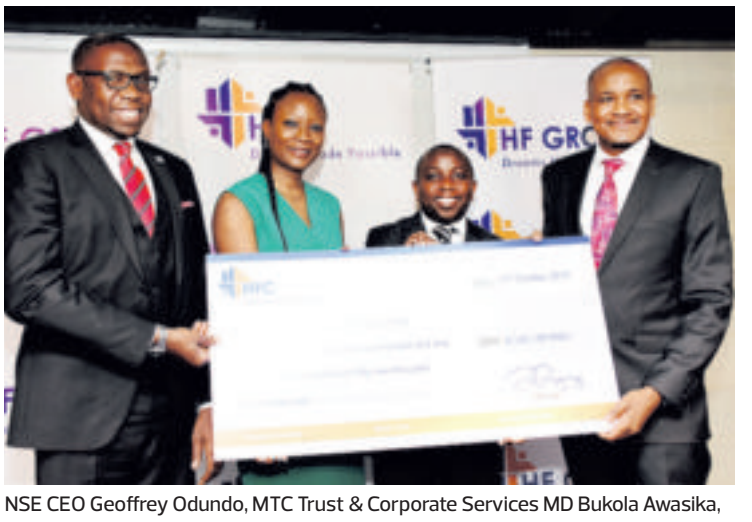
It was issued as public corporate debt to tap into long term funds from the market and investors for housing.

The mortgage finance company listed as HF Group hoped to prompt the market to issue mortgage-backed securities, using its mortgage loan book as the underlying assets. "We are pleased to announce the full redemption of tranche II of the seven-year Medium Term Note and are satisfied with the returns generated for our investors," Group CEO Robert Kibaara said.

In August, the firm is said to have reduced house prices and auctioned customer houses worth more than Sh1.5 billion to relieve its increased non-performing loans portfolio due to distressed real estate sector.

The firm is said to have targeted about 54 standalone houses and apartments in Nairobi and its environs.

"We have sold more houses in the last eight months than the previous two years combined," he said.



NSE CEO Geoffrey Odundo, MTC Trust & Corporate Services MD Bukola Awasika, Co–op Bank head of custody and registrar services Eden Kaberere and HF Group CEO Robert Kibaara /**COURTESY**

NEWS WORLD



2011 REVOLUTION REVIVED



Tunisian presidential candidate Kais Saied reacts after exit poll results were announced in a second round runoff of the presidential election in Tunis, Tunisia, on Sunday /REUTERS

Law professor new Tunisian President

Two exit polls published shortly after voting ended on Sunday showed Saied winning more than 70% of vote

REUTERS / Supporters of retired law professor Kais Saied celebrated into Monday morning after exit polls indicated he won Tunisia's presidential election, a victory they hailed as a revival of the 2011 revolution that brought democracy.

Saied's opponent, the media mogul Nabil Karoui who spent much of the election campaign period in detention, could launch an appeal if he loses.

Big crowds waving Tunisian flags and chanting many of the old songs and slogans from the 2011 uprising filled the central Habib Bourguiba Avenue until the early hours of Monday.

"What I have done is a new revolution," Saied told a separate crowd of supporters gathering at his home in the Mnihla district on the outskirts of Tunis. "I tell Tunisians that you have impressed the world."

Saied's victory, if confirmed by the official results, is a sharp rebuke to a governing elite that has failed to halt a decline in living standards since the revolution, or to weed out pervasive corruption, nepotism and cronyism.

A political outsider backed by both leftists and Islamists, Saied spent virtually nothing on his campaign but has called for remaking Tunisian politics by introducing an experimental form of direct democracy.

Two separate exit polls published shortly after voting ended on Sunday showed Saied winning more than 70 per cent of the electorate and with a turnout of about 60 per cent.

The polls indicated that he won more than 3 million votes.

The number is the highest in any recent election—far more than the number who elected his predecessor, Caid Beji Essebsi, who died in July, and even more than the total number of voters in last week's parliamentary election.

BLESSING

Pope mistakenly Tweets support for US 'Saints' football team, it goes on to win

REUTERS/ Some saints wear halos, other saints wear helmets.

The Vatican employees who manage Pope Francis' official Twitter account in English confused the two on Sunday when Tweeting about five new saints he canonised in St Peter's Square.

"Today we give thanks to the Lord for our new #Saints. They walked by faith and now we invoke their intercession," the Tweet read. The hashtag #Saints used by the Vatican on the pope's English account, however, had the Fleur-de-lis after it, which is the one used by an American football team, the New Orleans Saints.

The New Orleans Saints have 1.5 million Twitter followers and Pope Francis has about 1.8 million on his English account alone.

So the Tweet went viral as thousands of US football fans reacted, with many New Orleans Saints fans jokingly giving thanks for the perceived blessing. "Praise the Lord and pass the football," one said.

For the record, the Saints, those from New Orleans, beat the Jacksonville Jaguars 13-6 on Sunday.

PRAISE THE LORD AND PASS THE FOOTBALL

ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

BAMBA

CHANNEL 3

KISS

TELEVISION

LATEST JAMZ

TRENDY TOPICS



Afterburn 9PM

Live on Blast 5PM

#keepitkiss

VOICES



Mvita MP Abdulswamad Nassir (C), CDF officials and county commissioner issue a bursary dummy cheque to students from public schools in Mombasa county at Alidina Visram School
/COURTESY

LETTERS

Send your views to **letters@the-star.co.ke**

State did admirable job managing ferry tragedy information

The untimely demise of the Mariam Kighenda and her daughter Amanda Mutheu at the Likoni channel was one of the most painful experiences witnessed in the country. But, for the first time, Kenyans were treated to a properly coordinated communication as the recovery process began. Public Relations during crisis demands that a single chain of command is established. The Office of the Government Spokesperson delivered on this effectively. Kenyans have been treated to very uncontrolled communication by the government in the past where anyone would address the media without taking into consideration the principles of public relations and crisis management. The tragedy provided a new frontier on government communication. This is how it's supposed to be done. The government took charge until the mission was accomplished. Cyrus Oguna single-handedly controlled information that was being released to the public, even the county government and all other agencies could not speak or release official information to the media. PR simply means keeping a mutual relationship with stakeholders by telling the truth on matters that affect them. At some point, Kenyans and the media reported disappointment when the vehicle could not be retrieved. From the communication on the tragedy, we learn that during a crisis, its key for a single chain of command to be established to coordinate information. Secondly, agencies must learn to communicate precisely, factually and only when necessary. PR experts must also advise their superiors on managing stakeholders' expectations as well as relaying the truth in an organised manner. The government deserves some praise for this.

CHRISTOPHER OKINDA
Nairobi

Kipchoge taught us that limits go as far as we set them

Indisputably, no human is limited. Eliud Kipchoge's Ineos 1:59 challenge reminds us that we should race against the targets we set for ourselves amid our vision and life mission. Hence, we should not be drawn away by the noise around us. The main reason why most people don't succeed in life is that they err to acknowledge themselves. Kipchoge's testimony enlists the league of Former US president Barrack Obama who said 'yes we can ' and our very own Hollywood star Lupita Nyon'go who said that 'all dreams are valid'.

EDWIN KARIUKI
Mombasa

Mombasa shabby with Mashujaa Day around the corner

This year, Mashujaa Day will be marked at Mama Ngina Waterfront in Mombasa. Buildings, ferry vessels and all other visible vessels on our sea and all kinds of structures should be spruced up with a new coat of paint. Mombasa has been honoured to host this year's Mashujaa Day celebrations in the spirit of devolution. It is the first time the county is hosting such a magnificent event. Residents should be appreciative, jovial and happy to host this year's occasion. It is a rare occurrence, it could take over 46 years to happen in Mombasa if all counties host it. Heaps of garbage are still evident in many streets just days to the big festival. The ferry vessels crossing the Likoni channel are still an eyesore with rusty structures. They should be repainted and repaired to make them presentable.

JUSTIN N NKARANGA
Mombasa

Involve men in war on GBV to reduce worrying numbers

Gender-based violence is one of the most persistent violations of human rights across the globe. According to the World Health Organization, about a third of women worldwide have experienced violence though few people report or go public. Gender violence ranges from verbal to emotional, physical and sexual abuse. Impacts of gender violence not only result in divorce and separation but also infection of sexually transmitted infections as in the case of sexual abuse. Children who experience physical fights between parents develop low self-esteem that affects their academic performance. Research also shows that children in families where gender violence is rife develop rebellious characters. Inadequate sensitisation on the dangers of gender violence also contributes the rising cases. Kenya is a signatory to various international protocols that aim to protect women from any form of gender violence. These include the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as the Maputo Protocol. Locally, Kenya also has the Sexual Offences Act. To free all—men and women—from gender and other forms of violence, we must implement these covenants and policies. Awareness of the dangers of harmful cultural practices will reduce gender violence at an early age. Kenya has witnessed increasing cases of gender violence especially in marriage and relationships, most of them resulting in death. Couples are advised to seek professional help when the relationship becomes rocky to avoid such cases. Access to information and services, the involvement of men in the campaign against sexual violence will reduce cases of gender sexual violence.

PURITY NTHIANA
Naya Kenya, Nairobi

VOX POP

COMPILED BY **EUTYCAS MUCHIRI**

Do you think Eliud Kipchoge should run for president?



No: He shouldn't venture into the murky waters of politics and ruin his good image and name. He should instead engage in charitable activities like Tegla Loroupe.

JOSEPH MBAU
Nyeri



No: Athletic prowess doesn't necessarily translate to good leadership qualities. He should focus on nurturing sports talents among the young people.

HASSAN KAHORO
Nyeri



No: His career is in sports and not politics and he should, therefore, stick to it. Let him not follow in the footsteps of McDonald Mariga.

STEVE WACHIRA
Nyeri



No: He should stick to his lane. He has a very good career in athletics and upcoming athletes are looking up to people like him to help them grow their talents and the sport.

RACHEL WAHU
Nyeri

★ WORD IS...

WORDIS@THE-STAR.CO.KE

SOCIALBYTE

WITH ELIZABETH MUSYIMI
@TheStarKenya



Reality TV star Ella Ciru says her ignorance cost her a baby. Speaking on Nairobi D, she said she was pregnant but did not know up until two months in.

"I was on birth control. My man and I were living our best life and there was an injection that did not work," she said.

"Though I do not blame the doctors that gave me the injection. I blame myself. I was not consistent." She said it was hard controlling herself from drinking alcohol, even after she found out she was expectant.

"Every time I drunk a shot, I just wanted to puke, and I trust me, I can handle my liquor. When I found out I was pregnant, I couldn't give up alcohol just like that. I started drinking wine and I got the courage to tell my boyfriend and we were happy about it," she said. Previously, she trended after her naughty tape went viral.

Harmonize exit upset WCB, says Queen Darleen



Queen Darleen /COURTESY

ELIZABETH MUSYIMI/ WCB's first lady Queen Darleen says Harmonize's exit from the label was like a betrayal.

The 'Kijuso' singer told Tanzania's SnS that she misses "nothing" from him.

"Life still goes on. Let's not talk about that person. Let's leave him. When someone disappoints you, you need to stay away from him. Right now, I don't know anything about his life," she said.

Harmonize has now formed his own label, called KondeGang.

Darleen was amazed that Diamond and Tanasha's son was born on the exact date as Diamond. She says unlike reports, the birth date was not faked.

"It is God who planned. She gave birth at 10 months, I personally gave birth to my child at 11 months. These things happen. If there was social media at the time, people would say I am bewitched," she said.

For more Word Is stories scan the QR code above.

NYASHINKI SONG PAYS TRIBUTE TO KIPCHOGE



Nyashinski /COURTESY

ELIZABETH MUSYIMI/ Eliud Kipchoge's prowess, determination and zeal is an inspiration to many, including top Kenyan R&B and hip hop sensation Nyashinski.

Months ago, Nyashinski released an audio single titled 'Marathon Runner', with an ode to Eliud Kipchoge and retired marathon runner Kipchoge Keino.

"When I wrote 'Marathon Runner', I wanted Kenyans to be proud of who they are. To stop living just basic like we don't have greatness," he said in a video released by his management.

"The inspiration was from the greatness of Eliud Kipchoge's career. That's why I wrote that song for the sake of Kenyan pride. I wanted people to feel proud of our country. I wanted people to not give up."

Adding that, "We thank God for you."

The chorus, in particular, goes, "Kipchoge, keep jogging", and Kenyans across the world have been using this song in particular as "the unofficial soundtrack to the Eliud Kipchoge #INEOS159 challenge", as seen used by some media houses and especially on social media platforms.

The song, which was released in March, is what many Kenyans are listening to in this proud moment. It is currently holding over 1.5 million views on YouTube.

Another Kenyan artiste, Kanji Mbugua, has also released a heartwarming song for the legend, called 'EliudKipchoge (Ineos159)'.

He wrote, "Eliud Kipchoge represents the best of Kenya and the best of humanity! He challenges us to be the best versions of ourselves! This is my tribute to the greatest marathon runner of all time!"

'WHEN I WROTE 'MARATHON RUNNER', I WANTED KENYANS TO BE PROUD OF WHO THEY ARE. TO STOP LIVING JUST BASIC LIKE WE DON'T HAVE GREATNESS'

Andrew Kibe admits being battered by woman

ELIZABETH MUSYIMI/ Kiss 100 presenter Andrew Kibe says men who are being battered by women aren't speaking up enough.

He opened up about his own experience. "There was a time I was with this chick and we were having a heated argument," he said.

"Please note at this time, we were just using our mouths. She says she wants to go sit in the car. I tell her to chill for the story to be over then we leave. She tries to grab the keys from my pocket and I tell her to chill, and now she tries to forcefully get the keys from my pocket, and I hold her hand, telling her to chill.



"This chick grabs a shoe and throws it at me. I go in for the grab again and tell her to relax. She took a bite at my chest. I have a mark till today and it happened years ago," he said on Monday morning.

He went on to explain why men aren't believed when they expose women who physically abuse them.

"But the story is this, all that was not seen but my reaction to the bite. The man in this country is under siege and he cannot speak of himself being battered. It does not matter how much I complain and no one is going to listen to me. Nobody believed me because I sounded like a crazy person," he said.

"This is something that goes on because I know friends who go through the same. And to make it worse, there are worse stories but they cannot come out. It hurts more because if she screams, you are the one who is inflicting pain in the woman."

VOICES

EDITORIAL

Enforce directive letting trucks ferry SGR cargo

Transport CS James Macharia has announced twice that the order blocking truckers from ferrying cargo from Mombasa Port has been suspended.

The announcement followed concerns about job losses in long–haul transport because the sector employs thousands of people directly and indirectly. The impact the decision would have on struggling households would be financially and socially devastating.

The government must weigh the lives of needy Kenyans against the financial targets of the SGR behemoth that has been declining, hence, the order on mandatory SGR hauling.

Even with Macharia'sassurances, truckers and traders have refused to relent. They want the 'illegal' order rescinded, not suspended and say their access to the port is still limited. They demonstrate weekly in Mombasa.

The government must translate words into action, ensure truckers can enter and scrap that order. Failure to act will reinforce the perception that bureaucrats are insincere.

What other conclusions could be drawn from denial of free access? Reassurances ring hollow.

Kenya is a capitalist state where unfettered competition is the hallmark of supply and demand for goods and services.

The government must allow customers to decide how they want their cargo transported from Mombasa. The competition from which SGR is being shielded is the surest way to test its viability.

HISTORICAL QUOTE

"Behind every great fortune there is a crime."

MARIO PUZO
The American novelist (*The Godfather*) was born on October 15, 1920.

THE STAR

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COMMENT



OLIVER MWENDA
Lawyer and communications specialist

There is merit in indoctrinating media, communications executives in the training of students. The lessons from work experience remain a vital ingredient in shaping a student for the marketplace



REINVENT JOURNALISM TRAINING

The media industry has long enjoyed a stellar reputation of independence, professionalism and integrity. No one can question the central role the industry has played in shaping the country's political and socioeconomic landscape.

We owe it to ourselves as professionals in the industry, whether in the private sector, NGO or in government, to critically introspect and evaluate the quality of students joining the profession. We cannot sit back and fail to question the philosophy underpinning the training offered in institutions of learning. We cannot fail to critique or offer ideas on how we can better this profession that is under threat from technology and changing patterns of media consumption.

The media industry model has evolved, compelling the industry to completely do away with the traditional notion of how we define a journalist or communications profession. The implications go far and wide. Journalist and communications practitioners are now required to be competent in delivering news on digital, print and electronic media.

Take, for example, the rise of vernacular–TV and radio stations. The ability to articulate and write news in your mother tongue is now a marketable skill in today's newsrooms. But has this been indoctrinated in the syllabus? Your guess is as good as mine

Every day, media houses' executives ponder on ways to launch new revenue–generating business models to sustain the industry. Boardroom executives asks themselves just how their media houses can hold on to viewers, readers and listeners in the face of debilitating competition from content creators and social media?

Journalism and communications, in my opinion, long ceased to be a civic duty driven profession. Under the current business climate, one cannot afford to be singularly focused on a solitary craft. The ability of a professional to be competent across multimedia platforms places a media house, and by extension journalists, at an advantage. This is because advertisers, who generate the most revenue for media houses, are now exploring creative ways to get their messages to targeted demographics. Sponsorships, online advertising, product placements and online viral campaigns are increasingly important for media buys.

Sadly, this has ushered the death of specialisation as media houses and corporates now demand more from journalists and communications professionals. No longer are you entirely a print media journalist focused on business or political stories, the field now requires you to be equally competent in delivering news either through radio, TV or social media channels.

We are in the age of content and information sharing. The audiences are now consuming information in so many different ways. You are more likely to come across breaking news first through the social media before it finds itself in mainstream media. This means more people are turning to the Internet for news and entertainment. For media houses to compete, they must evolve with the trend by ensuring that they provide rich content and employ the use of multimedia adequately.

IN MY OBSERVATION, THERE SEEMS TO BE HAPHAZARD DICHOTOMY BETWEEN THE ACADEMIA AND THE MEDIA INDUSTRY

There is merit in indoctrinating media and communications executives in the training and teaching of students. I have absolute respect for the integrity and competence of my colleagues in the academia. While I do not seek to denigrate them in any way, the lessons from work experience, especially the 'industry streets', remain a vital ingredient in shaping a student for the marketplace compared to theoretical knowledge. The six or three months' industrial attachment in workplaces isn't just enough for students to develop the experience to meet market expectation.

In my observation, there seems to be haphazard dichotomy between the academia and the media industry. The media and communications industry is a world on its own; while the education institutions remain entirely on their own. There needs to be a proper conversation to find a solution to this.

I find it ideal to urge the industry to consider post–graduate professional training much like what lawyers go through at the Kenya School of Law. It is time for a fundamental pivot.

Steve Westly
I have to agree with Trump that the #NobelPeacePrize is rigged against him. I mean as long as they give it to people working toward peace, he just doesn't have a real shot. Congrats to a real leader, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed!.

VOICES



COMMENT

ALEX O AWITI
Vice Provost of Aga Khan University

The Nobel Peace Prize focusses attention on unfinished work of peace in the horn of Africa

PM ABIY MUST DO MORE FOR PEACE

Ethiopia's Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn stunned the world when he announced his resignation in February 2018. He cited the unrest and political crisis that had led to the loss of lives. What surprised many was his assertion that his resignation would be part of the solution.

Ethiopia's ethnically charged politics had been difficult for Desalegn to navigate after taking over following the death of Meles Zenawi. Desalegn's time in office was marred by a sordid, unrelenting wave of anti-government protests abated only briefly by a 10-month state of emergency.

At the heart of the Oromo and Amhara unrest is their resentment of minority Tigrayan's domination of politics, government, business and the military. Together, the Oromos and the Amharas comprise about two-thirds of the Ethiopian population. The Tigrayans constitute just six per cent of the population.

Abiy Ahmed was appointed by the ruling Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front coalition to succeed Desalegn. Since his appointment in April 2018, Abiy has loosened the stranglehold on state security and the press enjoys greater freedom. An estimated 6,000 political prisoners have been released. Political parties have been unbanned.

Just two months into his administration, Abiy signed a historic peace deal with neighbouring Eritrea, which seceded from Ethiopia in 1993. The agreement saw the resumption of cross border trade and tens of thousands of families and friends were reunited.

More importantly, Prime Minister Abiy pledged to withdraw Ethiopian forces from disputed territories, a concession that would cause Zenawi to turn in his grave.

While Abiy's bold and unprecedented changes have made him popular across Africa and the world, they have also ignited a wave of unrest and ethnic or regional nationalism, which was hitherto repressed by the intolerant and autocratic regime under Zenawi and Desalegn.

The world has been watching Abiy. Aga Khan University, in collaboration with Harvard Kennedy School, used Abiy's example as a case study in the Transformative Leadership for 21st Century Africa programme in September. The Norwegian Nobel Committee was also watching.

A total of 223 individuals and 78 organisations were nominated for the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize. I might say that all the smart money was on Greta Thunberg, the 16-year old student and climate activist. Greta Thunberg has galvanised a historic intergenerational social movement for climate action.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee decided to award the Nobel Prize for 2019 to Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ali Ahmed. Abiy was honoured for "his efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation, and in particular, his decisive initiative to resolve the border conflict with neighbouring Eritrea".

The peace Abiy brokered with Eritrea is not complete. The disputed territories remain under Ethiopian administration. Moreover, the liberalising reforms exposed Ethiopia's ethnic fissures, resulting in violence that has displaced millions of people.

The Nobel Peace Prize is not a recognition of accomplishment. It focusses attention on the unfinished work of peace in the horn of Africa.

Scan this QR code using your smartphone to see more opinion columns on the Star website.



COMMENT

PAWAN KUMAR MARELLA
Marketing director, Unilever

Today is Global Handwashing Day. Give a high five to a person next to you—it transcends all barriers of language and culture. It's a sign of celebration and of clean confident hands. It's a way of life



MAKING HANDWASHING A WAY OF LIFE

Every 23 seconds a child dies from either pneumonia or diarrhoea worldwide.

So, what do we do? We know that access to safe water, adequate sanitation, and proper hygiene education – or WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) – can reduce illness and death and have an impact on poverty reduction and socio-economic development. The simple act of handwashing, for example, is the single most cost-effective way of stopping child deaths.

It can reduce incidences of pneumonia by 23 percent and diarrhoea by up to 45 percent. When more people use soap regularly and have access to proper sanitation, the impact on health is significant. In fact, if everyone followed ideal handwashing habits – washing with soap before eating and after using the toilet – each person would require approximately 20 bars of soap every year. However, consumption levels are far below this with 1.5 billion people using less than eight bars of soap per year – this clearly shows the magnitude of the task facing the world in terms of driving the WASH agenda.

While progress is being made on the WASH agenda with two of the Sustainable Development Goals clearly calling this out (SDG3 – Good Health and Hygiene, and SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation) more needs to be done. To address this challenge, we need the private sector, the public sector, the social sector and the community to come together stronger than ever before to create a brighter future for our children.

Towards this end, a game-changing approach is in empowering young people to drive change. The power of young people in driving change across the world across many issues is well known. They want to be part of something meaningful and have an impact.

For themselves, for their community and the world. Their connectedness, their collaboration and their sense of community are what's going to make a big difference. In Kenya, Unilever's Lifebuoy has been partnering with the HEROES4CHANGE programme to drive large-scale handwashing education programmes harnessing the untapped power of good of young university students. These young people have high social capital in their communities and are known for being passionate about creating lasting social impact.

The project works off this insight and is a social-mobilisation model, leveraging the power of young people, engaging them through digital social platforms such as WhatsApp, Twitter and Facebook to train them and then getting them to deploy handwashing behaviour change programmes across Kenya.

The first phase of this programme was deployed in 2017, with 100 young heroes reaching more than 100,000 children. Following its success, in 2019, 500 heroes were recruited and reached 700,000 children, teaching them the life-saving habit of handwashing.

The success of this programme has inspired organisations such as Safaricom and digital behaviour change platforms such as U-AFYA (a DfID and Unilever-funded partnership) to join the model. As more partners join, its scale and impact in driving handwashing behaviour change will increase drastically.

IF EVERYONE WASHED WITH SOAP BEFORE EATING AND AFTER USING THE TOILET, EACH PERSON WOULD REQUIRE ABOUT 20 BARS OF SOAP EVERY YEAR. NOW 1.5BN PEOPLE USE 8 BARS OF SOAP A YEAR

Another aspect of this journey is to constantly raise awareness of the importance of handwashing with soap to prevent disease. A major event to do this is the Global Handwashing Day that is celebrated every year on October 15.

Across the world, 200 million people take part in celebrating GHD in more than 100 countries. Lifebuoy is a founding partner of the Global Handwashing Partnership, which has supported GHD from its outset. Lifebuoy has been celebrating GHD in Kenya for some years now and we commit once more to the cause of helping every child reach the age of five and to do what it takes with our partners to move faster and with greater impact on this journey.

Globally, Lifebuoy has reached more than one billion people through handwashing programmes and TV reach and today, we celebrate this achievement.

As we go forward together on this journey, we inspire each one of you today, on Global Handwashing Day, to give a high five to a person next to you to celebrate GHD – a High5 transcends all barriers of language and culture. It's a sign of celebration – and most importantly, a sign of clean confident hands. It's a way of life.

★ SOCIETY

SOCIETY@THE-STAR.CO.KE

CITY LAWYER HOLDS COLOURFUL WEDDING

Prominent city lawyer **John Juma** had a colourful wedding last Saturday. Juma tied the knot to **Nancy Omiti** at Safari Park Hotel.

They have been together for the last 15 years. Present were their two sons **Fidel Juma** and **Trevor Akide** and daughter **Kendra Milan**.

"This is finally the culmination of my dream to marry the love of my life," the bride Nancy Omiti told the Star.

Guests included Devolution CS **Eugene Wamalwa**, Law Society of Kenya vice president **Harriette Chiggai** and Nairobi lawyer **Ashitiva Mandale**.

Juma is a practising advocate, certified public secretary and trustee at Lap Trust, representing LSK.











1. The newlyweds and their friends **2.** Devolution CS Eugene Wamalwa with the couple **3.** Hussein Mwidani, Brian Otieno and lawyer John Juma **4.** The wedding cake **5.** The bridal party and Juma's mother-in-law Rose Omite (in yellow) **6.** The bride arrives **7.** Juma and wife Nancy Omiti /WILFRED NYANGARESI

(+) LUXURY WEDDING SHOWCASE DAZZLES GUESTS AT RADISSON BLU

Every bride wants to look beautiful, dazzling and make a lasting impression on her special day.

The luxury wedding showcase brought this to reality by organising a fancy and affordable wedding setup, showcasing East Africa's finest wedding artisans on Saturday at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Upper Hill, Nairobi.

The event was an interactive experience, featuring local and international luxury brands such as Jaguar, Johnny Walker blue label and Magana flowers. It also provided tips of all you need to know about weddings, beauty, style and great taste.

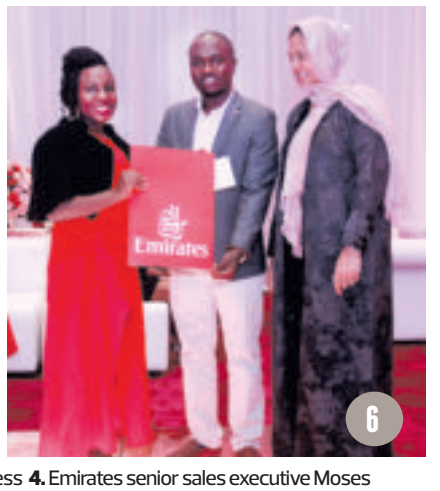
The evening ended in style with a couple winning two Emirates business class tickets to Dubai and four nights at the Radisson Deira Creek and a dinner Dhow Cruise.











1. Travel Port service manager Onesmus Kamau and advocate Wanjiru Gaitho **2.** Ogake Mosomo with models in Ogake bridal gowns **3.** Diana Njoki models in a bridal wedding dress **4.** Emirates senior sales executive Moses Omusamiah, engineer Tabitha and Willis Kabora **5.** Couple George Njugi and Mary George pose in front of a wedding cake **6.** Emirates grand price winner Carole Njoki with Omusamiah and Zuleikha /WILFRED NYANGARESI



PHOTOSTORY

Indiscriminate waste disposal by garbage collectors along Juja Road, Nairobi, yesterday . The county government has been unable to address the garbage menace in the city / WILFRED NYANGARESI

TO INCREASE INCOME

City Hall to spend Sh9 billion on revenue collection automation

County collected Sh10.17bn in the last financial year against a targeted of Sh15.21bn



MAUREEN KINYANJUI
@TheStarKenya

The county administration will spend Sh9 billion to automate its debt collection mechanism and procure a new revenue management system.

In the new plan, which is meant to increase the county's own source revenue collection, all subcounty revenue offices will be automated.

The system will act as the core application to automate the county's business processes.

It will cover revenue management, procurement, citizen services and specialised departmental functions.

City Hall plans to integrate the new system with other applications such as its web portal, IFMIS, e-payment, citizen relationship management system and business intelligence.

Currently in its first phase, the system will be hosted by the county's integrated city management system.

The proposals are contained in the County Annual Development Plan for the financial year 2020-21, which is the government's blueprint.

It was prepared by suspended Finance and Economic Planning executive Charles Kerich.

When fully implemented, the county government will have three new revenue streams and be able to effectively conduct feasibility studies on revenue streams' potential.

"The county also plans to formulate new county revenue policy that will be in operation by 2021 at a cost of Sh9 million," the plan reads.

For its revenue awareness campaign, City Hall will spend a Sh32.4 million for 108 adverts annually.

In addition, Sh25 million will be spent to purchase 1,000 revenue points of sale machines to boost revenue collection from small shops and stalls in the county.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The county also plans to formulate a new revenue policy that will be in operation by 2021

A revenue mapping exercise across the capital city will cost Sh1 million.

More measures to improve revenue collection include the enactment of appropriate laws for collections and enforcements and prompt billing of payers. A creditors' database will also be created for timely follow up on defaulters.

City Hall has been experiencing dwindling local revenue returns from its 136 revenue streams.

The county collected only Sh10.17 billion in the financial year ending June 30 against a target of Sh15.21 billion.

This was a slight improvement from the Sh10.1 billion for 2017-18.

In the financial year ending June 30, 2017 the county government recorded Sh10.93 as own source revenue.



Amos Samaradi in court on Friday /CLAUSE MASIKA

CLAIMS BANKRUPTCY

Man in court over Sh10,000 hotel bill

CLAUSE MASIKA / The three men entered Jacaranda Hotel, Nairobi, at noon on October 8. Amos Samaradi had promised to treat his two friends to lunch.

They chose a table, perused the menu and ordered food soon after. Then they had drinks and cigarettes.

Later, Samaradi asked to swim at the hotel's pool. He was told it would cost him another Sh1,000, and he agreed to pay.

But after swimming until 6pm, he told the hotel supervisor Elly Okayo that he was unable to pay the Sh10,000 bill because he was bankrupt.

He became rude and arrogant to the hotel management and was arrested and booked at the Parklands Police Station. His friends were let go because he had committed to paying the bill.

On Friday, he was charged at a Kibera court for obtaining credit by false pretences. He pleaded guilty to the charges before Kibera senior resident magistrate Boaz Ombewa.

Hotel supervisor Okayo and another witness Geoffrey Muinde told police about the events leading up to Samaradi's arrest. "They enjoyed [themselves] a lot in our facility but Samaradi was the one to pay for the rest declined to do so," Okayo told the police in court documents.

"The accused person is a fast time offender, he has no other criminal records," the prosecution said. Samaradi said that the bill was to be paid as a team.

He said that he was ready to pay the bill and asked to be forgiven.

Ombewa directed that Samaradi be remanded at Parklands Police Station and a probation report on the same be filed in court.

The matter will be mentioned on October 16.

COUNTIES CENTRAL



PHOTO STORY

Mount Kenya University VC Stanley Waudo hands booklets to MKU registrar Ronald Maathai as council vice chairman Vincent Gaitho (C) and other council members look on at Thika main campus yesterday. The university seeks to raise the bar of exam integrity and has launched biometric registration for exams and lectures /COURTESY

FOOD SECURITY

Kiambu farmers to get free seeds, extension services

Deputy Governor Nyoro says county had budgeted Sh20 million for project

JOHN KAMAU
@TheStarKenya

Farmers in Kiambu county will receive free seeds and extension services from the county government during this planting season.

Deputy Governor James Nyoro said the county had budgeted Sh20 million for the project.

Nyoro spoke on Saturday at Waruhiu farm in Ngewa ward, Githunguri subcounty, during a farmers' field day. He said apart from the free seeds, farmers will also receive crucial technical advice from experts to boost their yields.

"We will give our farmers quality seeds because we are committed to enhancing self-sustainability in terms of food security in Kiambu county as well as complementing the national government's Big Four agenda," Nyoro said.

Nyoro said to improve farm productivity, the county had rolled the Village-Based Advisors Programme, under which experts will be sent to all villages to educate farmers on better farming practices.

"The experts have already been deployed to some parts of the county including Gatundu North and Gatundu South subcounties," he said.

"Our aim is to help farmers reap maximum yields from their farms. This will go a long way in ensuring that our farmers have enough food for consumption and for sale and therefore make earnings from their farming."

TRAINING CENTRE

The deputy governor said the county government had already deployed 12 vehicles in all the 12 subcounties for the purpose.

Nyoro said Kiambu assembly did not allocate funds to agriculture and called on MCAs to pass a supplementary budget for the sector.

"We will allocate the sector Sh300 million to boost agriculture in Kiambu. It is the backbone of our county's economy. In the near future we want to be allocating agriculture 10 percent of out county budget," he said.

"We expect the percentage to rise to 12 once we combine with funding from our development partners."

Nyoro said the county's development partners include Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa, World Bank through NARGI project, Agricultural Sector Development Support Programme, FAO, the Qatar government and the Danish International Development Agency (Danida).

Agriculture executive Joseph Kamau said the county will allocate funds to Waruhiu farm, which will be a training centre for farmers. The farm sits on 55 acres. He said a dairy farm, poultry and pigs units will be put up at the farm to facilitate training.

"We're also planning to rejuvenate the farm's coffee section which occupies 15 acres by hiring farm managers and purchasing all crucial inputs so that we can use it to impart the necessary knowledge and skills of coffee farming to our farmers."

'OUR AIM IS TO HELP FARMERS REAP MAXIMUM YIELDS'

LOW RETURNS

Don't uproot tea plants, state to relieve your plight, MP Mugambi urges farmers

EUTYCAS MUCHIRI/ Othaya tea farmers have been urged to tend their crops as the government look into the problems bedevilling the sector.

Area MP Gichuki Mugambi yesterday sought to assure residents that all will be well and pleaded with them not to uproot their tea shrubs. Some farmers had opted to plant other crops because of low returns. They complained that tea pickers make more money than they do. Of the Sh15 they earn per month per kilo, pickers take home Sh12. Farmers get only Sh3, despite having provided inputs and catered for other needs.

Mugambi said Agriculture CS Mwangi Kiunjuri and his Trade counterpart Peter Munya will with officials from the Kenya Tea Development Agency so they relieve the farmers' plight.



Casual labourers on a tea farm at Iriaini Primary School in Othaya, Nyeri county, yesterday /EUTYCAS MUCHIRI

UPGRADE

Othaya Medical College to offer nursing, clinical medicine

EUTYCAS MUCHIRI/ Othaya Medical College plans to introduce nursing and clinical medicine courses.

The institution is housed at DECECE teachers College in Othaya and currently offers one course in medical records and information management.

Othaya MP Gichuki Mugambi on Monday said the national government is, meanwhile, looking for land to build a campus of the Kenya Medical Training College.

"We're negotiating with Dedan Kimathi University with a view of entering into an MoU so we can start a substantive medical school at the hospital," he said.

KIBRA POLL

Stop chaos during elections, Kiharu MP Nyoro tells ODM

ALICE WAITHERA/ Kiharu MP Ndindi Nyoro has sought an assurance from ODM that it will uphold peace in future general elections.

He said it was despicable that McDonald Mariga, the Jubilee candidate in Kibra, had his convoy attacked and some vehicles pelted with stones. "We also saw them threaten to hold demonstrations against the IEBC claiming there are plans to rig the election," the MP said.

ODM leaders had accused Jubilee of stage-managing the attack to blame on their candidate, Imran Okoth, so Mariga can attract sympathy votes.



Thika MP Patrick Wainaina and new Thika Lands registrar Anthony Mwandime on Friday /JOHN KAMAU

THIKA REGISTRY

Staff shortage blamed for slow land services

JOHN KAMAU/ The Thika Lands Registry's shortage of staff is to blame for service delays that have led to public outrage, a lawmaker has said.

Residents had made a noise that they have a hard time accessing vital services, including land searches.

On Friday, MP Patrick Wainaina visited the offices following numerous complaints. He was accompanied by outgoing registrar Benard Leitich and his successor Anthony Mwandime.

"The pressing issues are delays in the issuance of land searches. Locals are claiming the searches are taking more than a month, instead of two days. I've established this to be true and it's all because there's a shortage of workers at the registry," Wainaina said.

A resident told the Star on condition of anonymity that corruption is rife in the offices and is perpetrated by brokers who roam around. "If you part with money not less than Sh1,500, you will get your search within hours or a day, but if you decline to give a bribe, you will wait for the search for more than a month," he said.

Leitich, however, dismissed the claim saying proper measures have been put in place to ward off brokers.

The registry currently has 20 workers, instead of 35, hence the backlog. Wainaina said thousands of residents are suffering because of slow service delivery. The registry serves residents of Thika, Juja, Gatundu and some parts of Murang'a and Machakos counties. "I will raise this matter with the Lands ministry so we can get the requisite help. Land issues are so emotive in this region."

COUNTIES COAST

WEEKLY

Tourism gets boost as charter flights resume

CHARLES MGHENYI/ Kenya's tourism sector got a boost over the weekend with the arrival of a Polish charter flight with 189 passengers on board.

Kenya Coast Tourism Association chairperson Victor Shitakha said the flight to Mombasa by Rainbow Tours will be weekly.

Shitakha, who is also the Flamingo by PrideInn general manager, said the Polish carrier will double the weekly flights from January next year.

Speaking to the press after receiving the tourists at Moi International Airport Mombasa on Saturday night, Shitakha said they are optimistic the region will perform better this year.

"It is very exciting to see the number of international tourists increase by the day. This charter flight will be bringing in about 200 tourists to Mombasa every week. From January, the weekly flights will bring in about 400 tourists," he said.

The plane landed in Mombasa at 11:06pm. The guests have been booked in different hotels in the North and the South Coast.

According to the Kenya Tourism Board, arrivals from Poland have been on an upward trend with 15,163 visitors last year up from 11,947 in 2017 translating to a 26.9 per cent growth.

In 2016, the national government launched a Sh1.2 billion two-and-a-half-year Charter Incentives Programme (CIP) package, which led to a growth of tourism numbers.

With its extension to 2020 last November, more charter operators will resume flights to the Coast for the winter season 2019-20 (October 2019 to March 2020).

Rainbow Tours was the first to land in Mombasa for this season.

Other charter flights that have already confirmed operations to Mombasa are Italy's Blue Panorama that will be coming once every week and Germany's Condor with four flights a week.

Others are TUI Poland with a weekly flight and Neos Charter of Italy, coming three times a week.

Air Italy is also expected to resume flights to Mombasa as from October 28.

As a result of joint marketing initiatives involving Destination Kenya–the partnering airline–and the tour operator or travel agents' consortia, Kenya hopes to continue receiving proposals for more charter flights.

According to data from government, international arrivals from July to September closed at 591,996, compared to the same period last year which posted 587,385 (0.8 per cent growth). Arrivals through the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport closed at 420,770, growing by 4.8 per cent from 401,533 in 2018-19.



Some of the 189 Polish tourists who arrived at the Moi International Airport in Mombasa /**CHARLES MGHENYI**

'REVOKE DIRECTIVE'

SGR haulage protesters to boycott Mashujaa Day

They threaten to march to State House, Mombasa, for their sixth weekly protest; they want directive revoked, not suspended



Mombasa civil society groups and transporters protest the directive to have all cargo transported on the SGR /**JOHN CHESOLI**

CHARLES MGHENYI
@TheStarKenya

The government may have withdrawn its directive to exclusively use the SGR to haul cargo from the Port of Mombasa on mandatory

Truckers, civil society organisations and traders in Mombasa have pledged to march to State House next Monday to protest the government directive on compulsory haulage of all portcargo via the SGR.

The government announced on October 3 that the directive had been suspended protesters from the Fast Action Business Community said they will continue to demonstrate until the directive is withdrawn.

They say they still cannot access the Port of Mombasa.

Protesters said the directive was illegal and should, therefore, be rescinded. They said the order will kill thousands of jobs of long-distance truck drivers, CFS staff and others.

"You cannot suspend illegality. We want the directive to be rescinded altogether. On Monday, we will meet at Treasury Square and march to State House Mombasa," FABC chairman Salim Karama said.

It would be the sixth weekly demonstration by the FABC, but it might never happen because of the heavy police presence when President Uhuru Kenyatta is in Mombasa.

The President will be at the Coast for the Mashujaa Day fete on October 20held at the just refurbished Sh460 million Mama Ngina Waterfront Park.

On October 18, he is expected to meet with Coast leaders over the SGR stand-off, but FABC says they were involved in planning that meeting.

It has pledged not to attend the Mashujaa Day fete and plans a rival paralley rally at Tononka Grounds.

"On Wednesday, our team will inspect Tononoka Grounds ahead of our rally on Mashujaa Day. We will boycott the Presidential function at Mama Ngina," Karama said.

During the rally, he said, they will pray for the souls of Mariam Kighenda and her four-year-old daughter Amanda Mutheu who are died when their car plunged off a Likoni Ferry on September 29.

It took government agencies and Kenya Navy 13 days to retrieve the vehicle and the bodies. "Apart from protesting against SGR, we will be remembering our sister Mariam who died at Likoni."

The FABC – which is made up of Kenya Transporters Association, Kenya Long Distance Drivers Union, Muslims for Human Rights, Haki Africa, Dock Workers Union and the employees of Container Freight Stations – yesterday participated in the fifth weekly demonstration.

Last week on Monday, about 13 members of the community were arrested after police officers manning the Nyali Bridge roadblock blocked their access to the CBD. They were, however, released and asked to report to the police station on Tuesday.

Yesterday, the demonstrators changed tack and began their protest from Buxton area using Ronald Ngala Road, connecting with Jomo Kenyatta Avenue before going to Mombasa CBD along Digo Road and then to Moi Avenue.

The three-hour protest was not disrupted by the police officers who were following them closely. They were joined by Mvita MP Abdulswamad Nassir along Digo Road.

However, Nassir kept off the Mashujaa Day topic and the planned march to State House.

TWO-WEEK STRIKE

MCA wants victims of Taveta health workers' strike paid

SOLOMON MUINGI / An MCA has vowed to move to court to compel Taita Taveta county government to compensate families whose relatives died during the health workers strike.

Nominated MCA Christopher Mwambingu said unconfirmed reports have indicated that more than 30 people died during the two-week strike. He cited negligence by the health department, noting that the strike could have been averted.

"The government should learn to protect lives by streamlining its systems. How could simple issues of payment and deductions end up in a more than 10-day strike?"

The workers went on strike a fortnight ago citing delayed salaries, non-remittance of statutory deductions and delayed promotions.

Mwambingu referred to a case of one patient who died after being discharged due to the strike.

Jane Mbithi, 50, succumbed to high blood pressure moments after she was prematurely discharged from Taveta Hospital. The MCA said he was in the process of compiling the list of victims of the strike.

THE DATA

30

People reported to have died as a result of health workers' strike

Nominated MCA Christopher Mwambingu says the number is unconfirmed, could be higher.

PRIVATE CARS COMPETITION

Matatu operators praise police for restoring order

SHABAN OMAR / It sounds like a first: matatu operators and police on the same side.

Kwale matatu operators have commended the police authority for helping restore order in the transport sector and seizing private vehicles operating illegally to ferry passengers.

The new development comes a month after Public Service Vehicle workers protested against an increment in fares and 'unhealthy' competition brought about by private vehicles.

Speaking on Monday in Kwale town, Drivers and Conductors chief of security Suleiman Mwachoa said police have helped stabilise growth.

"The officers managed to fulfil their promise and this sector is now flourishing," he said.

Mwachoa said activities have resumed and business owners are achieving their daily targets.

COUNTIES EASTERN

JUST A WARD BY-ELECTION

MCA aspirants slam Kalonzo for playing 'village politics'

Wiper leaders says victory for any other party would hurt his 2022 bid

LINAH MUSANGI
@TheStarKenya

Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka has been accused of stooping too low and engaging in 'village politics' in the Mutongoni MCA by-election campaign.

At the weekend, the Wiper leader led a high-profile party delegation on a two-day campaign tour in Mutongoni, Kitui West, to campaign for Stephen Kithuka.

The Wiper leader was accompanied by new party chairman Chirau Mwakwere, Kitui Senator Enoch Wambua and MPs Makali Mulu (Kitui Sentral), Edith Nyenze (Kitui West), Charles Nguna (Mwingi West), Gideon Mulyungi (Mwingi Central) and Julius Mawathe (Embakasi South).

Members of the National Assembly who had accompanied their party boss formed teams to campaign for Kithuka in all corners of the ward.

Kalonzo said a win for any other party would hurt his 2022 presidential bid. "My supporters might start having doubts about our ability to compete in national politics if we fail to secure a ward by-election at home," Kalonzo said at a rally in Tulia market.

However, candidates seeking the seat accused Kalonzo of stooping too low to engage in village political fights that had no implications for his 2022 presidential bid.

Musee Mati of Maendeleo Chap Chap, Alex Nzau (Jubilee) and Mailu Mulonzya (independent) said they had always supported Kalonzo as a senior politician in Ukambani and were shocked that he was pitting them against each other.

"A ward by-election is too small for Kalonzo and as candidates, we should be allowed to square it off among ourselves," Mati said.

Mati said Wiper's heavy involvement indicates party leaders fear that their candidate, who came third in the last election, would lose again.

He argued that Wiper has a majority of MCAs in the Kitui county assembly and should not be worried about losing the seat.

Aspirant Nzau said Kalonzo needs the support of all Kambas in 2022 regardless of the parties they belong to. He said getting involved in ward campaigns will undermine Kalonzo's national standing. "If the former VP was assisting in a constituency by-election, it would be understandable," the candidate said.

The by-election for the Mutongoni seat was announced after the Court of Appeal nullified Felix Mbevo's win. Mbevo ran on the Narc ticket. Narc leader Kitui Governor Charity Ngilu declined to put forward any candidate, saying she will work with whoever wins. Mbevo is not defending the seat.

The petition arose after Kitui West constituency returning officer James Mbai erroneously awarded the MCA election certificate to the wrong candidate — Mbevo.

Efforts by IEBC officials to revoke the election certificate a day after the poll results were announced were thwarted when Mbevo obtained a court injunction, triggering a series of suits and appeals.

The returning officer testified that upon realising his mistakes, he immediately wrote to Mbevo directing that he surrender the election certificate as it was incorrectly awarded to him.



Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka is received by students of the new KMTC in Tseikuru, Mwingi /DENNIS KAVISU

ILL-INTENDED?

Clerics, politicians reject bill on harambees licensing

REUBEN GITHINJI/ Clerics, politicians and activists in Embu have rejected a bill seeking to force organisers of harambees to acquire licences.

The Public Fundraiser Appeals Bill, 2019, sponsored by Ndaragwa MP Jeremiah Kioni at the National Assembly, states no person or organisation will be allowed to solicit funds from the public without a licence.

Mbeere ACK Diocese's Bishop Moses Masamba, his Bungoma counterpart George Wafula, National Independent Church of Africa's Bishop Njeru Nyaga, former senator aspirant Joshua Kanake and civil society leader Wawira Njue on Sunday termed the bill "ill-intended".

Mbeere North MP Muriuki Njagagua said if passed, the bill would create unnecessary bureaucracy against harambees. He said people should be allowed to raise funds without unnecessary limitations or undue interference.

Masamba and Wafula said fund drives were started by founding President Jomo Kenyatta with the aim of pooling funds to reduce poverty and help build schools.

"MPs should push the government to arrest those who are known to be corrupt and jail them," Mechumo said.

Bishop Nyaga said most harambees help raise funds for medical expenses and school fees. "If this bill is passed, poor people who are the major beneficiaries of fund drives, will be punished," Nyaga said. He said the bill appears to be targeting certain politicians who generously contribute cash in fund drives.

THOUSANDS DISPLACED

Administrator, MP lock horns over killings by herders in Kitui

MUSEMBI NZENGU/ Kitui East MP Nimrod Mbai and county commissioner John Odengo have clashed over killings by camel herders.

Mbai said on Sunday that Odengo has failed to guarantee the security of residents in Kitui East and adjacent areas. The MP said armed camel herders had been attacking, hurting and killing residents.

But the county commissioner dismissed the claim, saying the county security committee had restored security in the affected areas. Odengo said on Sunday that Somali camel herders who caused mayhem and bloodshed have been pushed out of Kitui.

He said the MP appeared to have an unexplained personal grudge and immense hatred towards him.

Mbai, who spoke in Kitui town, demanded the removal of Odengo from the county. He accused Odengo of being unsympathetic to the people killed and families that have been left homeless.

But Odengo said if the MP thought he was the cause of insecurity, he is free to approach his bosses to remove him instead of going to the media.

SUBSIDISED PRICES

Kicotec to make sacco uniforms in new deal

MUSEMBI NZENGU/ A PSV sacco has struck a deal with Governor Charity Ngilu to have members' attire made by the Kitui County Textile Centre.

Kitui Nairobi Transport Welfare Association Sacco (Kinatwa) chairman Clinton Wambua told journalists in Kitui on Sunday that the arrangement makes economic sense and will help them save money.

"My members welcome the move by Ngilu to agree that our sacco will acquire staff uniforms and other apparels at subsidised prices. It will be good for business because of the huge savings we will make," the Kinatwa sacco chairman said.

He said Ngilu on Saturday met the sacco members at a Kitui hotel and invited them to do business with the county government-owned Kicotec.

"Henceforth, all our staff uniforms and dustcoats will be sourced from Kicotec. It is cost effective with the huge discounts we negotiated. It is also a way of helping to nurture the local economy," Wambua said.

The chairman said the sacco membership will support Governor Ngilu's agenda for Kitui and create wealth.

A dispatch from the governor's communication desk indicated that during the meeting with Kinatwa members, Ngilu urged members to focus on the bigger picture and available opportunities.

The governor said her administration had availed a conducive business environment and many opportunities that had not been fully exploited by local entrepreneurs. She cited the County Empowerment Fund.

"This financial year we have proposed the County Empowerment Fund and once approved by our county assembly, all saccos and businesspeople should come together and access loans at as little as five per cent interest," Ngilu said.



Kitui Governor Charity Ngilu on Saturday /MUSEMBI NZENGU

COUNTIES NORTHEASTERN

FLOODS HIT COUNTY

Heavy rain in Mandera ruins roads, kills animals

National Drought Management Authority says county has received above normal rainfall; likely to continue until December



STEPHEN ASTARIKO
@TheStarKenya

Transport has been disrupted for the past two weeks following heavy rain in Mandera and neighbouring Ethiopia.

Sections of all weather roads have been cut off by flash floods. The Mandera-Moyale-Nairobi road is impassable.

In Mandera West, bridges have been washed away making it impossible for buses to ferry passengers from the region to other counties.

The chairman of the Mandera buses association Mohamed Bardad decried the poor roads in the region.

"We have stopped traveling to Nairobi because the roads are completely impassable. The heavy rainfall has cut off sections of the road and we cannot connect to either side. We will wait until it subsides, " Bardad said.

The National Drought Management Authority has said the county has received above normal rainfall.

NDMA drought coordinator Hussein Alio said the region has lost livestock due to cold-related diseases.

Gither MCA Rashid Mohamed said over 1,000 goats have succumbed to the downpour.

Farmers along River Daua flowing from the Ethiopian highlands have lost their crops to floods as the river has broken its banks spreading to over three kilometers.

Meteorological officer Otin Dipo warned the rains will likely increase from the third week of October to December.

Dipo in a briefing to journalists in Mandera town asked residents to move to higher ground to avoid drowning. Takaba Town MCA Bishar Abdullahi lamented the destruction caused by the flooded river.

(+) IT'S A DISASTER, COMMISSIONER SAYS

Mandera West deputy county commissioner Kipkoech Labatt said the situation was disastrous. "The situation is not good in Mandera West but we are hoping a reduction of downpour in Ethiopia will calm our situation," he said.



A bus operator on the Mandera-Nairobi route tries to free his vehicle from mud in Takaba. Flash floods have washed away the road and bridges /STEPHEN ASTARIKO



PUNGUZA MIZIGO

Shoot down Aukot's Bill, Garissa leaders tell MCAs

STEPHEN ASTARIKO/Leaders from Garissa county have vowed to reject the Punguza Mizigo Bill and promised to support the Building Bridges Initiative.

MCAs last month promised to pass the Bill when they met its sponsor, Thirdway Alliance party leader Ekuru Aukot.

Speaking in Sankuri town on Monday during a development tour, the leaders said they had gone through the proposals and found out that Punguza Mizigo does not address the issues affecting residents.

Governor Ali Korane said they were eagerly waiting for the recommendations of the BBI task force, having given their views.

He said the reason for supporting the BBI was that their recommendations were based on President Kenyatta's Big Four agenda.

Balambala MP Omar Shurie said there was no single good thing in Aukot's Bill. The leaders said they will sit down with assembly members and implore to them to shoot it down, he said.

"From where I sit, this is not a Bill that should be discussed in the first place. Our good brothers and sisters from the assembly should just shoot this Bill down and focus their energies on more important things," he said.

Garissa Governor Ali Korane in Sakuri ward, Balambala subcounty /STEPHEN ASTARIKO

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COUNTIES WESTERN

SH5.8BN KOCHOLIA MULTI-PURPOSE DAM

Shun politicians inciting you against projects, Busia residents told

EMOJONG OSERE/Busia residents have been urged to shun politicians who incite them against development projects.

Water executive Isaac Alukwe and county director for trans-boundary water resources Gladys Wekesa on Friday said leaders inciting residents against megaprojects were anti-development and should be rejected.

They spoke during the presentation of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) report for Kocholia Multi-Purpose Dam project at Hotel Levantes in Teso North.

"The Sh5.8 billion Kocholia Multi-Purpose Dam will supply water to residents of both Teso North and Teso South subcounties. It will irrigate 3,000 acres of land and also have the component of hydroelectric power, fisheries, livestock and roads," Wekesa said.

The dam will have a capacity of 43.3 million cubic metres with a proposed height of 34 metres. It will produce 1,091 kilowatts of hydroelectric power with some 500,000 Busia residents expected to benefit by 2044.

The project is financed by Korean Exim Bank and the African Development Bank (AfDB) in partnership with both Busia county and the national governments.

Wekesa said stakeholders opted to undertake the ESIA before a feasibility study and detailed design in order to look into social and environmental implications of the project as part of the requirements by the Korean donor.

Alukwe said Teso region will also benefit from the Sh4.3 billion Ang'ololo Dam project that will be shared with Uganda.

"When I took over as CEC, the department was very hostile. The governor contributed immensely to have the two NELSAP projects come to the county and residents need to give them their full backing," Alukwe said.



Busia Water executive Isaac Alukwe in Teso North on Friday **/EMOJONG OSERE**



Kakamega county assembly **/FILE**

REFERENDUM QUEST

Governors cleared to collect Ugatuzi Initiative signatures

Chairman Oparanya says referendum bid gets IEBC green light, exercise to start soon

KNA
@TheStarKenya

Governors have been cleared to start collecting signatures for amending the Constitution under the Ugatuzi Initiative.

Council of Governors chairman Wycliffe Oparanya on Saturday said the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission had given the council the green light to collect signatures for a referendum.

The Kakamega governor said county chiefs have resolved to come up with their own constitutional amendment bill to strengthen devolution.

The Constitution requires that in order to propose an amendment by a popular initiative, the move must be backed by at least one million signatures.

"We are soon going to embark on the signature collection exercise," Oparanya said.

He spoke at Malinya Stadium in Ikolomani constituency during the burial ceremony of Adelaide Khalwale. Adelaide was the wife of former Kakamega Senator Boni Khalwale.

Bids to amend the Constitution have been proposed by politicians from various parties including the Punguza Mizigo Bill that is under discussion in the county assemblies.

Tens of county assemblies have already rejected the bill sponsored by the Thirdway Alliance Party.

Oparanya said that governors, being the chief executive officers of the counties, were fully conversant with constitutional pitfalls of devolution, hence were in a better position to propose amendments that will strengthen devolution.

The Building Bridges Initiative birthed by the March 9, 2018 handshake between President Uhuru Kenyatta and Opposition chief Raila Odinga is also expected to recommend changes to the Constitution.

The team has finalised its report which is expected to be submitted to the President anytime now. BBI chairman Yusuf Haji and vice-chairman Adams Oloo led the 14-member task force in countrywide tours to collect public views.

(+) CoG PROPOSAL CALLS FOR PM POST

The Ugatuzi Initiative launched by governors last month wants the structure of the Executive expanded to include a Prime Minister. "The council supports a national executive comprising of the President as Head of State, Deputy President, Prime Minister as Head of Government and two Deputy Prime Ministers," Council og Governors chairman Wycliffe Oparanya said after a meeting of the county chiefs in Nairobi. A part from ensuring counties get more funds, governors are also pushing for a system in which MP are appointed as ministers and assistant ministers.

TO END POACHING

Stop building of new cane weighbridges, union demands

MAURICE ALAL/Kenya Union of Sugar Plantation and Allied Workers has demanded an immediate stop to the putting up of new weighbridges within the jurisdiction of the state–owned millers.

The union's secretary general Francis Wangara on Monday said the putting up of weighbridges by private millers in the areas owned by public companies was to blame for the troubles facing the millers.

In April, the union got court orders compelling county governments where of cane–growing areas not to license the erection of new weighbridges.

Wangara said the orders must be adhered to failing which the union will sue for contempt of court. Erection of weighbridges in jurisdictions of state millers contributes to cane poaching, Wangara said.

"The cane shortage occasioned by poaching of growers has crippled Mumias which is now struggling under receivership," Wangara said.

The unionist said both private and state millers must respect the law.

He said Kericho county's decision to allow Kibos and West Kenya millers to put weighbridges was hurting Muhoroni Sugar Company. Muhoroni had started to operate but is experiencing cane shortage.

"It was wrong for the county government of Kericho to issue Kibos and West Kenya with permits to put up weighbridges yet they were served with court orders."



AFTER FIRE INCIDENT

Family appeals to MP Wanjala for help to build a house

GILBERT OCHIENG'/A Budalang'i family whose house was gutted by fire has appealed to area MP Raphael Wanjala to help them build a new one. Lillian Kajaju's house was burnt two years ago in Sisenye of Choyi village in Bunyala North.

The mother of two says she has been living with the family in a makeshift shanty since the incident of November 2017. Kajaju on Sunday told the Star her husband has not been able to construct a new house. He is a fisherman.

"Lack of resources forced us to put up a shanty using the leaking iron sheets that were destroyed by the fire. We appeal to our MP Wanjala to come to our rescue and save us from the rains," Kajaju said.

COUNTIES NYANZA

NOT PAID FOR FOUR MONTHS

Kisumu health crisis persists as doctors and nurses boycott work over pay

The situation is bad and the lives of those due for operations left at risk



MAURICE ALAL
@alalmaurice

Patients continue to suffer in Kisumu public hospitals as unions and the county government trade blames over salary standoff and work boycott.

The county government says it honoured the salary obligations in a back-to-work agreement signed on September 26, but the workers' unions maintain that is not the situation.

The workers have been on strike for three weeks over salary arrears. Nurses, in particular, have been on and off strikes since July.

Those who cannot afford treatment in private hospitals and clinics travel to Kakamega, Vihiga, Kericho and Siaya for healthcare.

Yesterday, the Star found only a few nurses attending to patients at the Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital.

There were no patients at Kisumu, Ahero, Pap Onditi, Kombewa and Muhoroni subcounty hospitals.

Health workers told the Star on condition of anonymity that the situation is bad and that the lives of those due for operations were at risk.

"People are dying in these facilities. The county leadership has turned a blind eye," one of the workers said.

Kenya Medical Practitioners, Pharmacists and Dentists Union says the health crisis will only end after the Anyang' Nyong'o-led government acts on its demands.

Its Nyanza branch chairman Kevin Osuri said Governor Nyong'o is yet to remit its 200 members' statutory deductions and loans to banks and saccos. "We've made it clear to Nyong'o that we are not negotiating on the salary issue. It must be paid," Osuri said.

The Kenya National Union of Nurses said yesterday through branch secretary Maurice Opetu, "We will only resume work after all our salaries and all deductions are remitted to banks."

Health and Sanitation executive Judith Attyang' maintained they have met all salary obligations.

"All workers must report to their working stations. Failure to do so will be treated as abscondment of duty and firmly dealt with in accordance with the law," she said in a letter copied to all unions.

An October 4 statement by KNUN, KMPDU and three other unions – CUCO, KNUMLO and UKCS – accused the county of not being committed to honouring their demands.

"As at now, there is no money in the workers' accounts. We, therefore, advise workers to stay away from their workplaces until all salaries are paid."

The county government signed an agreement with the unions to have all the dues and accrued deductions for the past three months paid by October 4.

County spokesperson Aloice Ager said yesterday, "All the dues have been paid. The workers should consult their banks."

KMPDU Kisumu secretary general Lameck Omweri said they had not been paid for four months. He asked members to keep away from public hospitals until they are paid.



Kisumu county health workers during a protest to demand payment of their salaries last month /FAITH MATETE

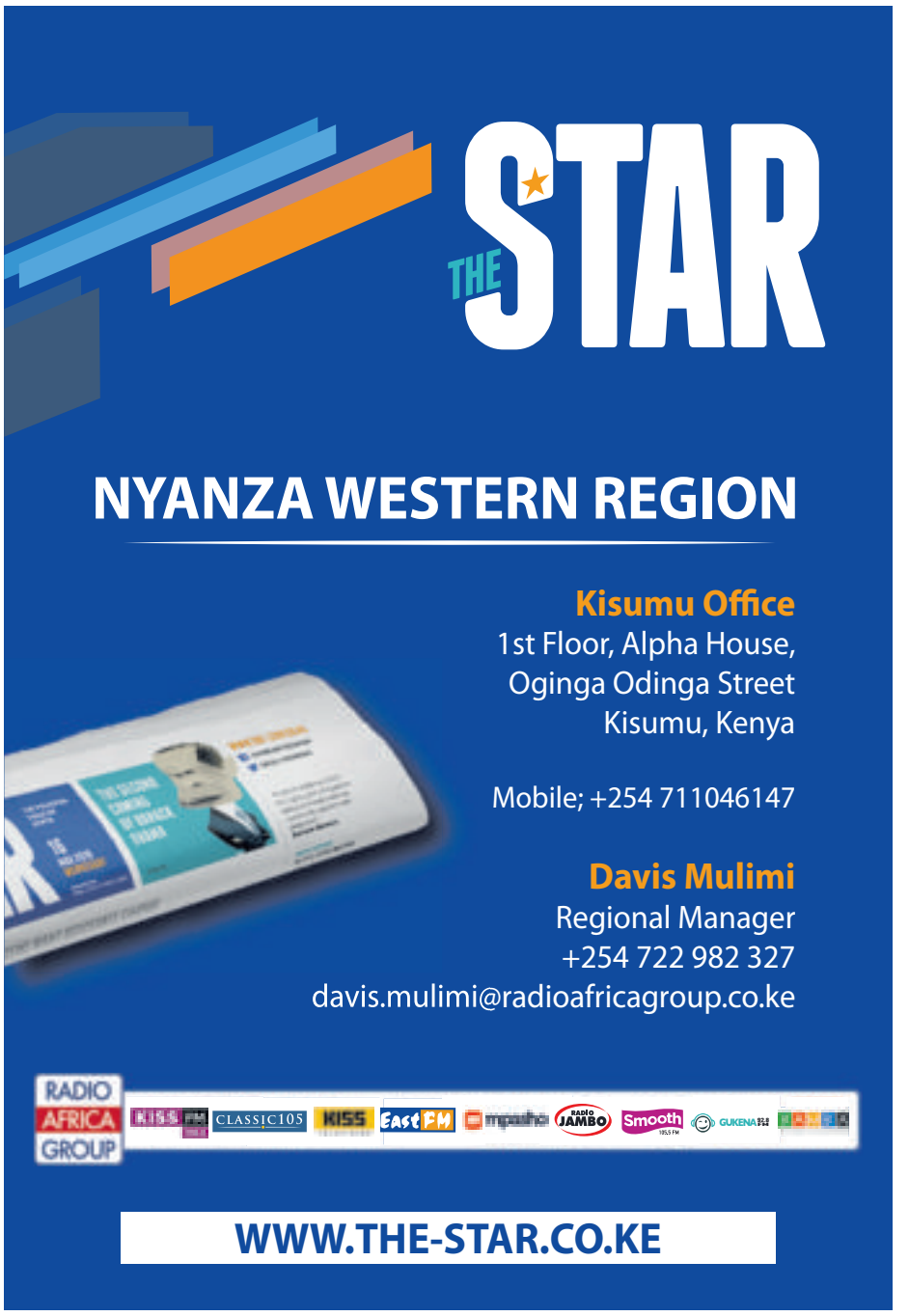
LOOKING AHEAD

25,000 Kisii youths to get technical skills

MAGATI OBEBO/ Some 25,000 youths in Kisii will be trained on various technical skills in a partnership between the county government and USAID.

"Youths will benefit from employment, coaching and mentoring, internship, loans and access to funding from various banking institutions among other benefits," United States Agency for International Development county project coordinator David Rotich said.

The trained youths will easily find jobs with the business community, contractors, the civil society, youth associations and training institutions, county secretary Patrick Lumumba. The trainers will be sourced from the National Industrial Training Authority and the Kenya Youth Employment Opportunities Project. "We are incorporating several private sector organisations and the business community in this project to improve employability," Lumumba said.



COUNTIES RIFT VALLEY



Pupils of Karicha Primary School /MARRYANN CHAI



A classroom at Kachemogen Primary School /MARRYANN CHAI

MARGINALISED

Don't close crumbling schools, West Pokot leaders urge state

Help fix them; 29 substandard and unsafe schools have been closed in the county



MARYANN CHAI
@TheStarKenya

West Pokot leaders have opposed the national government's closure of unsafe schools with poor infrastructure, saying it should swiftly fix schools.

Speaking to the Star yesterday, Senator Samuel Poghisio said the move will bar many children from education. He urged the government to set aside funds to swiftly improve infrastructure in the substandard schools.

He said public schools are managed by the national government and it's a national mandate to ensure schools are up to standard.

"The national government has done little to improve infrastructure in schools and it's in bad faith to close schools that parents and leaders have started. And yet it's their mandate to ensure students learn in conducive environments," Poghisio said.

He asked the government to increase allocation for building schools in marginalised counties since they were left behind for a long time and now parents have want education for their children.

He said education was not devolved and asked the national assembly to pass laws to improve infrastructure in registered schools.

"We should ensure that already registered schools have the required equipment and infrastructure before setting up others," he said.

However, the senator also well-wishers to help improve school infrastructure to enable many children to enroll. He said the county has high illiteracy levels and closing schools will worsen the situation.

The illiteracy rate in West Pokot is 67 per cent.

"The government should give us time to improve infrastructure in the affected schools instead of shutting them down," he said.

Twenty-nine schools have been closed in the county after and 31 have been issued with closure notices. This follows Education CS George Magoha's directive to close unsafe schools.

On Sept 23, part of Precious Talent Academy in Nairobi collapsed, killing eight pupils and causing a national outcry.

Sikom (Pokot word for coming together for a good cause) peace network programme manager Joseph Akaule asked the government to give marginalised counties time to set up permanent structures.

Akaule said, "Most marginalised counties are moving from cattle rustling to book rustling and it will demoralise many parents who had taken children to schools."

"We have seen a sharp increase in children enrolling in schools and government closure is denying the children their right to education," he said.

He asked the NG-CDF and county government to chip in and help set up improved infrastructure in crumbling schools.

SAMUEL POGHISIO

The national government has done little to improve infrastructure in schools and it's in bad faith to close schools that parents and leaders have started



Health CS Sicily Kariuki and Bomet Governor Hillary Barchok during the opening of a chemotherapy centre at Longisa Hospital in Bomet /FELIX KIPKEMOI

SOUTH RIFT

Bomet and Red Cross to set up disaster response centre

FELIX KIPKEMOI /Bomet county and the Kenya Red Cross will set up a disaster response centre for the South Rift Valley.

Governor Hillary Barchok said it will help in coordinating and controlling response in Bomet, Kericho and elsewhere. He said a committee looking into disaster response will hand over its report this week.

Barchok said the land has been set aside for the Red Cross to put up the centre. He spoke at Chemaner in Bomet East during a fundraiser for traders whose premises were destroyed by fire a month ago. "We have to be well-prepared...we do not want to be caught unawares," Barchok said.

The South Rift Disaster Response Centre will respond to fires, floods, drownings, need for ambulance services and other problems.

THE DATA

31

Schools issued with closure notices

Twenty-nine schools have been closed in West Pokot after. This follows Education CS George Magoha's directive to close unsafe schools.



NOT IDENTIFIED

MP Amisi sacks bursary workers over irregularities

NICHOLAS WAMALWA /Saboti MP Caleb Amisi (pictured) has sacked some staff whom he said had irregularly spent bursary funds.

He did not identify them or the amount of money allegedly lost.

"There were inconsistencies in bursaries and that is why, among other reasons, I have decided to relieve them of their duties," he said on Saturday.

The MP spoke during the burial of Alupina Munialo, mother of Trans Nzoia county chief officer for governance Pius Munialo. The burial was in Kaburetwa, Saboti constituency.

Some residents said the MP is firing staff for political reasons.

NAROK COURT

Three morans accused of defiling 13-year-old girl

KIPLANGAT KIRUI /Three morans have been charged in Narok with defiling a 13-year-old girl.

Court papers said that Julius Ashire, Moses Kankiriam and Tolimo Lesho defiled the girl on October 9 in Narok North subcounty.

They appeared before chief magistrate Wilbroda Juma

The court could not proceed with plea taking since the ages of the accused were in dispute.

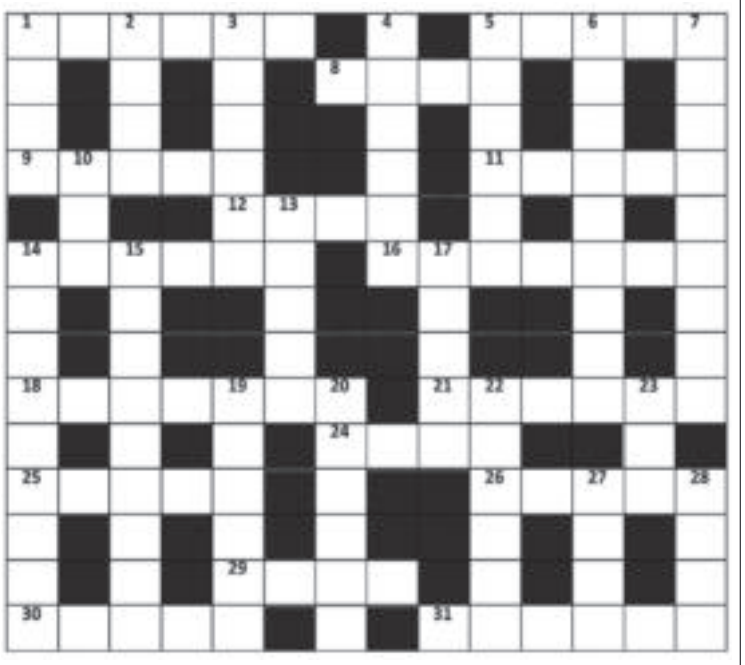
Ashire claimed to be 17 years old, Kankiriam 15 and Lesho 13.

Chief magistrate Juma ordered the three to be taken to Narok County Referral Hospital for age assessment.

Plea-taking is expected today.

COFFEE BREAK

CROSSWORD



DOWN

1. Chemical element with symbol Au (4)
2. Delineate (4)
3. Barrister (6)
4. Constituency in Nakuru county (6)
5. Constituency in Kisii county (6)
6. Prime minister of Mozambique (9)
7. Financial considerations (9)
10. Governor for Marsabit county (3)
13. Constituency in Kiambu county (5)
14. City on the firth of Forth (9)
15. Abnormal hairiness (9)
17. Sloping walkways (5)
19. Corpulent (6)
20. Constituency in Kiambu county (6)
22. Canton in Northern Switzerland (6)
23. Mount___, in North-eastern Australia (3)
27. Constituency in Tana River county (4)
28. Jot (4)

ACROSS

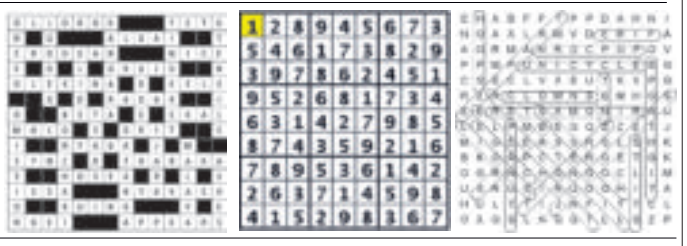
1. Constituency in Tana River county (6)
5. Clamp (5)
8. Constituency in Nakuru county (4)
9. President of Seychelles (5)
11. Illegal burning (5)
12. Prime Minister of Norway (4)
14. Constituency in Murang'a county (6)
16. Chemical element with symbol Ir (7)
18. Constituency in Homa Bay county (7)
21. Regional form of a language (6)
24. Former Governor for Lamu county (4)
25. Role player (5)
26. Constituency in Kilifi county (5)
29. Constituency in Kiambu county (4)
30. Delicious (5)
31. Constituency in Bungoma county (6)

SUDOKU / SIMPLE

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

Fill the grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the sub-grids that compose the grid all contain all of the numbers from 1 to 9 one time.

Yesterday's Solutions



WORD SEARCH

Find and mark all the words hidden inside the box. The words may be placed horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.

M	C	H	D	H	E	E	C	M	O	N	T	H
E	I	U	N	D	P	A	C	L	C	R	M	C
I	E	L	A	A	O	D	R	M	H	U	A	E
C	O	C	L	C	C	L	I	D	E	O	N	N
N	E	O	L	E	H	D	N	O	A	H	I	T
D	C	H	R	O	N	O	G	R	A	P	H	E
H	H	K	T	I	C	N	T	O	A	O	D	N
E	H	D	G	E	K	K	I	H	T	Y	N	N
D	R	H	H	S	T	E	T	U	A	G	O	I
I	T	A	G	D	A	U	E	D	M	L	C	A
L	A	I	D	N	U	S	N	W	K	O	E	L
H	C	T	A	W	C	I	E	I	E	T	S	O
L	E	O	S	R	A	E	Y	I	M	A	I	E

CENTENNIAL
CHRONOGRAPH
CLOCK
DAY
DECADE
EON
ERA
EPOCH
HOUR
MIDNIGHT
MILLENNIUM
MINUTE
MONTH
SECOND
SUNDIAL
WATCH
WEEK
YEAR

ALL IN THE STARS



LIBRA
September 24 – October 23

You may want to make changes that will not be to their liking. Family get-togethers will be interesting.

SCORPIO
October 24 – November 22

You can evade the issue as usual by being affectionate, fun loving, and far too active for your lover to catch on.

SAGITTARIUS
November 23 – December 21

You need an outlet that will not only stimulate you but also challenge your intelligence as well.

CAPRICORN
December 22 – January 20

Put a little extra effort in at work. If you join cultural groups, you should meet individuals who stimulate you.

AQUARIUS
January 21 – February 19

Keep a lookout for any individuals eager to confront you with unsavory situations. You will be emotional about money matters.

PISCES
February 20 – March 20

Be diplomatic but stem when it comes to giving of yourself. Look into career choices and courses being offered.

ARIES
March 21 – April 20

Stay out of other people's affairs. You can make profitable investments if you purchase an art object for your home.

TAURUS
April 21– May 21

You are best not to discuss your personal life with others. Don't be too quick to judge your position or surroundings at work.

GEMINI
May 22 – June 21

Avoid arguments with relatives who might be conservative and outdated. Don't let relatives make demands of you.

CANCER
June 22–July 22

Don't let others bait you into arguments. You need to interact with others if you want to expand your knowledge.

LEO
July 23 – August 22

Pleasure trips will bring you into contact with new and interesting people. You're likely to find a real bargain.

VIRGO
August 23 – September 23

You may jump from the frying pan into the fire if you make a move today. Keep your thoughts to yourself for the time being.



ODDLY ENOUGH



Typhoon Hagibis gives new wind to Philippine band

DAILY MAIL / For a four-decade-old Philippine disco band, the namesake supertyphoon bearing down on Japan has brought a sudden rush of interest in its macho act.

Known as the Philippines' "Village People", all-male band Hagibis has been going since 1979. While some members have changed over time, it has retained its act featuring tight black trousers, leather jackets, open shirts, shades, moustaches and suggestive dance moves.

"Hagibis is getting indirect publicity worldwide," said 61-year-old Jose Parsons Nabiula, who goes by his stage name Sonny Parsons and has been with the band since the start. "It reminded everybody of my group's existence... Some people are making fun of it, some people are very serious."

Typhoon Hagibis made landfall on Japan's main island of Honshu on Saturday and is the most powerful storm to hit the capital in six decades.

Google Trends showed that search interest had spiked this week in Hagibis the band as well as the typhoon. Hagibis means speed and strength in the Philippine language Tagalog.



Sonny Parsons (R), leader of Filipino boyband Hagibis, poses for a photo with fans at a fastfood restaurant in Manila, Philippines, on October 11, 2019 **/REUTERS**

★ STAR CLASSIFIED

TO PUT A FREE CLASSIFIED ADVERT IN THE STAR SIMPLY SEND AN SMS MESSAGE TO 22494 WITH THE FIRST WORD SAYING **FREE**

The star does not endorse the advertised product /service or its quality and value nor does the star endorse the appearance of or any of the claims made in the advertisement by the advertiser.
The star shall not be held liable for any claims, loss or liability that arises from the product/service and claims made in the advertisement

RHEMAT AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers, Court brokers, Repossessors, Private Investigators, Commission Agents & Debt Collectors.

Head office.Fangano street,Reli co-Op HSE, 4TH Floor, P.O Box 9484, Nairobi, Tel:0723-705-736,
Siaya Branch ,KNUT Building, Along Stadium Road, Siaya, Tel:0723-250-348

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from our principles/clients, we shall sell the undermentioned Property on **30th October 2019** in our office at **10.30am.**

LR.No.kiambu municipality block 5(kiamumbi)112 kamiti road ,Kiambu County.Registred in the name of John Njuguna Ngaruiya G/T Intertropical timber trading LTD. tenor is freehold.Measuring appro.(0.1030HA)or0.2545 acres. mains water and electricity are connected.Drainage is to septic tank

CONDITION OF SALE

1.All interested buyers are requested to view and verify the details for themselves, as these are not warranted by the auctioneers or the chargees.
2.Subject to reserve price, Land Control Board consent and other overriding interest where applicable.
3.Payment of **25%** deposit cash/bankers cheque at the fall of the hammer and balance within 30 days from the date of the auction.
4.Contact the auctioneers for further details if any.

HIGHCHECK AUCTIONEERS

New Jogoo House, 2nd Floor, Room 47
P.O. Box 7567 - 01000 THIKA ,
Email: murizandru@gmail.com
Cell: 0728 118512 / 0711 467753.

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from the Financiers,we shall sell by PUBLIC AUCTION the following properties on **Tuesday 29th October 2019** in our offices starting **10.00am**

1. All that parcel of land known as **Nyeri/Lusoi/2965**,measuring 0.103 Acres and registered in the name of Gatere John Nderitu,the property is of freehold interest from subdivision of Original **No.1512**.It is situated along Nyeri-Nanyuki road,14 Kms past road junction to Munyu at Karicheni,10 kms pas Ndiriti Pry Sch,Nyeri countyits rectangular shaped,with semi-permanent residential structures,electricity and water are readily available for connection,immeadiate access road is graded and laid with compacted hardcore.
2.All that parcel of land known as **Nyeri/Naromoru/3930** and registered in the name of Evan Muthee Munene,its of freehold interest from subdivision of original **No.1432**,it is situated 10.80Kms from Naromoru town,and 3Kms off Naromoru-Rongai-Munyu-Karicheni rd,and 2.5Kms South of Irigithathi shopping center &Shalom school,Nyeri county,it has a semipermanent structure and its square shaped with water and electricity readily available for connection,immeadiate access road is graded and laid with compacted hardcore.

CONDITIONS OF SALE

1.All interested bidders to view the property and verify the details for themselves as the se are not warranted by the Auctioneers or its Advocates.
2.Bidders should pay a refundable deposit of Kshs 40,000 to get a bidding number.

Giant Auctioneers

Auctioneers, Court Brokers, Bailiffs, Official Broker`s Investigators, Repossessors & Commission Agents
EMBU OFFICE: Uphill Hse, 1st Floor, Mama Ngina Street, P.o. Box 2211, Tel; 068-30526, Cell: 0722305599, EMBU. NYERI OFFICE: Sportsview building, 3rd Floor, Gakere Road, Tel: 0614011, Cell: 0723111131, NYERI. E MAIL ; giant auctioneers @ yahoo.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our Principals , we shall sell by public auction below mentioned properties.

1.ON WEDNESDAY 23RD OCTOBER 2019 AT 11:00AM OUTSIDE OUR EMBU OFFICE.
EMBU C.M.C.C. NO. 259 OF 2018.
WILSON KARANI MUNYU VERSUS JAMES MURITHI NJIRU.
Motor vehicle Registration No.**KAQ 942 Q**–CRV HONDA,fairly maintained.
2.ON MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2019 AT 11:00 AM OUTSIDE OUR EMBU OFFICE.
EMBU C.M.C.C NO 179 OF 2012
MOSES MUGENDI KITIAA VERSUS HARRIET KINYA MUKANGU
All that parcel of land known as **No.MBETI/GACHURIRI/1603** measuring approximately 0.81 Ha registered in the name of **HARRIET KINYA MUKANGU** situated within Embu County with all development thereon.

CONDITIONS OF SALE

1.Cash or Bankers Cheque at the fall of the hammer.
2.Deposit of **25%** be paid in cash or bankers cheque by the highest declared bidder and balance within **30 days** for lot no 2

SKYPAC CONSULT AUCTIONEERS

CONSOLIDATED BANK HOUSE,
KOINANGE STREET,
3RD FLOOR, ROOM 318, SUITE 323,
P.O BOX 21542-00100,
NAIROBI-KENYA
CELL: (+254) 0713 511 111
0738 047 666
E-MAIL: info.skypac@gmail.com

Auctioneers, Repossessors, Private Investigators, Official Brokers, Bailiffs, Commission Agents

SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our Principal, we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicles on Friday, 25th October 2019 at The Auction Center, High View Lane, Off Ridgeways Road, Nairobi starting at 11:00a.m.

NO.	REG NO.	MAKE/MODEL	Y.O.M	FINANCIER VERSUS	VIEWING
1.	KBZ 998S	TOYOTA-AXIO	2007	Dennis Mutuku	The Auction Center Yard
2.	KCB 247N	NISSAN-BEIGE	2007	Josephine Wangari	The Auction Center Yard
3.	KCN 152F	TOYOTA-ALLION	2010	Stephen Mwangi Njoroge	The Auction Center Yard
4.	KBW 114Z	ISUZU-DMAX	2012	Douglas Maina Irungu	The Auction Center Yard
5.	KCF 325U	TOYOTA-VITZ	2008	Ibrahim Rashid Abdullahi	The Auction Center Yard
6.	KBV 550B	TOYOTA-PRADO	2006	Samwel Ndungu Mburu	The Auction Center Yard
7.	KCM 610K	TOYOTA-HILUX	2011	Samwel Ndungu Mburu	The Auction Center Yard
8.	KCA 564Q	MERCEDES-BENZ	2007	Obed Nzoka Munyalo	The Auction Center Yard
9.	KCF 400S	TOYOTA-PRADO	2012	Simon Kariuki Ndirangu	The Auction Center Yard
10.	KBS 200Y	TOYOTA-PRADO	2005	Raphael Siambu Lenaiyarra	The Auction Center Yard

CONDITIONS OF SALE

1.A refundable deposit of kshs. 50,000.00 and the balance at the fall of the hammer.
2.The sale is subject to a reserve price. **NB: LOG BOOKS AVAILABLE**
3.Viewing daily during working hours.

DEWS TRADERS AUCTIONEERS

AUCTIONEERS CLASS 'B' AND PROCESS SERVERS
"THE PREFERRED AUCTIONEERS"
7th Floor, Summit / Jarmat House, Opp Central Police Station, Moi Avenue / Slip Road Nairobi Kenya, P O Box 103644 – 00100 Nairobi Kenya, Tel / Fax 020 2219972, Cell 0712 081 189 0733 236 170, Email: dewstraders@yahoo.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from the landlord under distress for rent act, and court ruling in **Misc. 67 Of 2018** kiambu we shall sell the under listed motor vehicle by public auction on the **22nd October 2019** At **startruck investments yard at 12.00** noon along kiambu road a few meters from the by-pass.
Motor vehicle Reg, No. KBM 346V, Toyota Hilux, Closed Body p/up, Super white in Colour, YOM 2010. Local

CONDITION OF SALE

Cash at the fall of the hammer, viewing contact Tel. 0712-081189 during working hours.

MIKAEL AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers, Repossessors, Court Brokers & Commission Agents

Muthaiga Suites, Ground Floor Suite No. 6 Opposite Muthaiga Police Station
Tel: 0739685517/ 0722288381/ 020-2171613
P.O. Box 598-00100 Nairobi Email: mikaelauctioneers@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our principals, under matter of Repossession we shall sell the under-mentioned motor vehicles at **Greypost yard** on **24TH October 2019** at **10.30 a.m.**

Financiers –VS- 1. Lucy Gachara t/a Jikima Island 2. Patrick Mbugua 3. Susan Wanjiru 4. Joseph M. Wanjohi 5. Peter M. Njoroge 6. Joel K. Meeki 7. Maureen Mukami 8. Daudi Ochieng

REG. NO.	MAKE	YOM
KBM 030K	TOYOTA NOAH	2003
KAZ 102S	ISUZU GIGA	2000
KBS 674T	ISUZU NQR	2010
KBW 187E	MAN P/MOVER	2007
KAU 434G	TOYOTA RAV 4	1998
KBN 046Q	FOTON LORRY	2010
KCB 187N	SUZUKI KEI	2007
KBH 644K	PAJERO	1999

TERMS

Viewing can be done at the storage yards to verify the details as these are not warranted by the Auctioneer or our Principals. Sale is on **AS-IS-WHERE-IS-BASIS.** Payment via Banker's cheque or RTGS before close of business.

ALL ARE WELCOME

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT NO. 13 OF 2019
CHANGE OF USER

The Registered owner of L.R. No. **10108/3 situated off Langata Road in Karen area**, within the jurisdiction of the Nairobi City County is proposing to Change its Use of their property from **Single Dwelling Unit to Multi –Dwelling Units (Town houses)** subject to approval by the Nairobi City County. Any individual(s), institution(s) and organization(s) with objection(s) to the proposal are hereby notified to do so in writing within 14 days as granted by the act to:

The County Secretary,
Nairobi City County Government.,
P.O. Box 30075-00100,
Nairobi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT NO. 13 OF 2019
CHANGE OF USER

The owner L.R. No. **Dagoretti/Waithaka/1343**, located in waithaka Proposes to change the use from **Single dwelling to Multi Dwelling Units (flats)** subject to approval by Nairobi City County. Any individual(s), institution(s) or organization(s) etc. with Comments/Objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within (14) days of the publication of this notice to:

The County Secretary
Nairobi City County
P.O. Box 30075-00100
Nairobi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT NO. 13 OF 2019
CHANGE OF USER

The registered proprietor of Plot No. **DAGORETTI/UTHIRU/1987** proposes to Change its Use from **AGRICULTURAL to MULTI-DWELLING RESIDENTIAL USE (Flats)** subject to approval by the County Government of Kiambu. Individuals, organizations, institutions etc. with comments, recommendations or objections are hereby requested to forward them in writing within 14 days of this notice to;

THE DIRECTOR OF PHYSICAL PLANNING
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 USE

The owner/developer of **Plot LR.NO. L.R. NO. 13114/84** Kikeni road, Karen Area, proposes to change the use of the plot from **Single Dwelling Residential unit to Multi Dwelling Residential Units (Town Houses)**, subject to approval by Nairobi City County Government. Individuals, Institutions etc. With comments/objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within fourteen days of this notice to:

The County Secretary
Nairobi City County Government
P.O. Box 30075-00100,
Nairobi

ESHIKHONI AUCTIONEERS

AUCTIONEERS AND PRIVATE INVESTIGATORS

NAIROBI OFFICE	KISUMU OFFICE	KAKAMEGA OFFICE	BUNGOMA OFFICE	ELDORET OFFICE
Cargen House	Re- insurance Plaza	Kakamega Dairy House	Moi Avenue	Rehema complex
3rd Floor Rm 310	5th Floor	Maziwa Road	Chewai Plaza	2nd Floor. Rm 8
Harambee Avenue	P.O BOX 3450 KISUMU	P.O BOX 1980	P.O BOX 2377	Eldoret
P.O BOX 8543-00200	Tel:/Fax 254-057-22603	Kakamega	Bungoma	
0722 718772	Fax (057) 40811	0722 784450		
NAIROBI				

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by various courts we shall sell the underlisted property.On Wednesday the **23rd October 2019** exactly **10.00am** outside our Bungoma office yard at National cereals and produce board premises.

1)**Kitale CMS CC NO. 204/2017**:Cleophas Matebo Kwan vs Gichuki Mary and two others m/v reg.no.KBC 438L Toyota Town ace and motorbike reg. no.KMDW 378A TVS star.
2)**Kitale CMS CC NO. 125/2018**:Tom Chivilili Lutuli vs Emmanuel Kakai and another m/v reg. no.KBB 369Z Subaru TX
3)**Mumias SPMS CC NO.98/2013**:Abdul Nanyanya Wesonga vs Evans Amuhaya Amukoye m/v reg. no KBH 797D Nissan saloon.

Terms of Sale

Strictly cash at the fall of the hammer. viewal during working hours as an auctioneer is not liable for unnoticed defect.
All are Welcome

For more classifieds on our website.
Scan this quick response code using your smartphone.

THE STAR CLASSIFIEDS
EVERY CLASSIFIED LISTING IN KENYA
WWW.STARCLASSIFIEDS.CO.KE

BUSINESS

DIAL *812# to get a 15 day free trial on Songa and get over 2.5 million songs!

THIRD EYE PRIVATE INVESTIGATORS We are fully licenced under cover private investigators in Kenya. We have offices in Nairobi and in major towns. We specialize in Tracking of cheating spouses, under cover investigations, tracing of debtors and debt collectio, Our reports are discreet and confidential. visit our offices at NCM Hse, 4th flr Moi Ave Nbi or call 0722-251079, 0722-224372 or 020-2643371.www.thirdeye-privateinvestigators.com.

MISC

Dr. Mama Hajjat from zanzibar back in nairobi to solve problems such as:love issues, infidelity in marriages, lost items, lucky rings, manpower and size, cleansing stars, all protections, infertility, business attraction, addictions, bad omen, job promotion, debts etc. **CALL:0722591554**

RELATIONSHIPS

LADIES Trapped In Unhappy Loveless, Romanceless And Boring Marriage, Who Need Discreet Affair To Cheer Them Up, 0723232330

Dan from Kisumu looking for a single lady call 0717908640

Wealthy Sugar Moms And Sugar Dads, Ladies Trapped In Loveless Marriage, Big Booty Chics Etc 0723232330

FREE AKBER 55 YRS IS LOOKING FOR LADY FRIEND AS COMPANION FROM NAIROBI 0711391375

WEALTHY SUGAR MOMS And Sugar Dads, Ladies Trapped In Loveless Marriage, Big Booty Chics Etc 0723232330

Are you single and looking for a serious and mature life partner?Sms your name,gender,age,tribe,HIV status,academic level,career,county etc to Rohosmart Connections-0722219480 for genuine hookup.

Rich Ladies And Sponsors, Mpango Wa Kando, Big Booty Etc 0723232330

Married but unhappy Ladies Want Someone To Romance Their Lives. 0723232330

ALICE, 21yrs, virgin grl, cute, luvly, biutiful n romantc. want a luving stable man. sms0711689517

ABDUL FROM SOUTH C is looking for lady friend from nairobi. 0717054246

RAJESH, Single, smart, handsam, f stable, want a gud, faithful n romantk lady. sms 0712852468

SINGLE? lonely? divorced, widow, lonely rich hs/wfe, casual date, leisure luv, escort lovers, intrstd?sms0711689517

JOY, SINGLE, 31yrs, 3kids, need christian man, Godfearing.35-40 yrs,SMS0711689517

Are you single and looking for a serious and mature life partner?Sms your profile to Rohosmart Connections-0722219480 for genuine hookup.

SARAH, single n lonely, salonist, cute, sexy n romantic. want a luving n stable man. intrstd?sms0711689517

Am kevin age 33 in nairobi. am looking 4a rich fncly-stbl sugarmumy hiv-, who is tal, goodloking, plus size, with nice curves. from 70kg and abv, age 35 to 65, marryd or singl, any race.
4 fun love and romans, cal/ text 0773653604 no jokers

Am a Kenyan businessman aged 43yrs widowed and a father of 12yr old daughter. Am looking for a mature God fearing lady for lasting relationship leading to a happy marriage. SMS or call 0797918874

Am a 25yr old guy looking for a beautiful lady over 30yrs



FANTASY AUCTIONEERS

CLASS "B"LICENSED AUCTIONEERS & COURT PROCESS SERVERS
KIAMBU MWITUMBERIA PO BOX 1496-00600
2nd floor suite No.23NGARA,NAIROBI Ngara road Cell:0713-634330,0722292527
Email: gitongamuchiri.ggm@gmail.com/fantasyauctions2019@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our principal, we shall sell the below mention goods in-site on Thursday 24th October 2019 starting at **11:00a.m** at **Go down No. 4, LR Number Kikuyu Township /160- Kikuyu Town**
Distress for rent
Landlord –Vs- Kilimanjaro Bottled Water Limited
Juice Capping Machine, Filling and capping machine ,cooler, 2 plastic tank 10litres, 20 ft container, plastic tank 5000litres,plastic tank(1000litres) drawer, 2 office desk, 2 rolling chairs, wooden shelf old, arm chair, 3 flower pot , water filter machine ,big carbon cylinder.

CONDITION OF SALE.
Cash at the fall of the hammer.

KEYSIAN AUCTIONEERS

AUCTIONEERS AND COURT BROKERS
LapTrust House, 3rd Floor, Haile Selassie Avenue, P.O.Box 2788-00200, Nairobi, Kenya

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions from our principals, we shall sell by Public Auction the under mentioned Motor vehicles as below:-
SALE ON WEDNESDAY 23RD OCTOBER, 2019 AS FROM 11.00 AM AT EASTGATE YARD OFF MOMBASA ROAD.
1.REPOSSESSION
FINANCIERS – VS – JACOB OGEDA.
One motor vehicle: **REG. NO. KCH 131S; TOYOTA PRADO.**
SALE ON THURSDAY 24TH OCTOBER, 2019 AS FROM 11.00 AM AT PROWLER ENTERPRISES LIMITED FEDHA ESTATE ALONG OUTERING ROAD.
2.REPOSSESSION
FINANCIERS – VS – AGNES NDANU NZIOKA & BENARD MUTUKU.
One motor vehicle: **REG. NO. KCC 664V; TOYOTA HIACE**

CONDITIONS OF SALE
1.Interested bidders are required to pay a refundable deposit of **Kshs. 50,000.00** for **EACH** motor vehicle in cash or bankers cheques before being allowed to bid
2.Viewing can be done during normal working hours to verify the details as these are not warranted by the auctioneers or their principals.
3.**25%** of the purchase price must be paid to the auctioneer at the fall of the hammer and the balance to be paid in **7 days** to the financiers
4.Sale is subject to a reserve price, and the auctioneer reserves the right to reject any bid without giving any reasons for doing so.

WING RIFT AUCTIONEERS

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Eldoret Auction Centre
Off Kisumu – Eld Rd
Near St John's Pastoral Centre
P .O. Box 334-30100 Eldoret
Cell +254:0723646259
+254 702 796 353
Email: wingriftauctioneers@yahoo.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under the instructions received from our principal, we shall sell by auction on **23rd October 2019** starting from 12:00 noon at **VENTURE** Storage Services Yard **NAKURU**
SAMSON KIPRUTO CHUMBA - VS – GEDEON KIPKURUI CHIRCHIR
One motor vehicle registration no KBM 487 R Toyota Wish station wagon not in good condition

CONDITION FOR SALE
Cash at the fall of the hammer

SWIPE AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers, Repossessors, Realization of Securities, Debt Collection and General Commission Agents.
International House, 8th Floor,
Mama Ngina Street, Nairobi
P. O Box 69786-00400, Nairobi
Tel: +254 733 120 433
+254 733 120 436
Email: swipeauctioneers@gmail.com
info@swiperecovereries.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our principal THE FINANCIERS, we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle by public auction on **Tuesday 22nd October 2019 at Leakeys Storage Ltd, Lunga Lunga Road -Nairobi starting at 11.00Am**

NO	REG NO.	MAKE/MODEL	VIEWED AT
1.	KBZ 548M	TOYOTA PROBOX	LEAKEYS STORAGE YARD LUNGA LUNGA ROAD

CONDITIONS OF SALE
1) Interested bidders can view the vehicle at the yard.
2) Interested bidders to deposit a refundable amount of KShs. 50,000 by way of banker's cheque to obtain a bidding number.
3) Sale is subject to reasonable reserve prices
4) Cash at the fall of the hammer.
ALL ARE WELCOME

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Email:pyramidauctioneers310@gamil.com
pyramidauctioneers@yahoo.com
Licensee:-Mr.Joseph D.B.K. Kimani
Associates:-Mr.Alex Mbaja-0720356140
-Mr.Benson Avoga-0722676488

PUBLIC AUCTION ! PUBLIC AUCTION ! PUBLIC AUCTION !

Under instruction received from our principals, the Advocates, we shall sell the under-mentioned goods by Public Auction on 26th day of October, 2019 at Pangani Auction Centre along Murang'a Road starting 10:30 a.m.
CMCC NAIROBI
CIVIL SUIT NO. 1924 OF 2016
PETER MWAURA NDUNGU- VERSUS – MY BEAUTY TRANSPORTERS LTD AND ANOTHER
Motor vehicle Reg. No. KBU 524Q- Mitsubishi F4
DISRESS FOR RENT
CMCC MIS AP1224/018 (Milimani Court NBI)
Joseph Wambugu Kibe — Titus Ngila
431 assorted old tyres
56 Assorted Rims
To be sold by leakeys storage ltd to recovery storage charges amounting to Kshs 300,000/=
In the matter of distress for rent act cap 293 laws of Kenya and BPRT No. 586/2019NBI & CMCC misc. appl. No. 1215/2018
PATRICK ABABU IMBENZI -VS- MRS. BETH NJERI TUMBO
4 Keg Cylinders, 18 Empty crates of beer, 13 empty crates of soda, 5 empty soda shells, 8 wooden coffee table, 2 buckets, 5 mtungi's 2 Keg cylinders cleaning Jericans, 1 super plastic l35ltrs Jericans, 6 cushioned benches, 4 three seater arm chairs, 2 one seater arm chairs, 2 round metal tables. To be sold by Pangani Auction centre in order to recover storage charge -

CONDITION OF SALE
-Cash at the fall of the hammer
-Sale to the highest bidder,
-Sale as-it-is where it-is basis
-ALL ARE WELCOME!!

VIRMIR AUCTIONEERS

Uchumi Building, Jogoo Road
2nd floor, Flat A 5
NAIROBI
P.O. Box 25888-00100
Tel: 0722516285
Email: virmirmail@yahoo.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our client, we shall sell the under mentioned goods by public auction, at Leakey's Storage Ltd yard , Lunga Lunga Road, Viwandani Nairobi on **23rd October 2019** starting at **10.00am.**
UNDER DISTRESS FOR RENT ACT CAP 293 LAWS OF KENYA
KIZITO SHAKABA –VS- RICHARD ODIRA
1 Samsung TV, 1 sofaset, 2 coffee tables with 5 stools, 1 water dispenser, 3 piece shelf, 1 small desk, 1 dining table with 6 chairs, 1 two door fridge, 1 music system, 1 decoder, 1 TV stand, 1 speaker stand, 1 gas cylinder, 2 microwave ovens, 2 four burner cookers, 6 plastic chairs, 1 washing machine,1 food warmer, 1 laptop (not working), 2 CPUs and 2 monitors (not working) 2 sets of dartboards, 1 photocopier (not working), 2 piece study desk, 3 office chairs, 1 bedside heater, 1 iron box, 1 small wardrobe, 1 carpet, 1 mirror and 3 wall hangings

CONDITION OF SALE
•Strictly cash at the fall of the hammer.



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SPORTS

SPORTS LOCAL



Gilbert Selebwa with his former assistant coach Andrew Kanuli / **ERICK BARASA**

FOOTBALL

Huge blow for Shabana as coach Selebwa quits

BYANGWENYI GICHANA / National Super League side Shabana suffered a huge blow following the resignation of head coach Gilbert Selebwa.

Selebwa announced his resignation yesterday morning, claiming that the cash-strapped club owes him four months' salary arrears.

"It has become untenable for me to continue working under these kinds of conditions. Debts are piling up and the club management is not sorting my problem. Every time I ask for my money, I'm told to wait," he said.

"I have decided to call it quits. God will open a way for me and I wish Shabana players and fans well in the current NSL campaign. I'm leaving a youthful and exciting team and if well handled I know they will do well," said the former AFC Leopards coach.

He said the expectations of fans were high and sometimes unrealistic.

"The fans have set the bar too high. They expect us to win all games yet we didn't even have a pre-season. When we draw, it's a problem and if we lose, it's a bigger problem," he noted.

Selebwa assembled the current playing unit two weeks to the league kick-off and used the Kecoso games as a pre-season.

Club secretary general Peter Omwando said he had not received Selebwa's resignation. He, however, said assistant coach Vincent Nyaberi will take charge of the team in tomorrow's game against Vihiga United at Gusii Stadium.

"Nyaberi will take over on interim basis as I sort out Selebwa's issues," said Omwando. He, however, disputed Selebwa's claims that he is owed four months' salary arrears.



Harambee Stars' John Avire (L) dribbles Philemon Otieno during a training session at Moi Stadium, Kasarani / **ERICK BARASA**

FOOTBALL

Transfer debacle

Sofapaka to seek Fifa's help in unlocking player Avire stalemate



MESHACK KISENGE
@kisengemeshack1

The 2009 Kenyan Premier League champions Sofapaka have threatened to report Egyptian outfit FC Tanta SC to Fifa next week should they fail to finalise the transfer of John Avire this week.

The two clubs have been embroiled in a three-month transfer standoff for the want-away Kenyan international who mysteriously sneaked and signed a two-year-long deal with the top-flight newbies.

With the Egyptian transfer window set to close on Sunday, Sofapaka have issued stringent monetary terms to avert the looming Fifa wrath. The former Shield Cup holders want FC Tanta to part with Sh3 million to have Avire on a loan and further allow him to fly back home to extend his stay with Sofapaka by two years. Alternatively, the club will have to buy the player at an estimated Sh 10 million.

"They have until Sunday to meet our demands failure to which we will report them to Fifa for player tapping. Avire remains our player and we will never issue him with his release letter until we get what is rightfully ours. They have been sending 'jokers' to negotiate and the language barrier has been a challenge," said club president Elly Kalekwa.

"If they are in dire need of his services then they have to get him on loan and pay an extra 3 million. Additionally, they have to allow him to extend his terms with us for two years and if within the period they will sell him, the proceeds will be shared equally as he remains our player."

The flamboyant president revealed that he had received a better offer from a senior club who ply their trade in the Zambian league.

"A Zambian club is offering Sh5 million to get the player on loan and we are taking them seriously as opposed to Tanta."

Avire was part of the Harambee Stars' team that represented the country in the 32nd edition of the Africa Cup of Nations in Egypt between June 21 to July 19. It is during the tournament that Tanta are believed to have scouted the Pasenga Boys High School alumnus and launched plotted to have his services after the tournament.

ATHLETICS

Can Chebet succeed trainingmate Sandra at Ndalat Gaa cross?

BY EMMANUEL SABUNI / World cross country junior champion Beatrice Chebet will be the star attraction during the Isaiah Kiplagat Memorial Ndalat Gaa cross country championships in Nandi County on Saturday.

Beatrice will be seeking to take over the title from her trainingmate, Sandrafelis Chebet, who won the title last year. Sandra will be chasing the New Delhi Half Marathon title this weekend in India and in her absence, Beatrice will start as favourite in the 10km women's race after graduating to seniors mid this year.

Beatrice won the 6km junior title last year and will be seeking to emulate her trainingmate when she lines up in the longer race. Beatrice has featured at various Diamond League races and will be yearning to win her first title in the senior cadre.

Beatrice's coach at Lemotit Training Camp, Paul Kemei, believes she has what it takes to fit well in Sandra's shoes come Saturday.

"We are anxious to see her perform in the senior cadre. She has done well in junior races and she believes she can extend the same in the senior women's race," said Kemei.

Beatrice will be joined by teammates Caren and Emily Chebet in 10km while Mercy Chepkorir, Deborah Chemutai, Sharon Chepkemei, Sharon Chepkurui and Ann Naasiho will feature in the junior 6km race.

Meanwhile, the event organisers expect world marathon record holder Eliud Kipchoge to grace the occasion. Kipchoge is still fresh from breaking the sub-two-hour mark in Austria and remains the talk of the town.



Beatrice Chebet leads the pack in junior women's 6km race during the national cross country championships Eldoret early this year / **FILE**



WOMEN RUGBY

Tokyo preps begin

Lionesses turn focus on Dubai, Hong Kong 7s as build-up for Olympic Games

WILLIAM NJUGUNA/ Fresh from qualifying for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, Kenya Lionesses are scheduled to play at the Dubai and Hong Kong Sevens tournaments.

The Dubai tournament is slated for December with the Hong Kong leg set for March and will double up as World Sevens Series qualifier.

Kenya lost to South Africa 15-14 in the Olympic Sevens qualifier final in Monastir, Tunisia on Sunday but will represent the continent after the South African Olympic Association withdrew their team from Tokyo 2020 extravaganza.

Tunisia and Madagascar will head to the repechage after finishing third and fourth respectively in the qualifiers, where they will play other regional qualifiers across the globe early next year. This will be the second time the Lionesses are featuring at the Olympic Games, having made their debut in 2016 in Rio.

Philadelphia Olando of Kenya tackles Fanny Horta of France during the 2016 Olympic Games **/ COURTESY**

Kenya only won one match, beating Colombia to finish 11th out of 12. In the pool stages, Kenya lost to New Zealand 52-0, France(40-7) and Spain (19-10) to drop to the classification matches

Kenya Rugby Union (KRU) director of women's rugby, Moses Ndale, said they are planning to have the team play in four high-level tournaments as a build-up for the Tokyo 2020.

"Two tournaments are not enough and we must feature in more events to make sure the girls are at par with other top sides during the Tokyo 2020," added Ndale.

He, however, noted that achieving that goal will depend on funding both from government and corporates.

"If we get funding, then we can expose the girls to as many tournaments as possible in the countdown to the Olympics," he noted. The team is expected to arrive today from Tunisia.

Kenya beat Ghana 36-0, thrashed Botswana 49-0 and Senegal 36-0 in the pool fixtures. In the quarterfinals, the Lionesses edged Zimbabwe 36-5 and then defeated hosts Tunisia 19-0 in the semis.

A majority of the girls will play in the Safari Sevens this weekend for franchises and the team is expected to resume training in a fortnight ahead of the Dubai tournament.

BASKETBALL

Equity look to improve on last year's placing, reveals Oketch

BY DAN OWERRE/ After beating Emyba 65-52, Equity Bank men's team are looking to finish in the best Premier League position ever ahead of the Play-offs.

The win pushed the bankers past Kenya Ports Authority into third place. "A win in our last match should give us a strong position going into the play-offs. We are determined to do better this time around and will not take any game for granted," said coach Carey Oketch.

A beaming Oketch said he is happy this time they will finish better than sixth position, which they posted last year. Elsewhere, USIU men's team continued their push to avoid the axe with a strong 68-51 win over Eldonets.

Their women counterparts, Flames dismissed Western Delight 70-55 as Shibweche Mary Shallet scored 23 points and Jemimah Omondi added 16. Delight, who are already relegated from the top tier, had 20 from Susan Mumbi and 11 from Pharidah Naliaka. University of Nairobi (UoN) Dynamites hit Storms 57-50 with captain Liz Okumu burying 15 points and Vallery Kemunto posting 14.

Storms trailed 22-13 in a low scoring first half and did not recover. They were led by Lynette Atieno and Steffie Ngabire who posted 13 points each. Strathmore University second team thumped the visiting Eldonets 38-18 as Alexandra Juma tallied 11 points in the lower division.

Kenya Christian Industrial Training Institute (KCITI) blanked Upper Hill School 73-59 behind 25 points from Kingsley Quansoh and 14 from Philip Tobias.

FOOTBALL

Kisii breathe fire ahead of KUSA games after whipping Shabana

BY ANGWENYI GICHANA / Kisii University stepped up their preparations for the Kenya Universities Sports Association games scheduled for this weekend with a 4-2 win over National Super League side Shabana yesterday morning.

Hosts Kisii University, coached by Elijah Onsika, scored through Kepher Ogato and Samuel Melau who grabbed a brace each with Shabana replying through John Musyoka who also scored a brace.

Kisii University were using the game to prepare for this weekend's Western Conference KUSA games at Masinde Murilo University of Science and Technology (MMUST). "This game has helped me gauge my team ahead of the KUSA games where we will be making our debut in soccer," said Onsika. He added that the team will fight it out for the soccer title.

"We intensified our preps after winning Cluster Three title. The players are ready for the challenge," added the former international. Kisii defeated Rongo University 2-0 and Tom Mboya University 1-0 to lift the Cluster Three title last weekend. Onsika, a retired striker, thanked the institution's Vice Chancellor John Akama for supporting the team.

According to Kusa Western Conference secretary general, Abraham Ong'onga, said the event will also feature netball, hockey, darts, table tennis and rugby 7's.

FOOTBALL

Abuya seeks consistency after good show against Mozambique

BY FRANCIS WADEGU / International forward Duke Abuya is determined to continue with his recent good form.

Abuya impressed in Harambee Stars 1-0 loss to Mozambique on Sunday having come on as a second-half substitute for Clifton Miheso. The talented forward got his first league goal a week earlier as his Kariobangi Sharks side handed basement club Chemelil Sugar a fifth successive loss.

"Everyday, I am working on the scoring aspect of my game. It is an area I know I can do better. I improved my goals tally last season and I want to do that this season again. I am unhappy that I have been slow to start my scoring but now that is behind me. I want to build on this and to continue scoring more and more goals. This season, my target is to hit ten goals as the minimum," said Abuya.

Having finished with four goals last season, Abuya now has to add at least six more goals to achieve his targets. With 29 more games to go, it is very much possible that he will achieve it.

"It is hard work. It's a personal goal for me which I know will at the end of the day help the team achieve their objective," added the Kenyan international. Abuya's exploits for Sharks have made him a regular call up to the national team.

Besides, his confident display against Mozambique where he came close to putting Stars ahead with his well-timed header will not go unnoticed by the Stars technical bench led by Francis Kimanzi and Zedekiah Otieno.

With the international week dispensed with, Sharks who are sitting uncomfortably in the bottom half of the Kenyan Premier League standings, resume league action this weekend with a tough trip to take on Gor Mahia.



Duke Abuya (C) dribbles past Philemon Otieno (L) and Musa Mohammed in a past Harambee Stars' training session **/ERICK BARASA**

FOOTBALL

Aduda joins race

Gor Mahia CEO explains why he joined the hunt for top football seat







FKF presidential aspirants Lordvick Aduda, Moses Akaranga and Sam Nyamweya /OLIVER MORGAN

BY MESHACK KISENGE AND FRANCIS WADEGU/ Gor Mahia Chief Executive Officer Lordvick Aduda has revealed that his entry in the race to clinch the Football Kenya Federation (FKF) Presidency has been inspired by an endorsement from stakeholders.

Aduda has been coy over his bid to oust the incumbent Nick Mwendwa in the polls set for December 7. But yesterday, he revealed his decision had been informed by pressure from football stakeholders.

The FKF elections are slowly gathering pace with the list of candidates interested in the top seat now standing at four. Apart from Aduda, others are former Vihiga County Governor, Moses Akaranga and former federation boss Sam Nyamweya. Aduda's last stint with the governing body ended on a sour note.

The former FKF CEO, who was ejected out of office in 2012, has been a fierce critic of the current regime which assumed office in February 2016. Aduda has been on record questioning the selection of players to the national team, the calibre of foreign coaches mandated to manage Harambee Stars and how the accounts department has been spending both the Fifa grants and funding from the government.

Yesterday, Aduda formally declared his interest in the top seat and further said that his manifesto will be disclosed to the public soon.

"Football stakeholders feel that time is up for me to take up the leadership mantle. I have accepted their challenge and endorsement and I will give it a shot. I will be releasing my manifesto soon."

Meanwhile, aspirants from Mombasa, Kilifi, Kwale and Taita Taveta counties yesterday submitted their nomination forms to the FKF Electoral Board ahead of the upcoming polls. This as the six-day nomination period kicked off yesterday at FKF House, Goal Project.

Among candidates who submitted their documents are South Coast branch secretary Lilian Kazungu, who will be contesting the chairperson's position alongside Goshi Alliy and Alamin Abdallah, who also came before the board's secretariat.

"I will be contesting the FKF Mombasa County Branch chairperson seat. I believe I have what it takes," said Lilian Kazungu. "The nomination process has been flawless. I have confidence in the board that they will conduct a free and fair election," she added.

Salim Bambaulo from Kwale, Kilifi's Dickson Angore and Taita Taveta's Duncan Maghanga also came before the board's secretariat yesterday.

The board, chaired by Edwin Wamukoya, will today receive aspirants from Mandera, Marsabit, Isiolo, Meru, Tharaka Nithi, Embu, Kitui, and Machakos. On Wednesday, aspirants from Makueni, Nyandarua, Nyeri, Kirinyaga, Murang'a Kiambu, Turkana and West Pokot will have their day.

The deadline for submission of relevant documents has been set for Saturday with a preliminary list of eligible candidates set to be released on October 22. County elections are scheduled for November 23.

FOOTBALL

Vihiga Queens' boss cautions charges against complacency

BY EVANS OUSURU / Women's Premier League Vihiga Queens coach Alex Alumira has cautioned his players over complacency as the league enters the homestretch.

Vihiga are over the moon after beating Oserian Ladies 4-0 and Kisumu All Starlets 3-0 over the weekend to return to the summit. Alumira is afraid that success could get into the players' heads at this crucial time.

Alumira's concerns come after title-chasing rivals Trans Nzoia Falcons lost 3-1 to struggling Mathare United. Vihiga have lost once in the 24 matches and have 67 points same as Gaspo but with a superior goal difference. Gaspo beat Zetech 5-1. With their next opponents Zetech Sparks struggling in mid-table, the coach said their good run must continue despite having a game in hand.

He said: "The past six matches have given us excellent results. We have scored 27 goals and conceded none. This has to continue if we have to retain the title. Trans Nzoia Falcons focused on us and succumbed to Mathare and therefore we have to be careful because teams facing relegation are the most dangerous at this stage of the season."

"We have been in this situation for the last three seasons. Last season, we were trailing Thika Queens by six points at a time like this and it's nothing new and my players know how to handle it," he noted.

"Adaptability has really helped us. I have flexible players who can play in any position. Phoebe Oketch, for example, plays as a striker in the national team but she is a defender at club level. This gives us options and can adjust our style of play regularly."

HANDBALL

Strathmore ready to contest for league title, says Mwathi

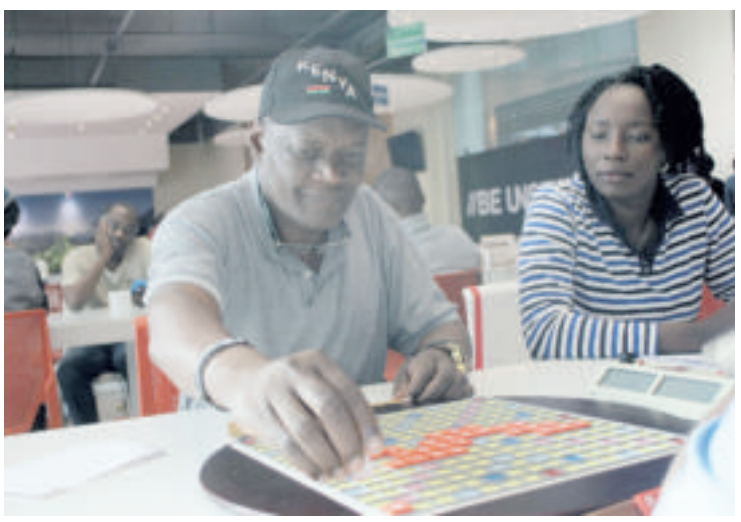
BY IVY KHAVAI/ Strathmore handball team coach, Peter Mwathi has attributed their unbeaten run in the 2019/2020 league to the watertight defence his charges have exhibited in recent matches.

Strathmore are placed second in the 23-team log after crushing Technical University of Kenya (TUK) 37-08 over the weekend at the Kaloleni grounds. Mwathi, who is also the national men's team tactician at the institution, said he has built an all-round squad and each player is defence-minded. This, he said he is a strong pillar against their opponents.

"We have been working on our defensive play and it has panned out well. It has helped us to avoid conceding many goals as reflected in our weekend match where they restricted TUK to a paltry eight goals. If we keep up the pace, our goal area will be a no-go-zone for even the top teams," Mwathi said.

The tutor added that having all-rounded charges is an added advantage to his side, saying it throws the opponents off balance in terms of marking. Mwathi alluded that despite key players missing from his squad, their replacements have taken up the task quite well.

"I am very confident with my team. The boys continue to show great performance. The void left by those who graduated has been filled with greater potential," the tactician noted.



Onani Magwanga in action last week / COURTESY

SCRABBLE

Mutahi, Magu replace Koyyoko, Litunya in national team

BY CONSOLATA MAKOKHA/ Standard Chartered Bank's Martins Mutahi and seed 14 Fred Magu have been added to the national scrabble team that will represent the country at the third World English-language Scrabble Players Association Championships starting today to Sunday in Goa, India.

The two will join Allan Oyende, Nderitu Gitonga and Onani Magwanga to fill Kenya's quota of five. They take up slots originally held by Bernard Koyyoko and Patrick Litunya. The team left the country on Saturday for India.

While the initial team of three sponsored their trip to India, Mutahi, Kenya's seed seven has been sponsored by his employer while Magu, who had already planned to travel to participate in the side tournament of the Championships, landed the chance to play in the main showpiece. SK boss Bernard Amuke is positive the team of five will put up their 'A' game to ensure Kenya either retain their current quota or boost the numbers.

"They all are very good players and we are hopeful they will put up a good game to ensure we retain our slots at the next WESPA Championships," stated Amuke.

Other players who also left for Goa are SK vice-chairman Kipkemboi Limo, Dr Akinyi Wenwa, John Sang and Mwema Muumbi.

They will play in side-tournaments including First Gear and Last Chance qualifiers, Goa One Day International, Indian Open and Final Frenzy Pro-Am.

Oyende, who is ranked 25th in the world, looks forward to regaining a top 15 WESPA ranking. He, however, acknowledged that the field at the worlds is usually unpredictable.

"I have prepared well and I'm very hopeful I will do very well and improve my ranking and the team's average score," said Oyende.



RUGBY WORLD CUP

Bring on Ireland

Recent history has no bearing on Ireland clash, says Hansen

BY GREG STUTCHBURY/ New Zealand have lost twice to Ireland in their last three meetings but All Blacks coach Steve Hansen says all form goes out the window ahead of Saturday's Rugby World Cup quarter-final in Tokyo.

Ireland have fashioned an impressive record under New Zealander Joe Schmidt in the last six years, with the side claiming their first ever win against the All Blacks on Nov. 5 2016 in Chicago, a victory that ended a 111-year wait.

While New Zealand got a measure of revenge two weeks later, beating the Irish 21-9 on home soil, Schmidt's side scored another win over the world champions last year in Dublin.

The All Blacks' recent record against the Irish would have been even worse had they not pulled off 'The Great Escape' in 2013 when Ryan Crotty's try and Aaron Cruden's conversion salvaged a 24-22 win deep in injury time.

New Zealand head coach Steve Hansen with his players during a warm up session **/ REUTERS**

Hansen, who was noticeably less relaxed than he had been during the pool phase in Japan, was putting little stock in recent results having any influence on Saturday's game, however.

"I think they have brought out the best in us for a long, long time," he told reporters on Monday. "I don't know how many games we have played but we enjoy playing them and that hasn't changed because they have beaten us a couple of times."

"A lot of people are going to be talking about the past but it's what happens on Saturday that counts. What happened prior to that is irrelevant."

Hansen expected Ireland to play to their strengths — controlling the ball and using scrumhalf Conor Murray to put pressure on the All Blacks' back three with his tactical kicking.

Flyhalf Johnny Sexton, World Player of the Year in 2018, would also be key for the Irish to keep their pack going forward, he added.

"Why would they want to change? That's been very successful for (them)," Hansen said. "There won't be any complacency in our camp."

Hansen is stepping down at the end of the World Cup after 16 years with the team as an assistant and head coach. He bristled when asked if that was a factor in his thinking ahead of the quarter-finals.

MOTORSPORT

Verstappen blames Leclerc for collision at Japanese F1 race

BY ALAN BALDWIN / Max Verstappen accused Ferrari rival Charles Leclerc of irresponsible driving at the Japanese Grand Prix on Sunday after a first-lap collision between the two put the Red Bull driver out of the race.

The 22-year-old Dutch driver also questioned the stewards' response, with an initial announcement that they were taking no further action before then deciding to summon both drivers afterwards.

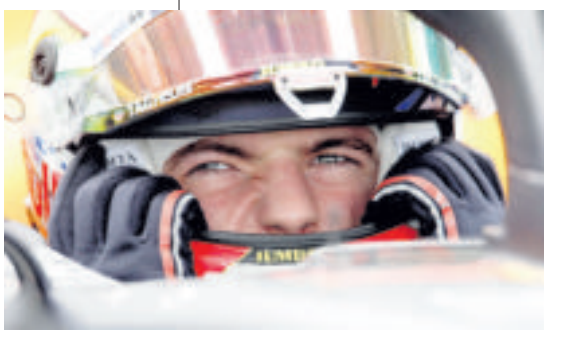
"Suddenly into Turn Two Charles just drove into the side of my car," Verstappen said. "From my side, I don't think I could have done anything different there. The weird thing is that initially, they don't even investigate it, I mean my whole car is destroyed. The whole side. There were just holes in the side of the car. And then they start to investigate it but now it's after the race.

"I mean, what more should he (Leclerc) do to get a penalty? I like hard racing, but I don't think this was hard racing. This was just irresponsible driving into Turn Two."

Verstappen, who was forced off, eventually retired in the pitlane after 15 laps while Leclerc had to pit for a new front wing. The Monegasque had started on the front row, with teammate Sebastian Vettel on pole, but both Ferraris made poor starts with Valtteri Bottas seizing the lead for Mercedes into the first corner.

Verstappen had made a strong start, from the third row, in a home race for Red Bull's engine partner Honda.

Red Bull's Max Verstappen during practise at Japanese GP **/ REUTERS**



BOXING

Boxer hospitalised with brain injury

BBC/ Boxer Patrick Day is in an 'extremely critical condition' after his defeat by Charles Conwell in Chicago.

The 27-year-old American is in a coma with 'a traumatic brain injury', said his promoter.

Day was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital after being knocked out in the 10th round of his super welterweight bout on the undercard of the Oleksandr Usyk-Chazz Witherspoon fight in the US.

"Pat makes any room he is in a better place," said promoter Lou DiBella.

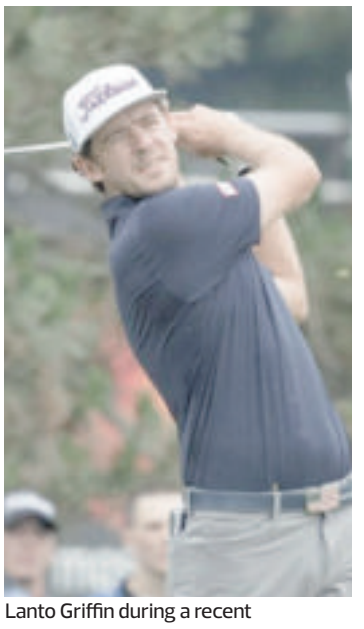
"I've never met anyone who's met Patrick and not liked him. Never heard him utter a mean word. Never seen him greet someone without a big smile. Life doesn't seem fair sometimes."

" Please keep Pat in your prayers, thoughts and hearts."

Day was taken from the ring on a stretcher on Saturday. British boxing promoter Eddie Hearn wrote on social media: "Deepest prayers with Patrick right now."

His company, Matchroom Boxing, which organised the event, also posted to say Day had 'been taken directly to hospital'.

Speaking after the fight, 21-year-old American Conwell, said: "I give my blessings and concerns to him and his team. I hope he is OK. I know he is a great person."



Lanto Griffin during a recent championship **/ REUTERS**

GOLF

American Lanto wins first PGA Tour title

BBC/ American Lanto Griffin clinched his first PGA Tour title with a one-shot victory at the Houston Open.

The 31-year-old world number 176 carded a three-under final round of 69 for a 14-under winning total.

His victory earns him a place at next year's US PGA Championship, Masters and Players Championship.

Compatriots Scott Harrington and Mark Hubbard, both also without a PGA title, shared second, Hubbard making an 80-foot eagle putt during his round of 69.

Griffin had a one-shot lead playing the final hole but found an awkward spot in the rough with his drive.

He made the edge of the green with his second, 59 feet from the flag, and then holed a five-foot putt to make par and win the title.

"I learned you don't have to win," Griffin said after his victory, which has earned him $1.3m in prize money.

"If you put all that pressure on yourself it can backfire. Thinking like that helps me take the pressure off."

Meanwhile, Henrik Stenson and Annika Sorenstam will host a new tournament in Sweden next year with men and women facing off on the same course for a single trophy and prize fund, organisers announced yesterday.

SPORTS INTERNATIONAL

EURO QUALIFIERS



Netherlands' Georginio Wijnaldum argues with referee Tasos Sidiropoulos /REUTERS

Massive step

Dutch on the right road again, says Wijnaldum

BY MARK GLEESON/ Missing the last two major tournaments had been hard for the Netherlands to swallow but Georginio Wijnaldum says they have taken a massive step towards qualifying for Euro 2020 with Sunday's win in Belarus.

Wijnaldum's two goals in their 2-1 win in Minsk kept the Dutch top of Group C, level on points with Germany and three clear of Northern Ireland, who they beat 3-1 in Rotterdam on Thursday. It means the Dutch need only a draw in their next game in Belfast on Nov. 16 to book their place in the finals.

"It was very painful to miss the last World Cup and European Championship before that," said Wijnaldum of the Dutch absence in Russia last year and at Euro 2016 in France. "When we were off on holiday in the past summers, it was going through my head the whole time that we should have been there. That's why this win is so nice. Of course, we are not completely sure of a place in the tournament but we have certainly taken a giant step," he told reporters.

Wijnaldum scored the first with his head and then struck a powerful long-range shot to give his side a 2-0 half-time lead. They let their hosts back into the game after the break but should have scored more, with Wijnaldum narrowly missing out on a hattrick.

"In the second half, we thought it might be too easy. That was laziness, for sure," he said. "That is why we are critical of our own performance now. If we play like that against the best teams in Europe at the European Championship, it can be fatal.

"But looking at the bigger picture it was a fifth win in six qualifiers and that is obviously good, especially if you see where we have come from. And there is a lot still to come from this group of players. That is why we must stick together."

Wijnaldum was 23 when the Dutch competed at the World Cup in Brazil, and he said it was important for the squad to experience playing on the biggest stage once again."

"To go to a tournament like that is massive for your development as a player. I know how much pleasure it can bring to compete in a major tournament, especially as we grew in that tournament. We need to feel that again. But first we must qualify. We all know strange things can happen in football."

EURO QUALIFIERS

Late substitutes take Poland to Euros with North Macedonia win

BY BRIAN HOMEWOOD / Poland left it late before goals from substitutes Przemyslaw Frankowski and Arkadiusz Milik, both set up by Robert Lewandowski, gave them a 2-0 win over North Macedonia which guaranteed their place at Euro 2020 on Sunday.

The Poles, who hit the woodwork twice before scoring, made sure of their place from Group G with two matches to spare as they became the fourth team to qualify after Italy, Russia and Belgium.

Poland struggled to make the breakthrough despite enjoying 65% of possession and their frustration grew as Piotr Zielinski struck the bar in the 17th minute and Sebastian Szymanski hit the post five minutes after halftime.

The breakthrough finally came in the 74th minute from substitute Frankowski. A long pass forward found Lewandowski who chested the ball down, nutmegged a defender and was about to shoot when Frankowski sneaked in and poked the ball through Stole Dimitrievski's legs.

Lewandowski was also involved in the second goal six minutes later when he appeared to be fouled but play was waved on and Milik applied the finishing touch, his first Poland goal since last November.



Poland's Damian Szymanski in action with North Macedonia's Stefan Spirovski /REUTERS

ICE HOCKEY

Dream debut for nerveless Cech in penalty shootout win

ROHITH NAIR / Former Premier League goalkeeper Petr Cech proved himself a cool customer no matter the surface, saving twice in a penalty shootout on his ice hockey debut as fourth division Guildford Phoenix beat Swindon Wildcats 2.

The 37-year-old, who made more than 600 appearances for Chelsea and Arsenal, called time on his soccer career at the end of last season but announced last week that he was joining Phoenix and would play for the British team in his spare time. Cech, currently Chelsea's technical and performance adviser, was named man-of-the-match for his heroics in goal and said he had surprised himself with his coolness under pressure in the penalty shootout.

"I was surprised that I wasn't more nervous. I didn't know what to expect so it was nice how quickly my body switched into match day mode," said Cech, whose last soccer appearance was in the Europa League final between Arsenal and Chelsea in May.

Cech is a lifelong ice hockey fan who played the sport as a youngster before switching to soccer. He wore the jersey number 39 in tribute to former goaltender and two-times Stanley Cup champion Dominik Hasek, who played in the American National Hockey League for 16 seasons and helped the Czech Republic win gold at the 1998 Olympics.

EURO QUALIFIERS

James was fine to play on against Croatia, says Giggs

BBC/ Wales boss Ryan Giggs says Daniel James was fine to play on after a heavy collision in Sunday's 1-1 Euro 2020 qualifying draw with Croatia and 'passed all the concussion tests'.

James needed treatment after an aerial challenge with Domagoj Vida, though the winger says he was not knocked out.

"I say about players being smart," said Giggs. "He stayed down, he was fine. When the physios came over there was no problem, and what you have to do now is do the tests at half-time."

Defender Ethan Ampadu, who is on loan at RB Leipzig from Chelsea, also suffered a heavy collision in the game in Cardiff and the 19-year-old was unable to continue. But 21-year-old Manchester United forward James confirmed that he had not suffered any serious damage in the first-half clash, despite concern over the incident.

"There were a few tackles flying in but you always expect it in these games," he said after the match. "I'm fine. I think he just caught me in the head but I didn't get knocked out fortunately."

The draw with Group E leaders Croatia means Wales are now relying on Slovakia dropping points in their remaining two fixtures if they are to qualify for next summer's tournament.

Wales will need to claim six points from their final two games — in Azerbaijan on 16 November and at home to Hungary three days later.



Wales' Daniel James in action with Croatia's Tin Jedva / REUTERS

SPORTS INTERNATIONAL

RUGBY WORLD CUP

Japan deserve to be in last 8

The tournament has been top drawer – one of the most exciting World Cups, if not the most exciting ever

BY MATT DAWSON / Japan reaching the World Cup quarter-finals for the first time is a major step forward for world rugby and we have to cherish this history-making moment.

The Brave Blossoms' 28-21 victory over Scotland in Yokohama on Sunday was such an epic game. They play with such intensity and their ability to handle the ball at such pace takes an incredible amount of accuracy. In that first half, there would have been few sides able to stop Japan scoring a couple of tries.

I don't think they're going to win the tournament, but I don't think anybody will want to play Japan. I am so pleased for everybody involved that the hosts have qualified from their pool. Not just the team and the squad, but everyone in the country. I'm pleased for World Rugby. The governing body made exactly the right decision to wait until Typhoon Hagibis had passed to confirm the game was on.

The tournament has been top drawer - one of the most exciting World Cups, if not the most exciting ever - and Japan are putting on an amazing event. I wouldn't be surprised if there was a little bit of raw emotion coming out in the players during the win over Scotland, and perhaps individually they were hurt by a lot of the media coverage this week.

The focus all of a sudden was whether the tournament would be remembered for the games that were cancelled. I found it insane that people were trying to belittle the enormity of what was going on. The reality is people have unfortunately died and been injured in a natural disaster and that takes precedence over any kind of sport or game.

It's a game of rugby, get over yourselves and focus on what's important. Canada's game against Namibia was called off on Sunday morning because of safety concerns, but the players weren't whinging and moaning.

They did something about it and helped with the recovery efforts in Kamaishi. Sometimes in sport, because of the commerciality and the enormity of it all, we slightly get ahead of ourselves.



Japan players celebrate after beating Scotland to reach the World Cup quarterfinals **/REUTERS**

Following the cancellation of their match in Kamaishi, @RugbyCanada players headed out to help with recovery efforts, showing the true values of the game. Japan deserve it both on and off the pitch to be in the knockout stages.

It would have taken a monumental amount of effort from the players to convince themselves Sunday's game was going to be on when they were sat in the middle of a super typhoon. The passion and emotion at the game was heightened because the press are asking them constant questions, their friends at home are asking 'have you heard, is it on, is it off?'.

You're going to be told in all the team meetings, 'right, let's focus like the game is going to be on. If it changes fine, but we are preparing this week for the game to be on'.

Off the pitch, it should be a huge inspiration for millions of people watching the way Japan as a country have held themselves. They have the infrastructure and ability to fix things very quickly after a typhoon. You can only imagine the whole of Yokohama and Tokyo pulling together and saying 'we are going to do whatever it takes to make sure when the world is watching, we are going to deliver'. Japan will give South Africa a run for their money in the quarter-finals because they play a unique style. Not even the All Blacks play at some of the speed they do.

The way they transition from short-side to wide is phenomenal. They get the ball out wide really quickly from lots of different situations and run on to the ball at pace. It's very difficult to stop when you have Kenki Fukuoka and Kotaro Matsushima on the wing. They're just electric, not only in the way they finish their tries but with their support lines and the footwork in the forwards, the likes of Isileli Nakajima coming on and picking up the intensity up front.

The players are oozing confidence. Scrum-half Yutaka Nagare ran the show against Scotland. He knew where his team were supposed to play and where the opposition were weak.

Japan are creating their own unique style of rugby that is very difficult to play against, but it takes a monumental amount of fitness and that is probably why they looked a little bit tired in that last 15-20 minutes on Sunday. They're going to have to rest up and get themselves rehabbed and ready for the weekend.

Japan getting in the quarter-final mix is the story of the tournament so far, but historically at this stage there is an upset. We remember when Japan shocked South Africa in the pool stage in 2015, but the Springboks were pretty poor and Japan capitalised on an average performance from their opposition.

I don't think South Africa will lose this time because for Japan it is back-to-back massive Test matches after that game against Scotland. Well-rested and on good form, South Africa will probably be a little bit too strong. I can't see New Zealand losing against Ireland but it is hard to call Wales versus France and England against Australia.

The Wallabies are yet to perform at this tournament but have plenty in their locker and England, after not playing for two weeks because their pool decider against France was cancelled, could be caught a little bit cold.

If you haven't been involved for two weeks it's quite tricky. England have got a real tough ask to get up to match pace straight away. You do lots of stuff in training but you haven't necessarily gone through that whole mental preparation as well as the physical preparation. It's knockout rugby so everything is at stake. The referees are going to be under more pressure, they'll be a little bit nervous, the players will be a little bit nervous and so will the coaches.

What decisions are going to be made? What will the atmosphere be like? Who is going to feel like they're playing at home? What are the match conditions and the pitch going to be like? There are so many mitigating circumstances as to whether you win or lose.

FOOTBALL

PSG sweat as Neymar is injured in Nigeria clash

BBC/ Paris St-Germain are sweating over Neymar after the forward limped off after 12 minutes as Brazil were held to a 1-1 friendly draw by Nigeria.

The 27-year-old walked off holding his left thigh and could be a doubt for the Champions League game against Club Bruges on 22 October.

Rangers' Joe Aribo gave Nigeria the lead in the first half as he slotted past Manchester City's Ederson. Real Madrid's Casemiro prodded in from close range to equalise just after half-time.

After the match Brazil manager Tite said Neymar 'felt a muscle injury' and was substituted as a 'precaution'. Despite having 70% possession in Singapore, Brazil were unable to find a winner to remain winless in this international break after drawing 1-1 with Senegal on Thursday.

Meanwhile, Inter Milan forward Alexis Sanchez faces a spell out after picking up an ankle injury on international duty.

Sanchez – on loan at the Italian club from Manchester United — was hurt in the second half of Chile's 0-0 friendly draw with Colombia in Alicante and replaced in the 87th minute. The Chilean Football Federation said the 30-year-old has 'dislocated tendons' in his left ankle.

Sanchez has returned to Milan for further assessment. Sanchez, who joined Antonio Conte's Inter on a season-long loan deal in August, scored on his first start for the Serie A title hopefuls against Sampdoria on September 28.

Brazil's Neymar in action against Nigeria **/REUTERS**



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RUGBY

LIONESSES TURN FOCUS ON DUBAI, HONG KONG SEVENS

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SPORTS

ATHLETICS 'TIMO' IS ALSO A TWO-TIME DIAMOND LEAGUE TROPHY WINNER

Kip at it again

World record holder, Cheruiyot nominated for IAAF Athlete of the Year Award

WILLIAM NJUGUNA AND IAAF/ Is world marathon record holder Eliud Kipchoge set for another international accolade?

Just two days after becoming the first man to run under two hours in the 42km race, Kipchoge has been nominated for the 2019 IAAF Athlete of the Year, whose awards gala will be held next month.

Kipchoge headlines a list of 11 athletes, most of whom capped a stellar season with impressive displays at the World Championships in Doha, Qatar.

From Kenya, Kipchoge will be joined by world 1,500m champion Timothy Cheruiyot, who is also the two-time Diamond League trophy winner over his speciality. He also won 10 out of 11 indoor races.

Kipchoge, who won the award last year, created history in Vienna, Austria on Saturday by running a sub-two-hour marathon for the first time, clocking 1:59:40.

He holds the world marathon record of 2:01:39, clocked at the 2019 Berlin Marathon and also won the London Marathon in April this year by posting a course record time of 2:02:37.

World 800m record holder and two-time Olympic champion, David Rudisha, is the only other Kenyan to have bagged the coveted award, in 2010. Uganda 's 10,000m world champion Joshua Cheptegei makes the cut for the award after a superb season where he bagged gold in the 25-lap race early this month in Doha.

The Commonwealth double champion also won the 5,000m Diamond League trophy and won the world cross country senior title in Aarhus, Denmark in March.

There are five Americans for the award, led by world 100m champion, Christian Coleman. He won the world crown in a world-leading time of 9.76 as well as being part of the US 4x100m relay team which won the world title.

World 200m champion Noah Lyles had an outstanding season where he ran 19.50, the fourth-fastest time over the distance in Lausanne as well winning Diamond League titles in both the 100m and 200m respectively. He also anchored the United States' 4x 100m relay team to the world title.



Eliud Kipchoge during the INEOS159 Challenge in Vienna over the weekend **/REUTERS**

ATHLETICS

Ambitious Kosgei feels women can run even faster

CHICAGO / Like any true competitor, Kenya's Brigid Kosgei does not plan to coast on her latest accomplishment—even if that happens to be running the fastest-ever women's marathon.

Hours after shattering Paula Radcliffe's 16-year-old world record, running the Chicago Marathon in two hours, 14 minutes and four seconds, the 25-year-old said she believes any number of competitors could beat her.

''If a lady can prepare good and they have no injury... they can reduce it to 2:12 or one minute to 2:13,'' Kosgei said.

But while she stopped short of pointing to a 2:10:00 marathon for herself, she made clear that her sole goal is getting even faster.

''I'm still focusing to reduce my time again— if it's possible,'' Kosgei said. ''If my body would be good (I could) reduce little by little, slowly.''

While her year-to-year career improvement could hardly be described as ''slow,'' it has been steady. In 2017 and 2018 she finished the Chicago Marathon in 2:20:22 and 2:18:35, respectively, after logging a year-end best time of 2:24:45 at Lisbon in 2016.

The 25-year-old arrived in the Windy City as an overwhelming favourite, having won the race in 2018. Last month she clinched the unofficial best women's half marathon time of 1:04:28 at the Great North Run and earlier this year she became the youngest woman to ever win the London Marathon.



Brigid Kosgei after setting a new world record **/REUTERS**

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