



The Standard

Shylock economy

PREDATORS Harsh economic times and bank credit denials have driven Kenyans into backstreet borrowing, fuelling a shylock economy that is pushing households to ruin. Victims of predatory lenders forfeit assets, skip meals, battle depression, and in some cases, take their own lives. Surveys show women disproportionately skipping meals, while non-performing loans hit Sh697 billion. With banks favouring government lending, unregulated digital credit has filled the gap—quick but crippling, trapping millions in endless cycles of debt. **PAGES 6 & 7**



"My salary is gone before I even receive it. I'm just taking one loan to pay another, and it's a living nightmare. They threaten you, they call your friends, they have no mercy."

Mercy Njeri,
civil servant

"What we are seeing is the emergence of a 'shylock economy,' a financial ecosystem where desperation drives demand, and predatory lenders fill the void left by a formal banking sector."

Ian Njoroge, independent analyst

"I pray to God to forgive all those who conned me. I don't want to talk much about it because I also went into depression."

Okeyo,
borrower

"Strategies in resolving household indebtedness in 2024 included cutting down on other expenses, ran down savings, looked for additional work or business and took another loan to repay."

FinAccess Survey Report of 2024

Learning in universities paralysed as dons, staff strike over arrears

► Lecturers down tools over Sh10.5b arrears, disrupting learning and graduations.

► Unions demand settlement of pending CBAs before resuming normal duties.

LEWIS NYAUNDI, NAIROBI

Teaching and learning in public universities ground to a halt on Wednesday after lecturers across the country went on strike over Sh10.5 billion in unpaid arrears.

The strike, coming barely three weeks into the new academic year, now threatens to disrupt graduations and stall completion of the semester.

The industrial action was declared by the Universities Academic Staff Union (Uasu), the Kenya Universities Staff Union (Kusu), and the Kenya Union of Domestic, Hotels, Educational Institutions and Hospital Workers (Kudheha), affecting all public universities and their constituent colleges.

It followed a late-night effort by the government to avert the walkout after the Treasury released Sh2.5 billion to settle part of lecturers' salary arrears.

In a letter to Uasu, Treasury Cabinet Secretary John Mbadi urged the union to call off the strike, saying the funds were being processed.

However on Wednesday, Uasu officials maintained that the industrial action would continue until the money was reflected in lecturers' accounts.

They also demanded that the government address two pending issues: Sh8.8 billion arrears from the 2017-2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and the commencement of negotiations for the 2025-2029 CBA.

Students have also threatened to hold demonstrations in solidarity with their lecturers.

In Nairobi, KUSU Secretary-General Charles Mukhwaya accused the government of failing to honour the agreed



Technical University of Mombasa (TUM) staff under UASU, KUSU and Kudheha protest in Mombasa yesterday over government's failure to honour Collective Bargaining Agreements. [Robert Menza, Standard]

daily@standard.com

return-to-work formula and neglecting its responsibility to settle outstanding arrears.

"The government must respect court-sanctioned agreements and registered CBAs. Our members will not return to work until all issues are resolved," he said.

At Maasai Mara University in Narok, learning was paralysed as academic and non-teaching employees staged a peaceful march to the university's main gate in protest.

KUSU Secretary-General Galfen Omuse also faulted the government for ignoring multiple court directives on the matter.

"CBA arrears have accumulated to Sh3.27 billion. Despite a court directive requiring additional funding for their

“

The government must respect court-sanctioned agreements and registered CBAs. Our members will not return to work until all issues are resolved.”

Charles Mukhwaya, KUSU Secretary-General

implementation, the government has not complied. We have no choice but to withdraw our services. Lecturers and staff in 41 public universities have endorsed the strike," said Omuse.

Union officials, including UASU Secretary Boniface Isalambo, warned that if the government does not release the all the funds by Monday next week, students will be sent home indefinitely.

"Our members will not return to work until the government addresses all the issues raised in the strike notice," the leaders stated.

In Murang'a, lecturers at the Murang'a University of Technology (MUT) also downed their tools, demanding that the government settle Sh7.9 billion from the 2017-2021 CBA before they resume work.

Led by UASU branch secretary Dr Stephen Njenga, they said the Sh2 billion reportedly released had not reflected in members' accounts.

"UASU officials are impressed with the members' determination to push the government to get their rights. We will only return to class once the arrears are settled," Njenga said.

At the Technical University of Mombasa (TUM), workers under UASU, KUSU, and Kudheha accused the government of failing to implement the 2021-2025 CBA in full.

In a joint statement, UASU TUM chapter secretary Prof Josiah Odalo, KUSU branch secretary John Ogwang, and Kudheha shop steward Joseph Musyoka said Sh2.73 billion allocated for the current phase had not been released.

They accused the government of disregarding both last year's return-to-work formula and a March 28 Court of Appeal ruling that directed the arrears be paid in full.

Decade back

"We remain open to dialogue and meaningful resolution, but we shall not return to work until the government addresses our demands satisfactorily," they stated.

At Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT), lecturers threatened to escalate the strike if grievances dating back nearly a decade are not addressed.

UASU DeKUT chapter secretary Rev Anthony Mutuiiri accused the institution of deliberately underpaying staff by placing them on a lower horizontal salary scale instead of the agreed diagonal scale, despite court rulings in their favour.

Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Ogamba appealed to the unions to reconsider their position and withdraw the strike notice, saying efforts were underway to resolve the matter.

But Omuse dismissed the appeal, saying the government was playing "cat-and-mouse" with university staff.

"It took a strike threat for them to act, and even then, the amount released does not address the full scope of arrears owed," he said.

[Reports by Ann Musungu, George Sayagie, Boniface Gikandi, Patrick Beja and Amos Kiarie]

newsdesk@standardmedia.co.ke

AUDIT

Counties owe suppliers Sh176.8b in pending bills, report reveals

A new report by the Office of the Controller of Budget has exposed the plight of contractors and suppliers owed billions by county governments amid a surge in pending bills.

The County Governments Budget Implementation Review Report for the 2024/2025 financial year shows that counties had accumulated pending bills amounting to Sh176.80 billion as of June 30, 2025.

Controller of Budget Margaret Nyakang'o noted in the report that several counties failed to adhere to their payment plans, leading to the ballooning debt burden.

Of the total bills, Sh48.88 billion were less than a year old, Sh19.78 billion were between one and two years old, Sh20.34 billion were two to three years old, while Sh85.42 billion had remained

unpaid for more than three years.

"The significant amount of bills under one year is concerning, especially since full disbursement of the Equitable Share for FY 2024/25 had been provided. Moreover, a discrepancy exists between the pending bills reported to the Controller of Budget and the trade payables shown in the unaudited financial statements submitted by County Executives and Assemblies," reads the report.

Nyakang'o also disclosed that the high level of pending bills were inconsistent with Regulation 41(2) of the Public Finance Management (County Governments) Act of 2012 that provides that "debt service payments shall be a first charge on the County Revenue Fund, and the Accounting Officer shall ensure this is done to the extent

possible so that the County government does not default on debt obligations."

Compensation to employees

To cure this, the Controller of Budget urged County governments to avoid accumulating pending bills by refraining from making commitments at the end of the financial year, forecasting revenues realistically and prioritizing payments for completed activities.

"County Treasuries are advised to settle outstanding debts using the first-in-first-out principle, in line with Regulation 55(1)(b) of the Public Finance Management (County Governments) Regulations 2015," she noted.

At the same time, counties have been cited over their high expenditure on compensation to

employees for the period under review and contrary to regulation 25(1)(b) of the PFM (County Governments) Regulations, 2015, limits County Government expenditures on wages and benefits to 35 per cent of the County's total revenue.

According to the report, County Governments spent Sh220.64 billion on employee compensation in the 2024/2025 financial year. This amount represents 47 per cent of their total expenditure of Sh470.23 billion and 41 per cent of the realized revenue of Sh533.11 billion. This expenditure also represents an increase from Sh209.84 billion in the previous 2023/24 financial year.

Nyakang'o further highlights that out of the 47 counties, only eight units adhered to the 35 per cent ceiling for employee compensation to actual revenue. [Josaphat Thiong'o]

Pain and fury as lawyer Mbobu is buried amid call for speedy probe

- ▶ Widow says the family is devastated by the untimely death of the lawyer.
- ▶ Politicians urge authorities to investigate the murder and punish the culprits.

STANDARD TEAM

Slain city lawyer Kyalo Mbobu was laid to rest in his home in Mua Hills, Machakos County where calls for justice dominated mourners' speeches.

And just like it happened during his requiem Mass in Nairobi on Tuesday, the media was barred from covering the event attended by thousands of mourners including lawyers, politicians and dignitaries.

It was a rare ceremony where only family-contracted photographers were allowed to film and photograph the service conducted by Machakos Catholic Diocese Bishop Norman King'oo.

Speeches were notably limited in favour of dignitaries who included First Lady Rachael Ruto, family, professional associations and isolated welfare and community groups in which the slain lawyer was a member.

Mbobu's widow, Ann Mwendu, termed her husband's demise as the most devastating for the family, and which will only take God's intervention to bear with. "His death is a painful experience for us as a family and we only look up to God to carry us through," she said.

Born in 1962 in Maiani village in Mukaa, Makueni County, Mbobu attended Maiani Primary School before proceeding to Ofafa Jericho High School in Nairobi. He later proceeded to the University of Nairobi to pursue law. After practising law in various firms in Nairobi, he founded Kyalo and Associates Advocates in 1995 where his clientele included banks and insurance companies.



The late lawyer Kyalo Mbobu.

Politicians called for speedy dispensation of justice over the murder. Former Nairobi governor Mike Sonko said it was high time the government regulated the boda boda sector to address the spiraling cases of 'murderers on bikes.'

"We are not saying boda boda operators are criminals. But we have witnessed numerous cases where serious crimes have been executed using motorbikes. Recently, an MP was murdered in a similar scenario. As a country, we must deal with this issue urgently and conclusively," said Sonko.

Machakos Governor Wavinya Ndeti urged the police to leave no stone unturned and unravel the mystery murder. "No one has the right to take anyone's life. We urge the police to hunt down Mbobu's killers and bring them to justice," she said.

Makueni Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jnr said: "We may say vengeance is of the Lord, but we shall revisit every bullet that hit him."

On Wednesday, it emerged that it took police eight days to seek closed CCTV footage from Town House and adjacent buildings in relation to

the lawyer's assassination. On Tuesday, new detectives pursuing the killers visited Town House, where Mbobu had an office and requested for CCTV footage. The Standard had revealed on Saturday that the police had not yet even gone to review the footage, or even interviewed a man who appeared prominently on the footage.

The man wearing a black cap and carrying a black back pack was seen in the lift together with the slain advocate. Later in the footage, they appeared together on CCTV as the man was talking on phone and Mbobu was walking away.

"Police finally went to Town House and asked for the CCTV footage. They then interviewed the control room operator and took copies of the footage. They had spent a week chasing the wrong suspects," said a source within the police force.

Also interviewed was Mbobu's office manager who has worked for him for 23 years. Following acquisition of the footage, the police have trailed the unidentified man who was in the lift with Mbobu, to Tom Mboya Street where he enters a forex bureau. "If he had any transaction in the bureau, the police will get his details and get to sit down with him for questioning so as to eliminate him from the list of suspects," said a police source.

The first team investigating the murder had held city businessman and politician George Wainaina, his nephew Paul Mburu and Mbobu's neighbour Eric Muhia.

"Investigations reveal the trio had no motive or opportunity to harm the late. They were cleared of all suspicion," said the source.

The new team of detectives had started fresh investigations on Monday. They also wrote to all banks the slain lawyer was holding accounts with to demand for Mbobu's bank statements. The disbanded old team that had bungled the investigations has been sent back to their offices.

[Reports by Erastus Mulwa, David Odongo, and Lenox Sengre]

Briefly

NAIROBI. SUSPECT HELD IN SH36M FAKE GOLD DEAL

Another suspected gold scammer has been arrested for conning a Canadian Sh36.1 million) in a fake deal. Abbas Bardu Omuyoma aka Ishmael arrest came on the heels of a recent warning by Directorate of Criminal Investigation (DCI) to foreigners to be wary of gold fraudsters. The two suspectshad claimed to be in a position to sell him 550 kilos of gold nuggets and bars sourced from Democratic Republic of Congo. The Canadian transferred USD 280,000 only to discover he had been conned since no gold was ever delivered. The victim launched a formal complaint at Nairobi's DCI regional office. Detectives arrested Bardu along Dennis Pritt road. [Hudson Gumbihi]

NAIROBI. WOMAN'S BODY DUMPED ON BUSY ROAD

Detectives are probing the death of a woman whose body was dumped along Mombasa Road on Monday evening. The incident happened between GM and Airtel, near HK Motors. Witnesses said a car, believed to be a white Volvo, dropped the body at around 6:50pm. The car then made a u-turn, driving against traffic towards GM. The woman, in her early twenties, is believed to have been already dead by the time she was dropped. Two days later, her identity remains a mystery. No family has claimed her, and detectives say they are relying on missing persons reports to locate her family. Her body was moved to City Mortuary and booked as unknown. Police visited the scene said there were no bloodstains on the road to suggest that she had been hit by a car. [Emmanuel Kipchumba]

COURT

Blow to DPP after High Court reinstates Sh300m fraud case against businessman

The Director of Public Prosecutions Renson Ingonga has suffered a blow after the High Court reinstated land fraud charges amounting to Sh300 million against businessman Abdirahman Muhumed Abdi alias Abdi.

Justice Alexander Muteti of the Milimani High Court set aside a ruling by the Chief Magistrate's Court that had allowed withdrawal of the criminal case against Abdi, saying it disregarded rights of the complainant, Parminder Singh Sethi, a Director of Pansiba Limited, and misapplied the law. "This court finds that the decision by the Honourable Magistrate allowing the withdrawal of the case under Section 87(a) of the Criminal Procedure Code was improper, irregular and incorrect in law," ruled Justice Muteti.

The case, Milimani Criminal Case No. E560 of 2024 against Abdi, alleged to be a brother-in-law of former DPP and current NIS boss Noordin Haji, had been withdrawn by the DPP on the grounds that a civil suit on the same subject was pending before the Environment and Land Court.

However, the complainant, Pansiba Limited director, through his lawyer Ben Musundi, moved to the High Court, arguing that the withdrawal was unlawful and prejudicial, accusing Ingonga of attempting to shield his predecessor Noordin Haji's brother-in-law.

Musundi urged the judge to overturn the decision by the DPP since he had failed to provide any credible reasons for the sudden withdrawal, even before any witnesses had testified. "This is not a minor dispute; it involves deliberate forgery and fraudulent acquisition of land worth hundreds of millions," the lawyer told court.

"My client, a legitimate businessman, is present in court today and ready to give his testimony," he added.


According to the charge sheet, Muhumed is accused of forging land documents in an attempt to unlawfully acquire two parcels, LR No. 209/10848 and LR No. 209/10849, by merging them into LR No. 209/16790, all valued at Sh300 million. He is said to have then forged a certificate of title purporting it to be authentic and

issued by the Ministry of Lands. "The forged title was part of an elaborate scheme to dispossess my client's company, Pansiba Limited, of its land. This is a clear case of economic crime and must be allowed to run its full course in court," the lawyer added.

The businessman told the court he had invested heavily in the disputed land and that justice would not be served if the case was terminated prematurely. "I want the court to hear the evidence. We have already complied with all pre-trial requirements and the prosecution witnesses are ready to testify," he said.

The lawyer told the court that no new facts or material evidence had been presented by the accused person in their letter to the DPP to warrant a review of the charges as recommended. Musundi said investigations into the land fraud case took at least ten years.

"The arrest of the accused took place in Dubai, where he had fled after committing the fraud. The DCI had to seek the assistance of Interpol," he said. [Nancy Gitonga]



Website: www.assembly.meru.go.ke
Email: assembly@meru.go.ke

County Assembly of Meru
P.O. Box 3-60200
MERU

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF MERU
OFFICE OF THE CLERK

VETTING OF NOMINEES TO THE MERU COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 196 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, Sections 8 (1)(a), 58 (1) and 58A (7) and (8) of the County Governments Act, 2012, Sections 7 (3) & (4) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017 and Standing Order No. 46 (3) of the County Assembly of Meru Standing Orders, notice is hereby given for the information of the public and the Nominees that the **Sectoral Committee on Labour, Public Service and Social Welfare** shall vet the below listed persons for appointment to the **Meru County Public Service Board**.

The Approval Hearings will be conducted on **Monday, 29th September, 2025** in the **County Assembly of Meru premises, adjacent the Meru Museum**, as specified in the schedule below:

Monday, 29th September, 2025

No.	Name of the Nominee	Position	Time	Venue
1.	Benjamin Muletha	Chairperson	9:00 A.M. - 9:45 A.M	Assembly Chamber
2.	Patrick Mwirigi Kwagara	Member	9:45 A.M. - 10:30 A.M	Assembly Chamber
3.	Hon. (Ret.) Dr. Joseph Kaberia Arimba	Member	10:30 A.M. - 11:15 A.M	Assembly Chamber
4.	Denis Muriungi Muriira	Member	11:15 A.M. - 12:00 Noon	Assembly Chamber
5.	Judith Muthoni Muriira	Member	12:00 Noon - 12:45 P.M	Assembly Chamber
6.	Christine Makena	Member	12:45 P.M - 1:30 P.M	Assembly Chamber

The Assembly therefore requests any member of the public or institution to take part in the exercise by submitting any information and/or reservations in respect to the suitability, or otherwise, of the said nominees to serve in the aforesaid offices.

The submissions should be by way of sworn affidavits hand delivered to the Office of the Clerk of the Assembly in sealed envelopes on or before **Friday, 26th September, 2025 at 4.00 P.M.**

All information received shall be held in confidence and used only for vetting of the said nominees. The nominees should bring along their original academic and professional certificates, National IDs or Passports, and any other relevant testimonials.

Additionally, the nominees should also bring along certificates of clearance from the following institutions:

- Kenya Revenue Authority (K.R.A.)
- Ethics and Anti-corruption Commission (E.A.C.C)
- Directorate of Criminal Investigations (D.C.I)
- Higher Education Loans Board (H.E.L.B)
- Credit Referencing Bureau (C.R.B)
- Relevant Professional Body (If applicable)
- Accreditation from Commission of University Education for foreign degrees (If applicable)

JACOB KIRARI
CLERK TO THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY
P.O. BOX 3-60200
MERU.

Opposition goes mute as Ruto beats own drum

► President and allies are going round in 2027 campaigns disguised as development tours.

► Opposition criticised for “boardroom” politics done in hotels and press statements.

BRIAN OTIENO, NAIROBI

Kenya's next General Election is not due for another two years, but the air is noisy with political slogans.

In recent days, the loudest chant has been “Tutam” a corruption of “two-term”, chanted by allies of President William Ruto, which implies that the Head of State will be re-elected to office.

Occasionally, “Wantam”, a slogan coined by former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua to mean that Dr Ruto would only serve a single term, dominates.

That has hardly been the case in the last few days, courtesy of Ruto's aggressive campaigning, disguised as development tours.

As he sells his candidature, the opposition mostly keeps indoors, fuelling the perception that they are possibly unserious about unseating Ruto. On social media, they have attracted criticism for being “boardroom” politicians who operate primarily from plush hotels, issuing press statements.

The real work, critics have argue, is out there in the field, where Ruto has camped since he was sworn in as the fifth president. Observers have warned that this reality is not the ideal, as Ruto's early campaigns have kept the country in a constant electioneering mood.

Whatever the ideal situation, it is clear the President will not stop campaigning, and that the opposition could lose out if they let Ruto have a free run.

“How will they sell their policies without moving around?” says Dr Timothy Onduru, who teaches History at the Moi University.

At the Coast, where the President has camped since Tuesday, he is holding rallies like those witnessed on the campaign's homestretch. Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has led the public in chanting “Tutam”, the response to his “Harambee” prompt.

Ruto is digging in at the “United Opposition” led by Gachagua and former Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka, terming them “confused” and “lacking brains.”

In Kenya's murky political waters, such statements would have earned an equally forceful response. “We are unbothered by what the President does,” says Machakos Deputy



President William Ruto and other leaders during commissioning of the Mombasa Commuter Rail service in Miritini, Mombasa County yesterday. [Kelvin Karani, Standard]

Governor Francis Mwangangi, an ally of Kalonzo. “We are running at our pace.”

Indeed, the opposition has looked unfazed, and sometimes powerless before Ruto. Much of this, as Onduru argues, owes to the possibility that the opposition would struggle to match the President's financial muscle “to move around the country”.

“The President has resources and the State power. No one can compete with that,” he says.

Gitile Naituli, a professor of leadership and management affiliated with the United Opposition, concurs.

“Ruto is using public money. The opposition's lack of campaigns could be because they are strapped for resources, but not out of a lack of seriousness about removing Ruto from office,” he argues.

“But the opposition could be timing their camp aigns to start next year.”

Kalonzo has perennially appeared like he is awaiting a trigger. Within his circles lie the hopes that former Prime Minister Raila Odinga will desert the Head of State.

“What would happen if Raila were to declare ‘Ruto must go?’ He

“

The opposition's lack of campaigns could be because they are strapped for resources, but not out of a lack of seriousness about removing Ruto from office,”

Gitile Naituli, professor of management.

iwould be a hero,” says Makeni Senator Dan Maanzo, highlighting the underlying desire to have Raila back in the opposition fold.

“What stops Raila from abandoning Ruto in the last minute and teaming up with Kalonzo? He abandoned Kanu after it made him its secretary general.”

Constantly on the move, only Gachagua seems like a counterweight to his former boss. Over the weekend, He declared his presidential bid. However, his eligibility is debatable as he was impeached in October. Impeached officials are barred from seeking elective office.

If cleared, he faces equally ambitious politicians within the budding opposition coalition. Kalonzo, who has supported Raila in the last three General Elections, wants to run for office, as does Martha Karua, the leader of the People's Liberation Party.

Before his announcement, Gachagua got the first signal that he would not throw his weight around in the opposition when he was forced to withdraw his Democracy for the Citizens Party's candidate in the Mbeere North parliamentary by-election planned for November.

The coalition, held together by their desire to thwart Ruto's re-election, say they plan to announce a single presidential candidate next year.

Maanzo defends his coalition's slow tempo as “strategic”, saying that ousting Ruto requires proper planning. Mwangangi also offers a similar justification, but argues that the Head of State ought not to be campaigning early.

Onduru argues that while the opposition still had enough time to strategise for the next election, they were sending mixed signals and risk coming out as disorganised.

bowino@standardmedia.co.ke

POLITICS

Questions emerge on the eligibility of opposition candidate in by-election

The opposition may have unwittingly given President William Ruto's UDA a through pass after it picked popular musician, Newton Kariuki, aka Karish, as its candidate for the Mbeere North parliamentary by-election.

Kariuki's eligibility as Democratic Party candidate was put in doubt yesterday after it emerged that the Muminji MCA had not yet resigned as a member of the Devolution Empowerment Party, which sponsored him in 2022.

Embu County Assembly Speaker Josiah Thiriku told *The Standard* that he had not received any communication.

“The law requires one to be a member of a political party at least 60 days to the elections. Secondly, if an elected member switches party, he or she stands out of office but on this the Speaker has to be notified and no one has notified me of either Karish or Duncan Mbui switching,” he said.

Mbui, who represents Evurore Ward, is an Independent candidate but is eyeing the parliamentary seat through Moses Kuria's Chama cha Kazi. Also in the race is Leonard Muthende of UDA.

Although elected leaders wishing to contest are protected by Section 43 of the Elections Act, legal scholars maintain that for one to be eligible to contest through another political party, they ought to have resigned.

“A public officer who intends to contest an election under this Act shall resign from public office at least six months before the date of election. A public officer who intends to contest in a by-election under this Act shall resign from public office within seven days of the declaration of a vacancy. This Section shall not apply to the President, the Deputy President, Member of Parliament, a county governor, deputy county governor and a member of a county assembly,” reads the Act.

But senior counsel Paul Mwangi and Charles Kanjama maintained that Section 14 bars one from being a member of two political parties at the same time.

The Section states: “A member of a political party who intends to resign from the political party shall give a written notice prior to his resignation to—(a) the political party; the clerk of the relevant House of Parliament, if the member is a Member of Parliament; or (c) the clerk of a county assembly, if the member is a member of a county assembly. The resignation of the member of the political party shall take effect upon receipt of such notice by the political party or clerk of the relevant House or county assembly.”

According to the law, the political party is expected to notify the Registrar of Political Parties within seven days.

Kanjama said under Article 194, resigning makes the elected leader lose his position.

“The Constitution explains the process of the vacation of the office of member of county assembly stating that having been elected to the assembly as a member of a political party, the member resigns from the party, or is deemed to have resigned from the party and therefore could not continue drawing a salary from the public coffers,” he argued.

Mwangi said an elected leader who resigns but continued to draw a salary should be surcharged and forced to return the money.

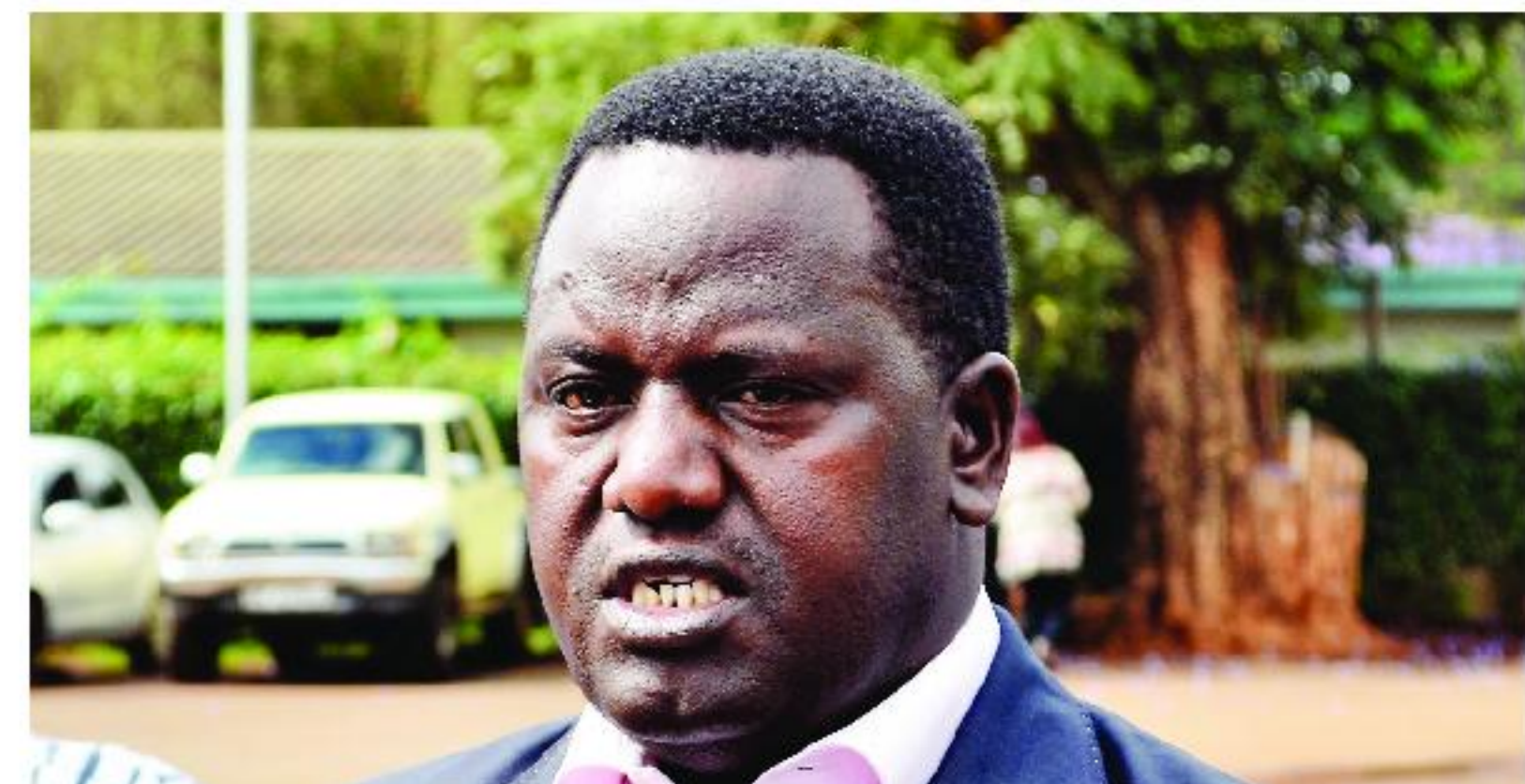
But DP Party Leader Justin Muturi maintained that their candidate had resigned from his previous party.

“I know he is a member of the DP party, though I may not have details as to when he resigned but anybody having doubts is free to confirm with the Office of Registrar of Political Parties. There could be some people who may want to use some technical issues to bar the candidate since he is the first among equals but they won't succeed,” said the former Attorney General.

Efforts to reach the MCA failed as he did not pick our calls nor receive our messages.

Kariuki is the United Opposition candidate after other parties withdrew to support him.

[Ndung'u Gachane]



Muminji MCA Newton Kariuki, who was elected through Devolution Empowerment Party, is eyeing the Mbeere North parliamentary seat on a DP ticket. [File, Standard]

Ongoing audit reveals billions lost on more than 50,000 ghost learners

► PS Bitok says audit on 60 per cent of schools revealed inflated numbers.

► Ongoing verification shows Sh5 billion may have been lost in three years.

LEWIS NYAUNDI, NAIROBI

School heads and senior Ministry of Education officials could soon be shown the door as pressure mounts over discovery of 50,000 ghost learners, draining taxpayers of billion in capitation funds.

MPs yesterday pressed Basic Education PS Julius Bitok to explain who benefited from the inflated student numbers.

With each learner receiving Sh17,000 annual capitation, it means that the fake enrolments translate to about about Sh850 million every year.

A source at the ministry said with an estimated three-year remittance, it is estimated that about Sh2.5 billion could have been sent to non-existent students.

Prof Bitok told MPs that the ghost learners were revealed after the completion of a verification exercise on 17,400 schools out of the targeted 32,000.

Parliament heard that the number could double once the audit is completed, raising concern that the country may have lost up to Sh5 billion in the last three years.

Education CS Julius Ogamba told *The Standard* that heads of the affected schools and sub-county directors would be held to account.

"This audit (verification exercise) is the first step, the next will be to



Basic Education PS Julius Bitok before National Assembly's Education Committee yesterday. [Elvis Ogina, Standard]

audit the release of the money to schools to establish who were the heads of these institutions, and who were the sub-county directors. After that, we will hand over the matter to investigating agencies," he said.

SH5B

AMOUNT that the country may have lost through inflated capitation in three years, according to an ongoing audit.

In Parliament, Bitok said the ministry had screened 5,795 primary, 5,125 junior, 5,792 secondary and 614 special needs schools; about 60 per cent of all institutions.

And now, MPs are calling for the prosecution of those who presided over the racket.

Education Committee chairman, Julius Melly, dismissed assurances that implicated officers would be reshuffled, insisting that only disciplinary action and prosecution would suffice.

"No, we don't want you to do a reshuffle, we want disciplinary action. If they have capitated students for those years, what were they doing? What was your director general doing? What was your finance officer

doing? People have to be held accountable," he said.

Bitok explained that the ministry would subject those involved to the public service disciplinary procedures once the verification exercise is completed.

Committee members accused the ministry of downplaying the scandal, warning against "cover-ups."

Despite the revelations, the PS said the ministry is yet to unearth any ghost school.

"As of now, we can't confidently say that there are ghost schools. We can say the numbers have gone down, but within a week we should have a clearer position," he said.

At the same time, the crackdown on inflated numbers has already paralysed schools, with over 14,000 institutions yet to receive funds as the ministry withholds disbursements pending verification.

Only 17,400 of the country's 32,000 institutions have been cleared and received capitation.

However, the PS doubled down on an earlier declaration that only schools that have been vetted and cleared would be funded.

"I want to give a firm commitment that by Friday, all schools whose enrolment has been verified will have received capitation," said Bitok, further noting that the ministry projects to have verified up to 20,000 institutions.

Bitok said the ministry would soon roll out Maisha Namba for learners to get permanent identifiers, which would be used in the new education management system, Kenya Education Management Information System, to be launched in January.

lnyaundi@standardmedia.co.ke

EDUCATION

Invitations out as more than 64,000 teachers fight for promotion slots

Some 64,619 tutors are scrambling for limited promotion slots announced by the Teachers Service Commission (TSC).

Among them are 47,449 primary teachers eyeing 21,313 places for teachers and curriculum support officers (CSOs).

A county director who requested anonymity said the exercise has generated excitement.

"For many teachers, especially those in rural areas, this is their chance to break through career stagnation. The numbers are high, but we expect a fair and merit-based process."

The first round of interviews, to be done at the sub-county level, will be held between October 6 and 10, focusing on 47,449 primary school teachers.

The largest bulk of candidates fall under the Senior Teacher II (Grade C2) category, with 24,717 applicants vying for promotion.

This will be followed by Senior Teacher I (Grade C3), with 8,850 candidates, headteacher (Grade C5) with 5,483 candidates, and Senior Headteacher (Grade D1), which has attracted 6,267 candidates. Some 2,132 candidates will be interviewed for Deputy Head-teacher II (Grade C4).

The second phase, scheduled for between October 13 and 24 at county and regional levels, will involve post-primary teachers and CSOs.

At the county level, 12,510 applicants have been shortlisted across various grades. The largest groups include Deputy Principal II (Grade D2) with 3,179 candidates against 46 slots, Senior Master III (Grade C5) with 2,968 candidates against 19 posts, while 2,581 tutors will be competing for 1,012 slots in the Senior Master IV (Grade C4) category. Secondary Teacher I (Grade C3) has attracted 2,211 teachers for 141 positions.

Deputy Principal III (Grade D1) has 1,221 candidates for only 14 places, while 164 have been shortlisted for Senior Lecturer II and III (D1 and C5).

At the regional level, 4,660 candidates will contest for senior leadership and curriculum support positions.

These include 3,216 applicants for Senior Principal (Grade D4) who will be going for 676 slots, and 374 teachers to be interviewed for 105 Chief Principal (Grade D5) positions.

Other positions are Principal and Principal SNE (Grade D3), and 19 slots for Senior CSOs (Grade D2). Additionally, 922 candidates have been shortlisted for CSO I and II (D1 and C5).

The leadership roles would be a major focus to strengthen the management of schools and the curriculum delivery system. Promotions to senior principal, chief principal, and CSO levels will have a direct impact on how schools are run and how reforms are implemented.

Invitations for interviews started being dispatched on Tuesday and all candidates should have their letters by September 23.

Final results should be out by November 7. **[Mike Kihaki]**

EDUCATION

Excitement as man takes goat to pay college fees

A 21-year-old man surprised tutors and learners at the Kitelakapel Technical Training Institute in West Pokot after he took a goat to as his tuition fees.

Plim Juma from Chepkopegh village in Kapenguria said he had been unable to further his studies since sitting the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examination in 2023 due to poverty.

And to pursue his dream, the fourth-born in a family of six on Tuesday morning arrived at the institution with a goat.

Witnesses reported that Juma first sought permission from the security guard at the gate before proceeding to the registry office. His bold act drew the attention of staff and students.

As excitement built, the principal, Phidis Karimi Masai, along with the County Director of TVET, Michael Rugut, welcomed Juma, commending his determination.

"Our spirit as an institution is to make technical



education accessible to all, without discrimination or favouritism," said Masai.

"This young man has shown extraordinary commitment, and it is our responsibility as educators and leaders to nurture such determination."

Rugut encouraged other young people not to give up on their dreams.

"Juma's story reminds us that education is not only about resources but also about passion and resilience," he said. "We must support young people who are willing to go the extra mile."

Students at the college expressed their admiration, with many describing Juma's gesture as both inspiring and humbling. Some noted that it serves as a reminder of the sacrifices rural families make to educate their children.

Juma's story has since gone viral, sparking conversations about the struggles many young people face in accessing higher education and the lengths they are willing to go to secure a future.

[Irissheel Shanzu]

Broke and hungry, many Kenyans left to mercy of backstreet lenders

► Kenyans are caught in a debt trap with many getting expensive loans from predatory lenders.

► Tough economic times is the leading reason for the attractiveness of the loans.

BRIAN NGUGI AND MACHARIA KAMAU,
NAIROBI

Harsh economic times, the high cost of living, and the denial of credit by banks to households and businesses have forced many Kenyans into backstreet borrowing that is now pushing them to the edge.

Many are resorting to shylocks to meet quick financial needs, often ending up forfeiting assets. Victims of these unregulated digital lenders tell of battling depression, with some cases ending in suicide.

Reports show that families are skipping meals as breadwinners divert the little they have to service loans. The lenders, preying on Kenyans' vulnerability, offer quick but exorbitantly priced credit.

The lenders, tapping on the vulnerability of Kenyans, offer easy to access but exorbitantly priced loans.

In addition to the effects of Covid-19 that left many without jobs, the high taxes have resulted in thinning paylips for those still in employment, giving way to a thriving shylock industry.

And the self-employed have not been spared, with their earnings eroded, with their customers unable to spend and also faced with higher cost of doing business.

When prominent lawyer Kyalo Mboju was last shot dead in mysterious circumstances, it emerged that he had been blacklisted by local banks and was dependent on shylocks.

His banking history is one of the lines being pursued by the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI).

In one instance, Mboju reportedly borrowed Sh10 million from a shylock five years ago but soon defaulted on repayments. By the time he died, he reportedly owed the shylock Sh72 million.

Mboju's case is a reflection of many Kenyans who are suffering silently under the hands of shylocks.

Heartache

The heartache that comes with dealing with debt collectors from digital lenders, which are seen to be a mutation of the traditional shylock backed by venture capital billions, is one that Mercy Njeri knows only too well.

On a recent Friday morning in Naivasha town, Njeri's phone rang. Her heart sank. It was a number she did not recognise, but she knew exactly who was on the other end: A debt collector from a digital lender.

A month before, Njeri, a civil servant, had borrowed Sh5,000 to cover her son's school trip. Now, with the interest and penalties, the amount has ballooned to

over Sh8,000.

Her salary, already squeezed by taxes, is no match for the predatory repayment schedule. Mercy, a single mother, is not an outlier, analysts say; she is a mirror reflecting a national financial crisis, a silent epidemic of debt distress consuming an entire generation.

"My salary is gone before I even receive it. I'm just taking one loan to pay another, and it's a living nightmare," said Mercy in an interview.

"They threaten you, they call your friends, they have no mercy."

The exorbitant nature of the shylock loans makes many borrowers to default with creditors resorting to harassment and threats as they demand back their money.

And when the loans are due, many borrowers wary of the crude debt collection methods by both digital lenders and shylocks are now foregoing meals to service the debts, according to the FinAccess Household Survey 2024.

"Strategies employed by households in debt repayment and resolving household indebtedness in 2024 included cutting down on other expenses (food and non-food), ran down savings, looked for additional work or business and took another loan to repay," said the FinAccess Survey. "The most popular action to repay is by reducing expenses on food with females."

The survey noted that hard hit are women, whereby 63 percent reported reducing expenses on food to service debt compared to 57.1 percent of men who participated in the survey.

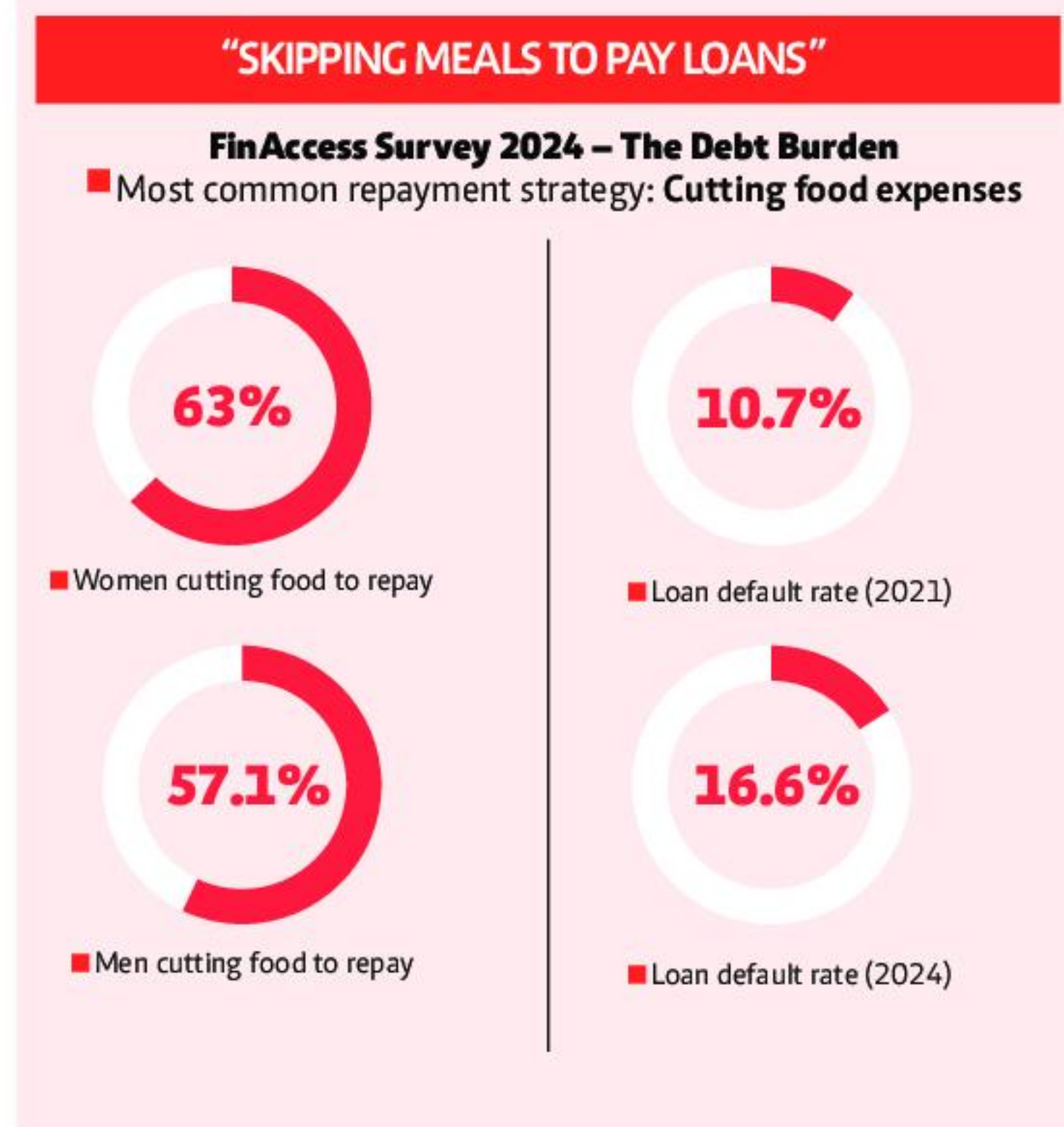
The data from the Survey, which is conducted by Central Bank and its partners, provides a chilling quantification of this human-driven crisis.

The survey indicated 16.6 per cent of Kenyan borrowers defaulted on their loans, a significant increase from 10.7 per cent in 2021.

The report also reveals that financially unhealthy individuals have an alarmingly high probability of default, with 80.4 per cent of them defaulting in the 2024 survey.

In yet another publication - Financial Sector Stability Report (FSR) 2024, CBK confirms what Kenyans feel in their bones: A nation in a debt trap.

The report reveals a staggering surge in the banking sector's gross non-performing loans (NPLs), which swelled to a record Sh697.29 billion by the end of 2024. For a country of entrepreneurs and hardworking citizens, this isn't just an economic statistic; it's a measure of shat-



digital credit providers.

These lenders have become the go-to financiers for those who cannot navigate the stringent loan terms, paperwork, and long waiting periods of banks and Saccos.

But the relief offered by digital loans is often a wolf in sheep's clothing. The FSR describes them as "expensive, short term, and not appropriate for long-term investment" highlighting their significant impact on a borrower's income.

Worse, it notes that some lenders extend credit in a manner that "creates dependency and traps borrowers in debt". The Financial Sector Regulators Forum (FSRF) report also warns that poor economic performance and predatory lending, coupled with irresponsible borrowing, "accentuate debt distress".

These lenders are increasingly using communication and transaction data to vet borrowers, a practice that, while intended to manage risk, often locks out the most financially fragile.

"What we are seeing is the emergence of a 'shylock economy,' a financial ecosystem where desperation drives demand, and predatory lenders fill the void left by a formal banking sector that has turned its back on the average Kenyan," said Ian Njoroge, an independent based analyst.

For those locked out of both formal banking and the digital lending space, the last resort is often the most dangerous: The shylock.

Charging upwards of 30 per cent interest for short term loans, they are the loan sharks of the streets, operating with a ruthless efficiency that makes no room for empathy. The exorbitant nature of these loans makes defaulting almost inevitable, leading to a frightening escalation of threats and harassment.

CBK started moving towards regulating digital lenders in 2020, acting on reports of rampant debt shaming by debt collectors of the loan apps. A few Kenyans had been reportedly driven to suicide due to threats from the representatives of the lenders. CBK has licensed 153 digital lenders as of this month. These are however a fraction as CBK says it has received over 700 applications for licences from digital lenders.

While those that are licensed exhibit some degree of decorum, they still charge exorbitant rates.

CBK has recently announced the issuance of a revised Risk-Based Credit Pricing Model (RBCPM) to promote responsible lending. The Draft Central Bank of Kenya (Non-Deposit Taking Credit Providers) Regulations, 2025 is also seen as a clear attempt to formalise and sanitise the digital lending space.

However, for a nation on the brink of financial despair, these regulatory actions, while necessary, feel like a distant effort. The shylock's dread is real. It is the palpable fear that grips a parent when their child is sent home for school fees, the humiliation of a public shaming on social media by a debt collector, and the cold reality that the promise of a better life is increasingly out of reach.

The CBK's next Monetary Policy Committee meeting will be on October 7, and the stakes could not be higher. They will not only be deliberating on economic policy, but on the future of an entire population living on the financial edge, one paycheck at a time.

newsdesk@standardmedia.co.ke

Shylocks profit from fine print, unending charges, heartlessness

▶ Those who took loans and defaulted say the shylocks, like leeches, suck lenders dry.

▶ They prey on desperation, speed of loan approvals and hazy terms to ensnare borrowers

WILLIS OKETCH, MOMBASA

When Kahindi* walked into the offices of a credit firm perched in one of the buildings along Moi Avenue in Mombasa, he was desperate. His son required emergency surgery.

He had exhausted all avenues of raising money. His friends had contributed what they could, and he was ineligible for a bank loan, as he was listed with the Central Reference Bureau (CRB) for defaulting on another loan.

"I was desperate. I was given a brochure and taken through it by an agent. She pointed out to me verbally that the loan, as the brochure indicated, would attract interest of four per cent per month," he explains.

"I think the small font and the length of the form are deliberate. A desperate man or woman has no time to go through it. I just agreed to everything, not knowing the danger in the details," said Kahindi.

Kahindi later learnt that the credit firm had under one roof all the firms required to carry out approvals of the loan and recovery in case of default.

"I surrendered the logbook and other details needed. I was referred to a car-tracking company, which used the same address as the lender and the auctioneer."

What Kahindi did not know was that he had signed up for a highly punitive loan.

"I realised later that the Statutory Declaration, the final act in the application form before one gets a loan, was not properly executed by the company. I later learnt that was also deliberate," he said.

After signing the Statutory Declaration, Kahindi left the office despite the red flags, such as the fact that the form did not contain crucial company details required for the execution of the contract.

"I signed for a loan of Sh105,000 and used my vehicle as security. However, on November 6, 2020, Sh97,471 was wired into my account instead of the agreed amount," he said.

Thereafter, the lender issued Kahindi with a repayment schedule indicating that the principal sum was Sh127,300, to be repaid in monthly instalments of Sh14,158 for 18 months.

This meant he was to pay a total of Sh254,800. He was told that Sh36,000 was for vehicle-tracking services at a rate of Sh2,000 per month plus an initial fee of Sh5,000.

"I contested the amount. I notified the lender through email, but it declined. I visited the offices, but no one listened to me.

"I went to the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, but I was not heard," said Kahindi.

Kahindi's car was repossessed by the lender's auctioneer via a notice of proclamation dated December 31, 2020, which indicated it would be seized after seven days.

"I lodged the case with the Competition Authority of Kenya and lost after one and a half years—an inordinately long period considering the court was not busy then," he said.

Kahindi claims that the then chair of the CAK lamented that creditors were exploiting loopholes in contract and auction laws to fleece clients.

"The court issued a 14-day notice for an inter partes case. This was during the corona period, and mine was the only case listed. The auction proceeded, and the vehicle was sold," he said.

Another client, Okeyo, lost a truck after using it to secure a loan from a similar microfinance institution in Mombasa to expand his hardware shop in Utange.

Okeyo said a transport firm dismissed him in 2006. He later decided to use his savings and a bank loan to buy a six-wheel truck.

"I thought with the booming housing sector in Utange, I would make good money. In 2008, the truck developed a mechanical problem," said Okeyo.

A friend advised him to seek a loan from a microfinance institution, as a bank loan would take too long to process.

"The truck was my only reliable source of income. I had to move fast and ensure it was back on the road. So I took a loan from the microfinance," he said.

Like most clients, the deal was too good to resist. All agencies required to approve the loan were under one roof.

"I received a loan of Sh300,000, the mechanic fixed the truck, and I began servicing the loan. One month I defaulted for just a week, and the auctioneers and police stopped my truck at Kengeleni stage and towed it away," said Okeyo.

When his driver informed him that the truck had been seized, he cleared the outstanding loan balance of Sh120,000 and went to reclaim it.

"I was shocked when an agent at the microfinance office informed me that charges had accrued because of delayed payment.

"He said I must also pay the firm that towed the truck and the yard where it was parked. In total, the charges were over Sh270,000," said Okeyo, who reported the matter to the police.

He said police frustrated him for close to three months, during which fines piled up to over Sh700,000. His truck was auctioned.

He said: "I pray to God to forgive all those who conned me. I don't want to talk much about it because I also went into depression."

newsdesk@standardmedia.co.ke

HOW OKEYO LOST HIS TRUCK

Sh300,000

■ Loan received

Sh120,000

■ Outstanding balance at time of default

Over Sh270,000

■ Additional charges (towing, yard fees, penalties)

Over Sh700,000

■ Accumulated fines and charges after 3 months

■ Final loss: Truck repossessed and auctioned



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Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

PREPARE ZRA FOR ISO 27001 CERTIFICATION

GFG IV aims to support the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) to implement its planned public financial management (PFM) reforms aimed at restoring fiscal sustainability and improving efficiency and effectiveness of public resource allocation, and spending, for better public service delivery.

The objective of the project is to strengthen public financial management in Zambia. To achieve this objective, the project focuses on 3 main intervention areas – **(1)** improving budget credibility, **(2)** strengthening domestic resource mobilization, including tax policy and tax administration, as well as **(3)** increasing GRZ's capability to steer and implement comprehensive cross-cutting PFM reforms and processes. More information about the programme can be found on the [GFG website](#).

The Zambia Revenue Authority has embarked on a significant digital transformation journey, automating most of its business processes and converting them into online services. A notable milestone was the automation of tax filing, returns, and payment of domestic taxes through the Tax Online II platform. This was followed by the implementation of the Smart Invoicing system, which focuses on Value-Added Tax (VAT), Turnover Tax, Rental Income, and Tourism Levy to enhance compliance.

Now, GIZ wishes to hire a qualified consultant to guide ZRA in preparing for ISO 27001 Certification. The consultant will assist the Authority in implementing an ISMS that aligns with the standard's requirements, identifying and mitigating potential security risks, and ensuring compliance with regulatory and contractual obligations

OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The consultant is required to undertake the following specific objectives:

I. 1. Competence Building

Build the necessary competencies to have an active role in the development of an ISO27001-compliant ISMS.

II. Scope Definition

Identify gaps in the ISO27001 implementation and the ISMS Scope.

III. GAP Analysis

Simulating the Stage One Audit that would be carried out by a Certification body towards an ISO27001 certification audit.

IV. Risk Assessment

Establish the context for information security risk management, which involves setting the basic criteria necessary for information security risk management

V. Pre-Certification Audit and Certification Audit

Simulation of both Stage One and Stage Two audits by ISO27001 Lead Auditors Certified in ISO27001 Audit

The assignment is expected to be performed between November 2025 to August 2026 and be completed approximately within 300 days of signing the contract

SELECTION CRITERIA:

To qualify for consideration in the tender procedure, interested individuals/firms are required to meet the following qualifications and submit documents for eligibility assessment accordingly:

- **Education/training:** degree in a relevant field, such as computer science, information security, management or related
- **Language:** C1-level English language proficiency
- **General professional experience:** 7 years of professional experience in development cooperation, public relations, strategic communication, or policy advisory roles.
- **Specific professional experience:** 5 years of experience in: ISO 27001 Experience implementing and managing ISO 27001 or similar information security management Systems and Information Security Experience: Information Security Management

CERTIFICATIONS

1. **ISO/IEC 27001 Lead Auditor:** Demonstrates expertise in auditing Information Security Management Systems (ISMS) against the ISO 27001 standard
2. **ISO/IEC 27001 Lead Implementer:** Shows knowledge and skills in implementing ISMS in accordance with ISO 27001 requirements.
3. **CISSP (Certified Information Systems Security Professional):** Indicates expertise in information security practices and principles.

ADDITION SUBMISSIONS:

1. Annual total turnover for each of the last three (3) years, a minimum of EUR 150,000 or Zambian Kwacha equivalent per year is required
2. List of completed and ongoing projects supported by client references in the area of ISO 27001 certification in Africa.
3. CV detailing experience, competencies, and skills of key personnel.

SUBMISSION DETAILS:

- Official letter expressing interest.
- A brief concept note on the subject matter.

HOW TO SUBMIT:

The number of pages of all submission documents shall not exceed 50 pages. External content (e.g., links to websites) will not be considered, the size limit of the attachment is **30MB**. The information and documents specified above shall be submitted to GIZ in PDF Format by **Thursday 25th September 2025 on or before 16:00hrs Zambian local time** to the following email address:

ZM_Quotation@giz.de

The subject line must be clearly marked as: **"Call for Expression of Interest, Ref: ISO Certification- GFG No. 83494674"**

Kindly note that complete tender documents will **ONLY** be shared with the shortlisted consultant that will meet stated criteria.

For further clarification bidders can send their queries to: **ZM_Inquiry@giz.de**
GIZ Procurement Unit

Battle of titles: Tycoon's daughters deepen puzzle on prime beach land

► Daughters of late billionaire say they inherited the 53-acre beachfront estate.

► DCI has disputed documents by city lawyer and an accountant over the land.

FRANCIS ONTOMWA, KWALE

A fresh storm is brewing over a prime 53-acre beachfront estate in Msambweni, Kwale County, after revelations that the property has two conflicting title deeds.

At the heart of the dispute is a city lawyer Guy Spencer Elms and accountant Nileshkumar Mohanlal Shah, whose ownership claim was revoked by the Lands ministry last year, only for a January court order to renew the contest.

According to the ministry, Spencer and Shah presented a disputed title deed for the land that is owned by late Pritam Singh Panesar.

And in a public notice published last week in a local daily, Tanmeet Kaur Panesar and Jasmeet Kaur Panesar introduced themselves as Panesar's daughters and ultimate beneficiaries of his estate.

The two women defended Spencer and Shah as rightful executors acting purely on their instructions, insisting the pair had "no beneficial interest" in their late father's property in Kwale's Msambweni.

But a gazette notice number 14724 dated November 8, last year, and signed by Kwale Land Registrar SN Mokaya tells a different story.

The registrar degazetted a title deed issued on July 28, 2023, in the names of Spencer and Shah, ruling that it had been unlawfully procured. The official affirmed that the valid title deed remained the one issued to Panesar on July 9, 2009.

Yesterday, Mokaya confirmed the nullification of the document.

"The duo misrepresented facts and when we noticed, we initiated the degazettement," he told *The Standard* on



Elms Guy Spencer, one of those claiming ownership to the 53-acre beachfront land owned by late billionaire Pritam Singh Panesar. INSET: Gazette notice nullifying a title deed presented by Spencer and Nileshkumar Mohanlal Shah. [File, Standard]

phone.

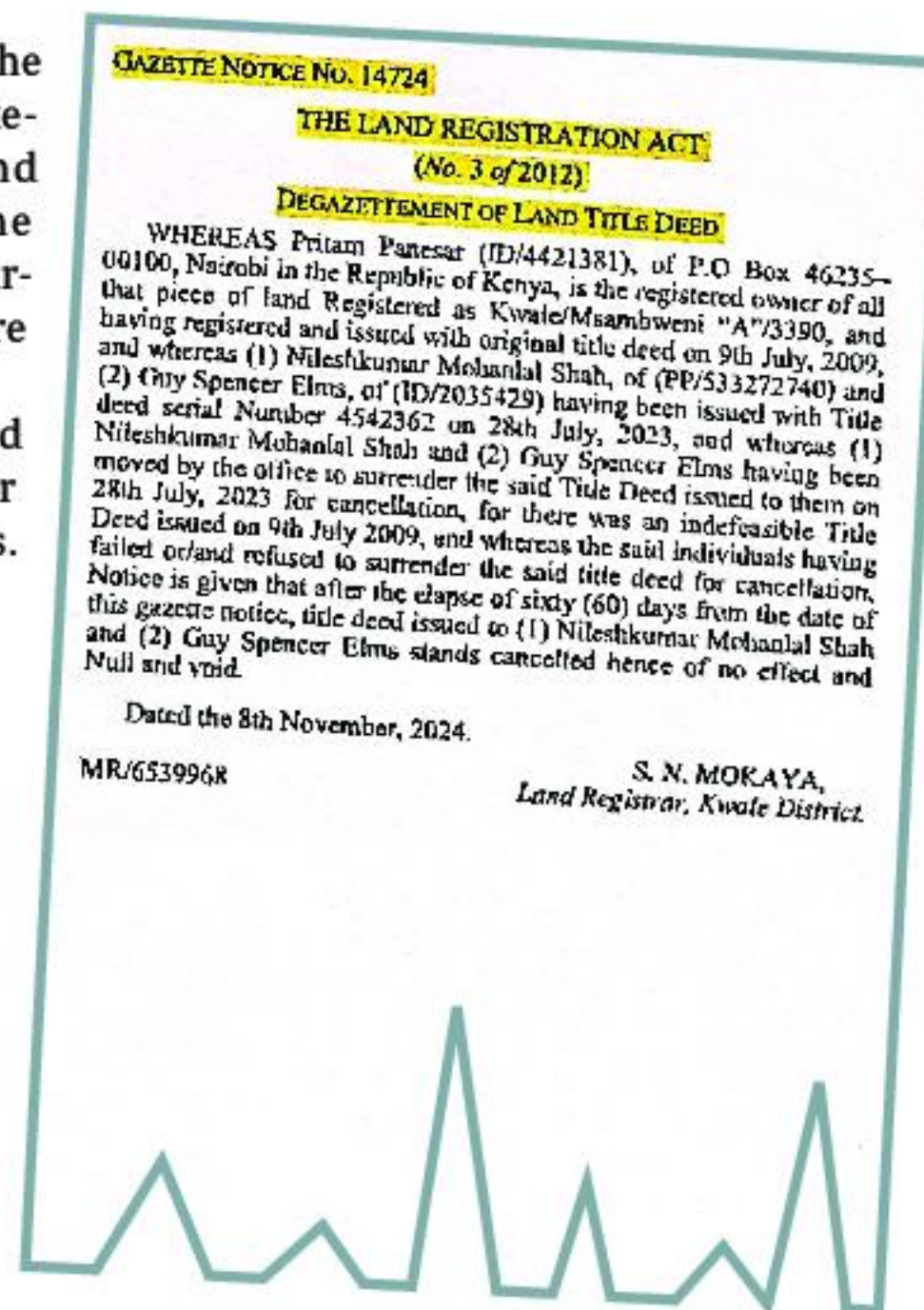
"Their title is still valid since the court stopped me from degazettement until the matter is heard and determined. Nevertheless, the first title ought to have been surrendered for cancellation before issuing another," he added.

The gazette notice directed the two executors to surrender the disputed title within 60 days.

“

The duo (Spencer and Shah) misrepresented facts and when we noticed, we initiated the degazettement.”

SN Mokaya, Land Registrar, Kwale.



When they failed to do so, the registrar declared the 2023 title "cancelled, of no effect, and null and void".

Noticeably, the names of Tanmeet and Jasmeet, who now speak as ultimate beneficiaries, do not appear anywhere in the will deposited in court by Spencer and Shah.

Their identities surfacing for the first time in the public notice further raise questions about the true structure of the late Panesar's estate and who stands to benefit.

The Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) forensic unit had alleged that Spencer and Shah, who are named in the contentious will as joint executors, presented a will carrying signatures said to be inconsistent with the late billionaire's known hand. In the contested will, DCI forensic document examiner Alex Mwongera compared the signature on against that on Panesar's national identity card, and concluded the two did not match.

Panesar died in July, 2018, leaving behind a vast estate stretching from Nairobi to the Coast, a fortune that has been at the centre of legal battles.

While the daughters claim in their newspaper statement that the will has never been challenged, court filings and forensic reports point to ongoing disputes over its authenticity.

Three men, Mohammed Ruwa Maridadi, Anthony Michael Mwanza Mulwa, and Ahmed Ouma Randa, are also fighting over the prime beachfront parcel of land, which they claim to have acquired rights over through adverse possession.

That claim, however, was quashed in court after Spencer and Shah applied to set it aside on grounds that they were the duly appointed executors and trustees of the estate, yet they were never joined in the original case.

Maridadi, Mulwa, and Randa had argued that they had lived on the land for over 12 years, and asked that the title be transferred into their names.

As the competing claims persist unresolved, the Panesar succession battle appears far from over.

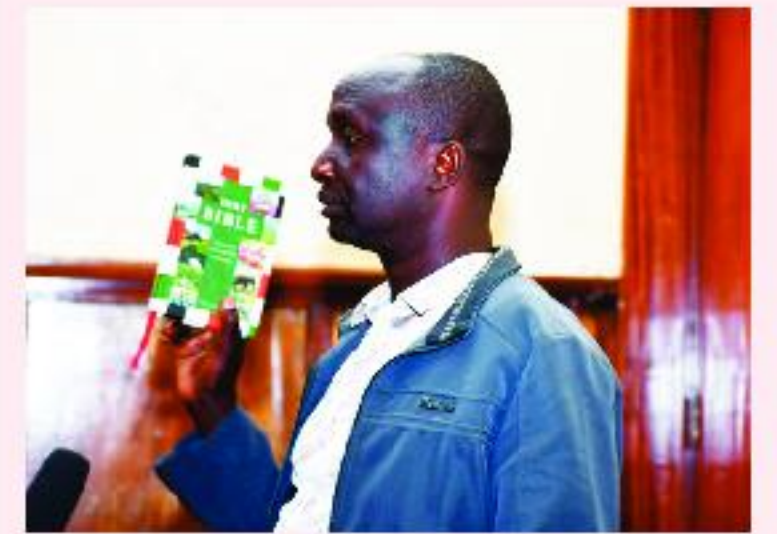
fontomwa@standardmedia.co.ke

Briefly

TRANS NZOIA. DISPLACED FAMILIES WANT LAND BACK

► More than 3,000 families evicted from Soroson, Smith and Parkinis farms, which cover over 10,000 acres, have appealed to the government to revoke a 1978 gazette notice. They say the gazette notice, done on day President Jomo Kenyatta died, was politically motivated and unjustly deprived them of land they had legally acquired. The land was declared part of Makunga Forest. Francis Kotli, chairperson of Kokwo Cooperative Society, said the community can no longer live as squatters. "This land belongs to us. The government should either resettle us or compensate us so we can live with dignity," he said. Roselyne Chesumbai expressed their suffering for nearly two decades without homes "despite having purchased the parcels from the government". [Martin Ndiema]

NAKURU. FATHER TESTIFIES IN OVERSEAS STUDIES CASE



► A clinician has said he gave up Sh997,000 in the Finland Education Programme after it ran into problems in 2022. Testifying against Uasin Gishu Senator Jackson Mandago and county officials Meshack Rono and Joshua Lelel, Chemain Tallam said he deposited Sh997,000 with the Uasin Gishu Overseas Education on September 17, 2022 for his daughter to study nursing. But he gave up after unexplained delays, but did not apply for the refund of the money. Tallam wondered why Governor Jonathan Bii was not one of the accused yet he paid the money during his tenure. Mandago and his co-accused are charged with conspiracy and theft of Sh1.1 billion in the Finland and Canada education programmes.

[Daniel Chege]

WEST POKOT. KASNEB OPENS DIGITAL CENTRE

► A state agency has unveiled a digital learning centre at the Kitelakapel Technical Training Institute. According to the Kenya Accountants and Secretaries National Examination Board (Kasneb), the project will expand access to accountancy studies in marginalised regions. "This digital centre will support students across various disciplines—whether in agriculture, business, or technical courses—by providing additional skills that enhance their employability," said Chief Executive Officer Nicholas Leting. The facility is equipped with 30 computers and partly powered by solar panels, addressing the area's unreliable electricity supply. He encouraged the youth to embrace technical and professional training. [Irisheel Shanzu]

TRAGEDY

Six killed, several hurt after lorry ploughs into crowd

Six people died and four others seriously injured in a road accident at the Kipsitet Trading Centre in Kericho County.

Soin OCPD Lawrence Kisini said the accident occurred around 10pm when a lorry transporting scrap metal veered off the road and struck commuters at a bus stop.

Residents said the absence of streetlights and a designated bus stage contributed to the Tuesday

night carnage. Felix Chepkwony said pedestrians were unable to spot the lorry.

"This is not the first time an accident has happened here. We have pleaded with our area Member of County Assembly Naaman Rop for a proper stage to be set up, but nothing has been done," added Nixon Kimutai.

He said the blackout at Kipsitet trading centre was due to failure by

the county government to clear electricity bills.

County assembly Speaker Patrick Mutai, and MCAs Mathew Korir (Chaik) and Mark Too (Soin/Sigowet) demanded immediate action from the Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA) and the county government.

He called for the erection of speed bumps and proper signage to reduce accidents at the busy centre, which

serves as a gateway to Kisumu county.

The injured were taken to the Kericho County Hospital while the bodies were transported to the hospital's mortuary.

The lorry wreckage and a crushed motorcycle were towed to the Kipsitet Police Station.

Traders also questioned the status of the promised Sh10 million Kipsitet market. [Nikko Tanui]



Season 4
**Hello
 Mr. Right**

**PREMIERS
 SATURDAY 20TH SEPT**

7:10 PM ON



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8:00 PM ON



CH113 CH484

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 ENJOY DIGITAL LIFE

IEBC short of funds to run 24 mini elections slated for November 27

► Polls agency boss says they have received Sh788 million out of Sh1.046 billion required.

► Team assures they are ready for the polls as Treasury delays raise concerns.

JOSPAT THIONG'O, NAIROBI

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) yesterday disclosed that it lacks sufficient funds to conduct all 24 by-elections scheduled for November 27.

Chief Executive Officer Marjan Hussein Marjan told the National Assembly Public Accounts Committee (PAC) that the commission requires a cumulative Sh1.04 billion to hold the by-elections but has only secured Sh788 million.

Marjan, who appeared before the watchdog committee alongside IEBC Chairperson Erastus Etheke, was responding to audit queries raised by the office of the Auditor General for the 2022/2023 financial year.

"Our biggest challenge ahead of the by-elections is funding. We have a total of 24 by-elections. Of these, 16 have been funded to the tune of Sh788 million, while the remaining eight, costing Sh258 million, are yet to be funded. Overall, we require Sh1.046 billion," said Marjan.

Committee chairperson and Butere MP Tindi Mwale, however, sought to know the criteria IEBC used to determine which by-elections would be funded and which ones would not.

"Initially, we submitted a list of 16 counties requiring funding for by-elections, but as time progressed,



IEBC chair Erustus Etheke (left) with CEO Marjan Marjan and his team before Public Accounts Committee in regards to IEBC's audit report for financial year ending June 2023, at Bunge Towers in Nairobi yesterday. [Elvis Ogina, Standard]



We are required to use e-GP, and although we sought a concession to continue with the old procurement system, it was not granted. We have not yet begun procurement, but we have trained our headquarters staff,"

Marjan Marjan, IEBC chief executive

more emerged that needed resources. We are engaging the National Treasury to secure the balance as quickly as possible," said the CEO.

He further noted delays in executing the by-elections programme due to new procedural requirements including the recent government directive mandating the use of E-procurement.

"We are required to use e-GP, and although we sought a concession to continue with the old procurement system, it was not granted. We have not yet begun procurement, but we have trained our headquarters staff and are ready to proceed once the process is cleared," said Marjan.

Pressed by MPs to specify which constituencies or wards had not been budgeted for, Etheke clarified

that some vacancies arose at different times, forcing the commission to prioritise those that had remained vacant the longest.

He pointed out that while the commission had received budgetary allocations, the release of funds from the exchequer had been inconsistent, compounding the financial strain. Nonetheless, he assured the MPs that all the 24 by-elections would be conducted on the same day.

"We have raised the matter with Treasury, and they said they have promised to provide funding for the eight outstanding by-elections. We only hope it comes in good time, as this is a time sensitive matter..." said Etheke.

He added: "Poll planning takes a lot of time and focus. We believe November 27 provides sufficient time, including for mobilizing resources, and we are confident of delivering a credible election as a test run for 2027. All plans are in place, and we will keep Kenyans updated on our preparedness."

In a notice, dated August 8, IEBC announced that the mini-elections for MCA seats will be held in Angata Nanyokie (Samburu), Chemundu/Kapng'etuny (Nandi), Chewani (Tana River), Fafi (Garissa), Kariobangi North (Nairobi), Kisa East (Kakamega), Metkei (Elgeyo Marakwet), Mumbuni North (Machakos), Narok Town (Narok), Purko (Kajiado), Tembelio (Uasin Gishu), Nyansiongo, Nyamaiya, and Ekerenyio (Nyamira), Lake Zone and Nanaam (Turkana) and Kabuchai/Chwele (Bungoma).

By-elections for six MP seats include; Banissa, Kasipul, Magarini, Malava, Mbeere North and Ugunja, while Senate seat for Baringo County is also up for grabs.

jthiongo@standardmedia.co.ke

NAKURU

Former magistrate Orange sacked for gross misconduct

Former Nakuru Principal Magistrate Isaac Orange has been dismissed from work after he was found guilty of gross misconduct.

In a letter addressed to Bryan Khaemba, Kamau and Company Advocates, who had complained against Orange, the Judicial Service Commission (JSC), confirmed Orange's dismissal.

The JSC admitted that following a complaint by Suleiman Murunga (deceased), the commission conducted investigations against Orange.

"Reference is made arising from Orange's conduct in Milimani Commercial Suit CMCC 1111 of 2018, Nilestar Holdings Ltd and Another vs Millennium Plastics (2008) Limited and three others," read the letter.

JSC stated that in a meeting held on July 30, 2025, they considered the disciplinary matter, reviewed the charges, written responses, submissions and oral documentary evidence presented at the disciplinary hearing.

"Following the review, the commission found that a case of gross misconduct had been established and resolved to dismiss Orange from judicial service," read the letter.

The commission said it established that Orange issued ex-parte eviction orders against one of the parties on February 23, 2018 and later, on March 12, 2018, discharged the same on grounds that the court lacked jurisdiction.

However, JSC noted that at the time of discharge, the party had been evicted and the premises demolished pursuant to the ex parte orders.

JSC pointed out that the dismissal followed the issuance of the final eviction orders at a provisional stage without first confirming that proper service had been done on the party.

Orange served in Nakuru between 2020 and 2024. Some of his notable cases included a hate speech case against Kapseret MP Oscar Sudi. Sudi was acquitted in 2022.

[Daniel Chege]

CRIME

Villagers burn three cars, motorbike after gang of 30 raids Limuru home

Three cars belonging to suspected criminals and a motorbike were set ablaze on Wednesday morning after more than 30 men stormed a homestead in Boma village, Ndeiya, Limuru sub-county.

The gang, armed with crude weapons including metal bars, rods and hammers, attacked the home of Mzee Lawrence Kangara at around 5am. Kangara said the men climbed onto his roof, apparently seeking entry into his house.

"I was woken by noise on the roof and switched on the lights. When I opened the door, a large group of



men shone torch lights in my face, hurled insults and forced me back inside," he recalled.

The attackers then turned to the nearby home of Kangara's son, Michael Karanu, breaking doors and windows to force entry. Karanu said

the men overpowered them because of their numbers.

"They entered through my children's room. The children screamed in terror as I begged the armed men to spare them. I rushed the children to my wife's room, but the ordeal left them badly shaken," he said.

The commotion drew villagers, prompting the gang to flee on motorcycles and in cars. Kangara, whose other son was mysteriously killed months earlier, appealed for protection. Police and DCI officers have launched investigations.

[George Njunge]

BARINGO

Court orders arrest of MP over poll debt

A court in Kabarnet, Baringo County, has ordered the arrest of Eldama Ravine MP Musa Sirma.

The Deputy Registrar Caroline Tabuche has instructed the Inspector General of Police (IG) Douglas Kanja, to enforce the arrest order.

Tabuche ordered the arrest after Sirma failed to attend court to explain why he had failed to pay over Sh2.7 million, owed to former MP Moses Lessonet following a 2017 election petition.

"In the circumstances, warrants are issued against the petitioner (Sirma) and the same should be implemented by the IG," ruled Tabuche.

On August 21, Sirma was issued with a notice to show cause why he should not be committed to a civil jail for failing to pay Lessonet his dues.



On September 3, 2025, the matter was mentioned for the notice to show cause against the MP but his lawyer appeared and indicated that payment had been made.

The lawyer asked for time to provide proof of payment and the court granted him 14 days.

However, yesterday, Sirma and his lawyer did not appear in court.

[Daniel Chege]

Blow to Ruto's mining reforms as new regulations declared illegal

► Judge finds that the Ministry did not conduct meaningful public participation.
 ► The reforms formed President's plans to modernise mining industry, tighten oversight.

NANCY GITONGA, NAIROBI

President William Ruto's ambitious plan to reform the mining sector has suffered a major setback after the High Court declared the 2024 Mining Regulations illegal and unenforceable for lack of meaningful public participation. The regulations, which sought to overhaul licensing, royalties, gemstone trade and mineral services, were quashed by Justice Bahati Mwamuye, who ruled that the Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs had failed to meet the threshold of public involvement as required under Articles 10 and 118 of the Constitution.

"While the Ministry of Mining's execution of its constitutional obli-

gation to facilitate public participation was flawed, and ultimately fell short of the constitutional threshold, there is evidence that an attempt albeit inadequate was made to comply," Justice Mwamuye said.

"What the law requires is meaningful, not uniform participation, tailored to context, but compliant with constitutional standards," he added.

The court's judgment now potentially denies the government billions of shillings in anticipated revenue from royalties, licenses, and mineral taxes, forcing a return to the previous legal regime. The contested regulations formed the backbone of President Ruto's plan to modernise the mining industry, tighten oversight and increase state earnings from mineral wealth.

Among the most contentious proposals was a nine-fold increase in licensing fees for large-scale prospectors and miners, from Sh50,000 to Sh500,000 for some minerals, to discourage speculators and free up space for deep-pocket investors.

The government also introduced new royalty rates ranging from one

KEY FIGURES FROM THE CONTESTED MINING REGULATIONS

LICENSING FEES

■ Large-scale prospectors/miners: Sh50,000 → Sh500,000 (nine-fold increase for some minerals).

ROYALTY RATES (PERCENTAGE OF GROSS SALES)

- Cut gemstones - 1%
- Cement & salt - 1.6%
- Clinker - 2%
- Metallic ores (copper, zinc, aluminium, manganese) - 5%
- Rough gemstones - 6%
- Coal - 7%
- Rare earth minerals - 8%

ADDITIONAL FEES

- Gemstone identification
- Value addition services
- Mine support services
- Licensing and mineral dealings (revised frameworks)

per cent of gross sales for cut gemstones to eight per cent for rare earth minerals.

Coal was to be charged at seven per cent, rough gemstones at six per cent, while metallic ores such as

copper, zinc, aluminium, and manganese would attract five per cent. Cement and salt were set at 1.6 per cent, with clinker at two per cent.

The reforms were challenged in court by the Kenya Chamber of Mines (KCM), which filed a petition on October 9, 2024. The industry lobby, representing miners, prospectors, dealers, suppliers, and professionals, described the regulations as "egregious and discriminatory."

KCM chairman Patrick Kanyoro told the court that the ministry, through CS Hassan Joho, had already signed the regulations on January 23, 2024, a full week before inviting the public to submit comments.

"To their utter dismay, the Respondent had already enacted the said regulations on January 23, 2024, seven days before inviting members of the public for comments on the regulations," the petitioners informed the judge.

Dr Kanyoro said the Chamber submitted a detailed 51-page memorandum outlining the "calamitous impact" of the rules, but their views were ignored.

ngitonga@standarmedia.co.ke

GRAFT WAR

DPP told to give evidence against Barchok in court

The Anti-Corruption Court has directed Director of Public Prosecutions Renson Ingonga to provide evidence in a Sh2 million graft case against Bomet Governor Hillary Barchok within 30 days.

Trial Magistrate Celesa Okore on Wednesday issued the directive after the DPP, through Senior Assistant DPP Vincent Monda and assisted by Mercy Gate-ru, Alex Akula, and Delroy Mwasaru, informed the court that the evidence against Governor Barchok was voluminous and required more time to compile.

"We are requesting 30 days to furnish the defence with all relevant exhibits and documentary evidence," the prosecution team told the court.

Governor Barchok's defence lawyers, Edward Oonge and Isa Masur, did not oppose the request for additional time but pressed the court to direct the DPP to supply the material in print form. "We ask that the documents be supplied in hard copy rather than soft copy," the defence submitted.

Magistrate Okore allowed the prosecution's request but directed that the evidence be filed within 30 days. She set the matter for a virtual mention on October 28 to confirm compliance with a pre-trial hearing. [Nancy Gitonga]



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KAJIADO
KAJIADO COUNTY ASSEMBLY
 P.O BOX 94-01100, KAJIADO



NOTICE TO NOMINEES AND THE PUBLIC ON NOMINATIONS AND APPROVAL HEARING

The Kajiado County Assembly has been notified by H.E. the Governor of Kajiado County of the nomination of various persons for appointment as County Chief Officers in various Departments.

Consequently, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 8 (1) (a) and 45 (1) of the County Government Act, 2012, Section 7 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act No.5 of 2017 (and in particular, the specific requirements of subsections (2), (4) and (5) thereof) and Standing Order 185(4) of the Kajiado County Assembly Standing Orders, the following listed nominees to the respective departments in the aforementioned capacity are invited to appear before the Assembly's Committee on Appointment at the County Assembly Chambers, Kajiado, for approval hearing on the date and time indicated below:

Day: Monday, 29 th September, 2025				
No.	Name	Department(s)	ID NO.	Time
1.	Felix Parsaoti Muneira	Urban Development & Municipalities	28489185	9:00am
2.	Isaack Mnaani Nayayio	Cooperatives	34756259	10:00am
3.	Makarios Leisanka Tuukuo	Agriculture & Fisheries	22288570	11.00pm

The nominees are required to collect the relevant Questionnaires from the Office of the Clerk of the County Assembly during official working hours. The Questionnaires may also be obtained from the First Schedule to the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act No. 5 of 2017. The Questionnaire may then be returned together with true copies of the Curriculum Vitae/personal nominee's credentials/academic certificates and other legal requirements or testimonials by, Friday, 26th September, 2025 at 2:00pm. The nominees should also enclose true copies of current clearance certificates from the following bodies:

1. Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC).
2. Directorate of Criminal Investigation (DCI).
3. Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA).
4. Higher Education Loans Board (HEL.B).
5. A credit Reference Bureau (CRB).

The originals of the aforementioned documents should be availed to the Committee at the approval hearing.

N/B
A nominee with foreign degree(s) must obtain and submit a current recognition and equation of qualification from the Commission for University Education, Kenya.

Members of public are invited to attend the approval hearing sessions. The members of public are also invited to submit any information or comment on the suitability or otherwise of any of the candidates for appointment to the respective positions. The submissions may be made by way of sworn statements or affidavits and may be accompanied by any documentary evidence. The submissions may be sent or hand delivered to the following address so as to be received by Friday, 26th September, 2025 at 5:00pm:

The Clerk, Kajiado County Assembly
Kajiado County Assembly Chambers
 P.O. Box 94-01100
 Kajiado.

Leboo Saisa
Clerk, Kajiado County Assembly

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KIRINYAGA



COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

The Kirinyaga County Public Service Board is pleased to invite applications from suitably qualified, motivated and Pro-active individuals to fill up the following vacant positions:

S/N	VACANT POSITION	TERMS OF SERVICE	NO OF POSTS	JOB GROUP	JOB REFERENCE
1	CEO KIDA	Contract	1	CPSB 02	KCPBS/CEO/KIDA/01/18/09/25
2	ENT Surgeon	Permanent & Pensionable	1	CPSB 03	KCPBS/MOH/ENTS/02/18/09/25
3	Anesthesiologist	Permanent & Pensionable	1	CPSB 03	KCPBS/MOH/A/03/18/09/25
4	Director Co-operative Development	Contract	1	CPSB 03	KCPBS/CO-OP/DIR/04/18/09/25
5	Medical Specialist Pediatrician	Permanent & Pensionable	1	CPSB 04	KCPBS/MOH/MSP/05/18/09/25
6	Sub-County Administrators	Permanent & Pensionable	2	CPSB 04	KCPBS/ADM/SC/06/18/09/25
7	Principal Agricultural Technical Training Centre	Contract	1	CPSB 05	KCPBS/ALVF/PATT/07/18/09/25
8	Ward Administrator	Permanent & Pensionable	1	CPSB 06	KCPBS/ADM/W/08/18/09/25
9	Medical Officers	Contract	2	CPSB 07	KCPBS/MOH/MO/09/18/09/25
10	County Valuation Officer	Permanent & Pensionable	1	CPSB 09	KCPBS/LAND/CVO/10/18/09/25
11	Community Development Officer	Permanent & Pensionable	6	CPSB 09	KCPBS/GEN/CDO/11/18/09/25
12	Engineer II (Mechanical)	Permanent & Pensionable	1	CPSB 09	KCPBS/T&PW/EM/12/18/09/25
13	Registered Clinical officer II	Contract	3	CPSB 11	KCPBS/MOH/RCD/13/18/09/25
14	Registered Nurse III	Contract	24	CPSB 11	KCPBS/MOH/RN/14/18/09/25
15	Medical Lab Technologist	Contract	2	CPSB 11	KCPBS/MOH/MLT/15/18/09/25
16	Nutrition & Dietetics Technologist	Contract	1	CPSB 11	KCPBS/MOH/N&D/16/18/09/25
17	Orthopaedic Technologist	Contract	1	CPSB 11	KCPBS/MOH/OT/17/18/09/25
18	Assistant Physiotherapist III	Contract	2	CPSB 11	KCPBS/MOH/AP/18/18/09/25
19	Health Records & Information Officer	Contract	2	CPSB 11	KCPBS/MOH/HRIO/19/18/09/25
20	Community Health Assistant III	Contract	2	CPSB 11	KCPBS/MOH/CHA/20/18/09/25
21	Radiographer III	Contract	3	CPSB 11	KCPBS/MOH/R/21/18/09/25
22	Assistant Public Health Officer III	Contract	5	CPSB 11	KCPBS/MOH/APHO/22/18/09/25
23	ECDE Teachers	Permanent & Pensionable	7	CPSB 11	KCPBS/EDU/ECDE/T/23/18/09/25
24	Youth Polytechnic Instructor III (Motor Vehicle Mechanic)	Permanent & Pensionable	1	CPSB 11	KCPBS/EDU/YPI/24/18/09/25
25	Revenue Clerks	Permanent & Pensionable	7	CPSB 12	KCPBS/FIN/RC/54/18/09/25

Applications should be addressed to:

The Secretary
County Public Service Board
 P O Box 260 - 10304, KUTUS.

Prospective candidates are encouraged to apply online using the Kirinyaga County Public Service Board website: cpsb.kirinyaga.go.ke on or before **MID-NIGHT OF FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2025.**

NB: HAND DELIVERED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED
 Kirinyaga County Government is an equal opportunity employer



"Please bear with the police officers if they ask you for fuel. It is not corruption or a demand for a bribe, it is simply a result of the current leasing programme which provides 450 litres per month,"

Kipchumba Murkomen, Interior Cabinet Secretary



EDITORIAL

Urgently negotiate with lecturers to end strike

University lecturers downed tools yesterday after a seven-day strike notice by the Universities Academic Staff Union (UASU) expired at midnight on Monday. In a last minute offer, the government promised to release Sh2.5 billion, which failed to make the lecturers call off the strike.

UASU put the government on notice on September 10, 2025 over its failure to honour the 2017/2021, 2021/2025 Comprehensive Bargaining Agreements (CBA) and failure to conclude the 2025/2029 CBA within the stipulated timelines.

Lecturers downed tools on September 18, 2024 and forced the government to negotiate and sign a return to work formula. But in what has become tradition, the government failed to honour the return to work formula, forcing lecturers to stage another strike on October 28, 2024, which lasted 26 days.

The strike was called off on November 23, 2024 after the government committed to release Sh9.6 billion. But, yet again, the government did not come through for the lecturers who are still owed Sh2.73 billion from the 2017/2021 CBA. Moreover, they are owed Sh7.8 billion in the 2021/2025 CBA.

The lecturers' discontent over the government's disdain for legally binding documents informs the current strike. The government's nonchalant attitude towards the demands of the dons must come to an end if we truly want Kenyan universities to reclaim their lost glory in global rankings.

The standoffs over pay are inimical to our university education. Students take longer to finish studies at additional costs they can ill afford. The reputation of our universities as citadels of knowledge suffers every time there are strikes, which means any international student would think twice before enrolling in a Kenyan public university. The government must do better.

It is an inescapable fact that CBAs are mutually agreed upon documents, and there is no room for any of the parties involved to fail to honour its end of the bargain. The government, unfortunately, has gained notoriety for treating CBAs as inconveniences. It's perhaps because of the trust deficit that the striking lecturers have downplayed the government's belated offer.

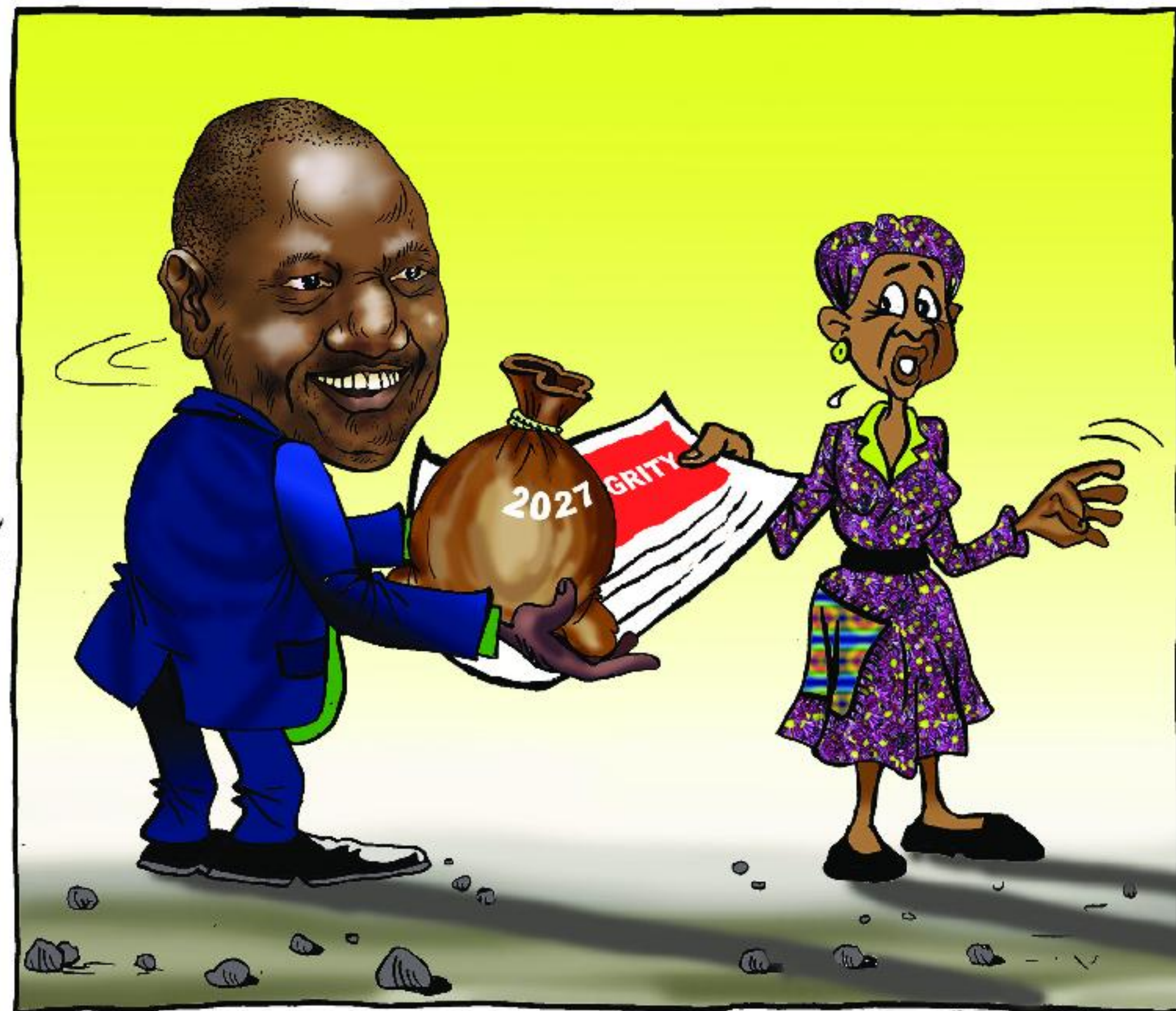
The contention that the government does not have enough money to meet the demands of the lectures is unconvincing. Not when it spends hundreds of millions of shillings as transport reimbursement to delegations that visit the State House on an almost weekly basis. Only last week, more than Sh100 million was spent on teachers who visited the house on the hill.

In the last few months, billions of shillings have been spent on questionable empowerment projects. The source of the funds continues to raise questions. In the face of such expenditure, it's hard to convince the striking dons that the Treasury doesn't have money.

In the meantime, the government should urgently meet UASU leaders and agree with them how the monies will be paid so that lecturers can go back to class. This strike must not be allowed to drag on for weeks on end as has happened before.



GAMMZOKO gammzoko@gmail.com



BEYOND WORDS

daily@standard.com

To deliver credible results, IEBC must learn from past mistakes



ELIAS MOKUA

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) has its job cut out. It has the monumental task of delivering a credible presidential result.

We have had regrettable cases since 2007 in which the presidential results were always bitterly contested. In 2017, the Supreme Court, under the now presidential aspirant Chief Justice (Emeritus) David Maraga, nullified the first round of the presidential election. In 2027, we might end up in the Supreme Court for a final verdict on who the winner is.

At the moment, the United Opposition is considerably loose with members pulling apart. Of course, the incumbent will help them create more distance from each other to his advantage. However, in the event they start pulling together, 2027 will be a titanic battle. In a scenario of a two-horse race, neither party will be assured of a secure win. If anything, a United Opposition will run the UDA-ODM government out of town, arguably, because the Kenya Kwanza government, for some very strange reasons, has been

campaigning for the last two years at the expense of precious time to deliver and the voter will have a clear choice to make.

The newly constituted IEBC will have to reflect on the performance of previous commissions, especially in handling the commonly contested presidential elections. There must be major lessons to learn at three main fronts: First, the degree of patriotism of the officer bearers, second, the attempts of political actors to tamper with the tallying process of presidential votes, and thirdly, the management of public perceptions of fairness in tallying and announcing presidential ballots.

On our part as voters and politically agitated citizens, we have an obligation to support the IEBC to deliver on its mandate given the complexities arising from the very short time left between now and the election date in 2027. We should give them assurance that we support their work and trust that they will stick to the electoral law in ensuring justice in the electoral process. Second, we should give them the benefit of the doubt that they will discharge their duties without opening a window to politicians to manipulate their decision-making.

Since 2027, successful regimes assume office with a public trust deficit. They strive to gain the much-needed public legitimacy to govern for several months and even up to the first two years. It is not up to IEBC to campaign for this or that candidate, and therefore, it has little control over the election outcome. But, in this era of AI, there are new opportunities for IEBC to significantly enhance a transparent process to avoid, as much as is practically possible, another

presidential election outcome that plunges the country into lawsuits.

Of particular interest is the direct transmission of presidential election results. In the past, it has been excruciating to see direct results transmissions stopped or even media tallying of results coming in drips. To build public trust, the IEBC should work with the mainstream media to strengthen ways in which the presidential results are relayed without delay. The institution has the enviable task of fostering democracy where it is most visible and where, if we get it wrong, the whole concept (of democracy) means nothing.

Finally, unlike politicians who often have little regard for the youth, seeing them as mere voting ATMs, the IEBC should consider working with Gen Z to secure public legitimacy in the presidential results from the time of announcement. In concrete terms, young people are exceptionally creative in proposing ways to ensure a fair, credible and transparent electoral process whose outcome will automatically attract public support.

IEBC should therefore mull over possible legal ways of embedding their creative support. These young people are an asset in election matters. They should not be left to do just clerical work besides voting. We have had a bloody past with presidential results. This can be avoided, now that we have the time to plan how to achieve it.

To enjoy the peace God has given us, let's work with IEBC to deliver on its mandate.

Dr Mokua is Executive Director of Loyola Centre for Media and Communication

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3222111 | Mobile: 0719012111/0719012118

EMAIL editorial@standardmedia.co.ke

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, Chaacha Mwitia

ACTING EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, John Bundotich

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PALAUVER

Is the State House the new campaign podium? wonders Onyango Moffat [onyangomoffat89@gmail.com]. "Between August and September, the President has hosted many meetings in the State House with community leaders, boda boda riders and teachers. The meetings revolve around the 2027 elections. Between now and then, the President should do something we can talk about instead of him telling people what his government is planning to do. Early campaigns have been a problem in the history of our politics. We need fresh ideas to reach Singapore's status."



Kenya's economic situation is worrying, according to Pamilla Mugure [pamilamugure@gmail.com]. "A glance at our imports versus exports reveals a dangerous imbalance. We import more than we export, creating a trade deficit that weakens our shilling and burdens citizens with high living costs. This imbalance now threatens industries, jobs, and national stability. Our leaders must act with urgency, invest in local production, empower farmers, support manufacturing, and open global markets for Kenyan products."

Let us, says Bonvace Oyunge [bonvaceoyunge20gmail.com], give President William Ruto his flowers. "Ruto has done more than was expected from him in only a few years. These include providing cheap fertiliser, introducing a new university funding model that has enabled many students to join university and has hired more teachers in two years. He established SHA. Lastly, the security sector has seen great improvement and contained terrorism. These are just a few of his achievements and we should appreciate the President."



Some national leaders, notes Githuku Mungai [githukumungai@gmail.com], never fail to remind us that tribalism is a bad thing. "Now, as an ordinary Joe, I do not have to be reminded that by anybody because I know tribalism gives me nothing that I can store in the granary. Those who probably need to be reminded of the foolishness of tribal thinking are definitely not ordinary men and women. And as for the hardened tribalists being targeted, we can only assume they understand how that assures them certain dubious gains."

Write to us: Oped@standardmedia.co.ke

Do you agree with pollster on Ruto's popularity?

+
YES

JONATHAN LUKA,
MEDICAL VIROLOGIST



Kenyans are unhappy with government

Even without TIFA or any other pollster, Kenyans in all parts of the country are feeling the heat of President William Ruto's bad governance. Clearly, the majority of Kenyans are not impressed at all by Dr Ruto's leadership. The majority of decisions made by his government have caused more anguish to ordinary civilians who are struggling to live decent lives. For the workers, Ruto raided their payslips with the unpopular Housing Levy

tax and increased SHA deductions whose results have not been witnessed in the country's healthcare system. Today, most Kenyans are unable to access affordable health care despite paying more, never mind the spiraling scandals in the SHA. Secondly, Ruto's popularity has gone down because his government has failed to protect Kenyans' lives and their rights in accordance with the Constitution. How can a regime known for abductions and extra-judicial killings be rated well? Education has sunk to the lowest under the Kenya Kwanza regime. Capitation crises and poor implementation of CBC has disoriented learners and parents.

daily@standard.com

+
NO

JAPETH KIVUITU,
FARMER



Poll does not reflect reality on the ground

I disagree with TIFA's survey suggesting that President William Ruto's popularity is on the decline. The conclusion by the pollster is not a true reflection of the actual situation on the ground. The majority of these opinion polls are conducted in urban areas and fail to put into account the views of the rural folks where government development projects are making the greatest impact. Dr

Ruto's scorecard in the past three years is solid and can be felt in all sectors. He successfully implemented policies that transformed the agriculture sector, leading to a significant reduction of the cost of food, which was arguably the biggest burden on Kenyans' shoulders in 2022. Secondly, the President has boosted the economy by making wise choices. The economy is now on a growth path and the country no longer runs the risk of economic sanctions arising from foreign debt. Significant progress has been made in healthcare, bringing more citizens to the national healthcare scheme.

Text and photos: Erastus Mulwa

VOTER REGISTRATION

It's contemptuous to lump Kenyans abroad together with prisoners

A recent gazette notice by the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), has deeply unsettled Kenyans living abroad.

The notice announced continuous voter registration across the 290 constituencies, but went on to state that: "The Commission shall issue a notice for the commencement of registration of citizens as voters and the regular revision of the voters' roll for citizens residing outside the country and prisoners."

This phrasing effectively lumps Kenyans in the diaspora with prisoners, placing them in the same category of restricted or exceptional citizens. For millions of Kenyans abroad, this was not only demeaning but a betrayal of trust.

For months leading up to this announcement, the Diaspora Technical Working Group (DTWG) — a coalition of diaspora leaders and advocates — had engaged the IEBC physically and virtually. The agenda was clear: To ensure the commission honoured its constitutional obligation to facilitate diaspora voting by increasing voter registration and polling centres abroad, streamlining logistics, and guaranteeing accessibility to all eligible citizens. The discussions often ended with assurances from IEBC that diaspora concerns were being taken seriously and that concrete steps were underway.

The gazette notice, therefore, came as a rude shock. Instead of demonstrating progress promised in those deliberations, IEBC reduced diaspora voting to an afterthought, grouped in the same breath as prisoners, and deferred to a later, unspecified notice. For a community that has invested time, money, and effort to engage constructively with the commission, this decision signals not just neglect but disrespect.



Thomas Musau,
Secretary General for Wiper
Patriotic Front Diaspora

Kenyans abroad are not prisoners of the state. They are free citizens who retain full constitutional rights under Article 38 of the Constitution which guarantees every Kenyan the right to political participation. Unlike prisoners — whose liberties are curtailed by virtue of criminal conviction — diaspora citizens voluntarily live abroad, often as workers, students, professionals, and entrepreneurs. Their remittances have become the single largest source of foreign exchange, surpassing tea, tourism and horticulture combined. In every sense, they are contributors, not convicts.

To frame them in the same category as prisoners is to demean their sacrifices and strip away the recognition they deserve. It conveys an alarming message: That their participation in Kenya's democratic process is conditional, secondary, or somehow less

legitimate than that of citizens at home.

This classification also raises doubts about IEBC's sincerity. If, after months of consultations with DTWG, the commission can still publish such a notice, what does that say about the weight it attaches to diaspora engagement? The phrase "when words betray deeds" rings true here: Assurances of inclusion and respect were given, but the official action tells an entirely different story.

Moreover, this decision undermines Kenya's reputation internationally. Our diaspora are cultural ambassadors, lobbyists, and investors who elevate Kenya's global standing. To see their government officially describe them in the same terms as prisoners is diplomatically embarrassing and politically reckless.

The IEBC had an opportunity to show progress by gazetting diaspora registration alongside the national exercise. Instead, it opted for delay and a demeaning categorisation. This is not a matter of semantics; it is about dignity, rights, and national unity. Words in official documents shape how citizens feel about their country and its institutions. And today, diaspora Kenyans feel diminished and excluded.

The IEBC should immediately clarify and correct this misstep. Diaspora Kenyans demand to be recognised not as prisoners of circumstance but as free, patriotic citizens entitled to the same urgency and respect in electoral processes. The commission must move beyond promises to concrete action — establishing more registration and polling centres abroad, communicating clearly, and ensuring timely inclusion in the voter roll.

Anything less will not only disenfranchise millions but also betray the spirit of Kenya's Constitution.



CHRISTOPHER LOCKYEAR,
SECRETARY GENERAL, MÉDECINS
SANS FRONTIÈRES

Doctors can't stop genocide in Gaza, but world leaders can

More than one million people in Gaza are facing renewed terror after receiving an emergency order to evacuate Gaza City ahead of a major ground offensive by the Israeli military. For many, escape is impossible – the elderly, critically unwell, heavily pregnant or wounded. Those left behind have been handed a death sentence.

People who attempt to flee will do so under intensifying bombardments. Those who survive the journey will reach overcrowded areas in central and southern Gaza where they will find neither safety nor the basics they need to exist. A population pushed to the brink by almost two years of extreme brutality faces catastrophe.

What is happening in Gaza is not just a humanitarian catastrophe, it is the systematic destruction of a people. MSF is clear: Israel is committing genocide against Palestinians in Gaza and doing so with absolute impunity.

The human toll is staggering. According to the latest Ministry of Health figures, more than 64,000 people have been killed, including 20,000 children. The true death toll is likely higher, with many more buried under the rubble of hospitals, schools, and homes.

There is no safe place in Gaza. Entire families have been wiped out sheltering in their homes. Health workers have been killed whilst tending to the sick. Journalists have been targeted for bearing witness. The Israeli military has attacked everything and everyone in Gaza.

High intensity weapons designed for open battlefields – some sold to Israel by US and European governments – are being used in densely populated urban areas where people are sheltering in tents. We are treating devastating injuries as a result.

The Israeli authorities have systematically targeted Gaza's healthcare system – bombing hospitals, raiding medical facilities, and endangering the lives of staff and patients – acts that may amount to war crimes. The few hospitals that remain are overwhelmed and under-supplied. Patients suffer and die needlessly.

Twelve of our colleagues have been killed and MSF orthopedic surgeon, Dr Mohammed Obeid, remains detained by Israel since October 2024. In total, more than 1,500 health workers have been killed. Each one is a devastating loss – for their families and for Gaza's besieged health system.

The impact of the genocidal war extends beyond direct attacks. Israeli authorities have deliberately choked Gaza, imposing a total siege, with severe restrictions on fuel, water, food, and medical supplies.

A policy of collective punishment, including starvation by design, has achieved its brutal objective – famine has been declared. A recent survey at our clinics in Gaza showed 25 per cent of pregnant or breast-feeding women were malnourished, which can increase the risk of stillbirth, miscarriage and premature birth.

The limited food assistance available has been cynically weaponised. An Israeli-run, US-funded operation is responsible for kill-



ing 1,400 people and injuring 4,000 more. We have treated children shot in the chest while reaching for food, and people crushed or suffocated in stampedes. This level of brutality is unconscionable.

Deliberate shortages of water are fuelling disease. Last month, MSF treated 4,000 people for watery diarrhoea – potentially deadly for malnourished children. MSF could increase the supply of clean drinking water but are regularly blocked from doing so.

Meanwhile, settler and state violence in the occupied West Bank is accelerating. Land theft, forced displacement, and attacks on communities are intensifying, as part of policies designed to change the demographic make-up of the West Bank.

Governments around the world – through political, military, or material support to Israel, or through silence – are complicit in

the genocide. They have a moral and legal obligation to respond. This means real political pressure, not empty words, using every available political, diplomatic, and economic measure to stop these atrocities.

States must urgently secure a ceasefire, lift the siege and ensure that Israeli authorities allow immediate and unhindered delivery of large-scale, independent humanitarian aid. Medical facilities and health workers must be protected. The evacuation orders, and mass, forced displacement of people must stop.

Borders must be opened to allow the evacuation of people who want to leave, and patients in urgent need of specialist care. Governments must actively facilitate these lifesaving pathways and a right of return when conditions are truly safe to do so.

The attacks by Hamas in October 2023 were horrific, and all the remaining hostages must also be allowed to return home, as must Palestinians held in arbitrary detention.

Countries that have expressed outrage and solidarity for Palestinians can and must do more to increase the political pressure on others to act. This includes ensuring all countries halt transfers of arms used to kill and injure people and destroy civilian infrastructure in Gaza.

Each day, our 1,118 colleagues working in Gaza face the devastating reality that they cannot stop a genocide. But world leaders can, if they choose to act. As the two-year anniversary of this relentless and extreme violence approaches, the political choices required to bring it to an end are long overdue.



The impact of the genocidal war extends beyond direct attacks. Israeli authorities have deliberately choked Gaza, imposing a total siege, with severe restrictions on fuel, water, food, and medical supplies.

Infrastructure

Integrated SGR-MGR link will boost transport in Mombasa



CLAUDIA MUMO

The Kenyan coastal city of Mombasa, the country's economic gateway, is set to experience a renaissance in its transportation infrastructure. This follows President William Ruto's inauguration of the Mombasa Metre Gauge Railway (MGR) Rehabilitation Project on Wednesday. The Sh4.2 billion initiative is expected to improve urban mobility in the region, especially because of the strategic 17km connecting link line between the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) terminus in Miritini and the Central Business District in Mombasa.

China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC) is at the forefront in rebuilding the infrastructure that has the potential of opening a new wave in emerging and developing territories of networked, environmentally sustainable, and commuter-friendly transport.

The project, launched in September 2022, was initially delayed due to land acquisition issues. Nonetheless, this took a different turn when Sh1.1 billion was allocated to the National Land Commission to address the problem.

The contractor has built the main terminal building at the Mombasa Central Station on Mombasa Island and other MGR passenger stations in Changamwe East, Changamwe West, and Miritini. The buildings have undergone safety tests.

CRBC contributed more to the project than bricks and steel. The construction of a 17km corridor is a testimony not only of technical skills but also strategic thinking. Though the contractor facilitated the interconnection of SGR and MGR networks, it contributed largely to the modification of the once disorderly transit environment of Mombasa into an orderly, workable facet. The interconnectedness between the SGR Madaraka Express and the CBD in the newly refurbished MGR line will enable passengers, at any of the seven SGR stations, to access the commercial hub of the city directly without having to transfer via the road network, which will also ease considerable pressure on the road networks in the highly congested city.

This is a rail-based solution that is in line with the larger vision of Kenya on sustainable urban development. Urban commuting is likely to lead to lower emissions, fewer road accidents, and also benefit commuters in terms of convenience, as people will travel by rail, not road. The Mombasa rail link will form the backbone of the integrated and multimodal transport in the city, constituting the MRT programme, which also comprises a prospective Bus Rapid Transit network.

Kenya Railways, which doubles up as the regulator and implementing agency of the sector, monitored the transformational upgrade of infrastructure with noble diligence. Yet, the factor that holds the key to its success is that construction partner CRBC has been able to deliver with precision.

The line was launched recently, having undergone all construction and safety tests. The launch is not just another opening of a new commuter line but an indication of a renaissance that will lead to a sustainable, efficient urban transport system within one of Kenya's most important economic centres.

Mombasa Meter Gauge Railway Rehabilitation Project is not merely about the improvement of transport; it is a declaration. It ascertains Kenya's resolve to build modern and integrated infrastructure capable of facilitating economic growth and protecting the environment. It also testifies to the irreplaceable nature of strategic international partnerships, such as cooperation with CRBC, in the provision of infrastructure of global standards in the context of local demands.

Ms Mumo is a media practitioner and a PhD candidate



READERS' CORNER

The Standard

Take part!

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HOT ON X

Federal, Supreme Courts in US differ

@WSJ: Some lower federal judges are acting as if their job is to resist the Trump administration's agenda rather than follow Supreme Court precedent, write Elizabeth PriceFoley and Mark Pinkert.

@nino9607: They're doing their job by trying to fight injustices, unlike the suckers sitting in the Supreme Court.



@SpringFkx: Judges are not lackeys who just follow orders. They are bound to the rule of law and the U.S. Constitution.

@PhilWeber55555: Congress can change it, if they were to have the will.

@jcoff316: Why should the lower courts follow precedence when the SCOTUS won't?

@sdavismay10: The judicial branch is a co-equal branch of government charged with adherence to the law.



FROM THE WEB

Natembeya appoints Wamalwa's brother

Standard Digital: Trans-Nzola Governor George Natembeya has nominated a brother of the Democratic Action Party of Kenya leader Eugene Wamalwa to his cabinet.

Emmanuel Wangila: Nothing new here considering the fact the two are not even related.

Edwin Grace: If today Ruto nominates Mudavadi's brother, Eugene Wamalwa will call a press conference and call out nepotism.

Toni Toni Toni: Competition happens at the bottom. The people at the top are collaborating.



Fredrick Musitia: Wamalwa's brother deserves a government job like any other Kenyan citizen as long as he qualifies.

Carwi Ween: If it's the same person I know, he is very much qualified and does not need his brother's name for identification.

Onesmus Matolo: What's wrong if he has the qualifications surely?

Calystus Makunda: Am not getting the point; is Natembeya a brother to Eugene?

EDUCATION

Access to education without learning is a great injustice to children in North Eastern Kenya

Kenya loves to celebrate its education milestones, such as free primary schooling, 100 per cent transition from primary to junior and senior secondary schools, and billions of shillings poured into classrooms.

But behind the fanfare lies a harsh truth: Thousands of children are in school but not learning. Education should be the ladder out of poverty and inequality. Yet poor quality of education turns it into a trap. A deeper look into the quality dimension reveals glaring inequities that undermine this promise.

According to Usawa Agenda's 2023 Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment report, only 36 per cent of Grade 4 pupils could both read a Grade 3-level English text and solve a simple numeracy problem. That means nearly two-thirds of children are being left behind by a system that claims to serve them, but really does not. Education justice, therefore, cannot be confined to access alone; it must also grapple with the urgent question of quality.

The injustice runs deeper. In Nairobi, for instance, literacy rates stand at 89 per cent, but in Turkana and Mandera counties, they plummet below 40 per cent. Nowhere is this crisis clearer than in North Eastern Kenya, where schools face crippling teacher shortages. The pupil-teacher ratio there is staggering, 92 learners per teacher in rural schools and 88 learners in urban ones, compared to far lower ratios in the Eastern and Central regions of Kenya.

Add to that, overcrowded classrooms, dilapidated infrastructure, and scarce resources, and the idea of equal opportunity becomes little more than a cruel illusion.

The Competency-Based Curriculum promised change, but without proper training of teachers and support for low-income families, it risks widening gaps instead of closing them.



Kenya spends about five per cent of its Gross Domestic Product on education, but money alone is not the answer; accountability and equity are. If education is truly the equaliser as all of us are made to believe, we must demand more than warm bodies in the classrooms. Every child must leave school able to read, write, and count.

Marginalised schools need targeted resources, teachers need real support, and funding must reach where it matters. Until then, our proud talk of 'access' is a façade. The real measure of education justice is not whether a child sits in a classroom but whether they leave with the skills to live, work, and dream.

Stephene Maende, Usawa Agenda

RELIGION

Allow women into Catholic priesthood

It's about time the Catholic Church involved women in priesthood, not as a break from tradition, but as a bold step towards justice, fairness, inclusivity and change. Women are the majority of the Churchgoers and play important roles as educators, caregivers, missionaries, and community leaders.

Excluding them from priesthood denies the church its full potential. Women contribute a lot to the church yet when it comes to the altar, they are denied the opportunity to fully serve.

Let us look at Jesus' ministry for example. Despite the fact that his disciples were purely men, he still involved women in his ministry. Who was the first to witness Jesus' resurrection? Mary Magdalene was the first to witness Jesus' resurrection and was commissioned to go and tell others.

The early church also included women leaders and deacons. Why deny the Church the gifts and callings of women when the faithful are spiritually underserved? A Church that embraces the gifts of all its members, regardless of gender, becomes stronger. It is time the Catholic church acknowledges that truth and open the doors of priesthood for women. Christ loves us all. **Valary Birgen, Laikipia University**

AGRICULTURE

Plant early to benefit from reduced rainfall

In most parts of the country, it's the planting season. However, there are fears that the rains may not be reliable going by the recent reports by the meteorological department.

Agriculture remains the backbone of the country's economy and we cannot afford to gamble with it. Whether the rains will be enough or not, farmers should uphold the principle of early planting. They should take advantage of the early rains so that by the time they stop, the crops will have already sprouted and their chances of

survival will be high.

The Ministry of Agriculture should ensure that farmers are supplied with all the necessary farm inputs like viable seeds and subsidised fertilisers among other needs. This is the only way to reap maximum benefits from rain-fed agriculture.

It is my hope that farmers will embrace the idea of early planting to avoid losses and guarantee the country enough food. Agriculture ensures development in other sectors of the economy.

Franklin Mukumbu, Tharaka Nithi



GOVERNANCE

Introduce law to cap number of presidential advisers

Kenya's presidential advisers have morphed from shadowy kitchen cabinets into strategic councils dressed in technocratic polish. What began as loyalty-driven whisper networks now parades as policy expertise. But beneath the titles and thematic flair, there's still no legal limit to the number of advisers a President can appoint. The 2010 Constitution prescribes 22 Cabinet Secretaries, but when it comes to presidential advisers, the President has full discretion. This has occasioned a growing parade of whisperers with taxpayer-funded perks.

Kenya needs to ask: How

much advice is too much advice? It's time to activate Article 256 and put Parliament to work. Let the Bill land in either House, face the public, and pass the two-thirds test in both chambers. This will usher in a leaner, cleaner advisory structure, where appointments face satisfactory Public Service Commission vetting, disclosures are mandatory, and budgets stop ballooning unchecked. The President will have every reason to sign it because it's not just reform, it's relief for the taxpayer, and one more tick on his scorecard of legacy.

Michael Karanja, journalist



Jesse Rogers



Ashley Mazuri

FACES THAT TELL

The Whole Story

As KTN turns 35, we celebrate the present and future of bold storytelling.

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Dennis Okari



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#KTNat35Unstoppable

The Standard • Business

Sports. Faith trounces Bahrain's Yavi again. Page 40



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Workers' retirement plans at risk over unremitted pensions

▶ Even though the deductions were increased, amounts being remitted to NSSF declined.

▶ This trend also impacted payments towards post-retirement medical fund.

GRAHAM KAJILWA, NAIROBI

Unremitted contributions to pension schemes more than doubled to Sh14 billion as businesses struggled with the second phase of enhanced deductions to the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) that kicked in February 2024.

Data from the Retirement Benefit Authority (RBA) also shows this is the period post-retirement medical fund dropped drastically to Sh249.1 million.

Additionally, contributions to individual retirement pot dropped as well, by 47.2 per cent.

The figures show how both employers and employees struggled with enhanced contributions to the mandatory contributions as per the NSSF Act, 2013.

Last year marked the implementation of the second phase of the Act that came into force in 2023 under President William Ruto, after a decade of court battles.

The third phase commenced in February 2025. But unlike the third phase that only affects a handful of workers whose pay band is higher due to the Sh72,000 upper earning limit, the second phase affected a majority as contributions went up to 2,160 from Sh1,080.

This contribution is also matched by employers. This increases employee costs per head by Sh1,960 in just a year after.

Since February 2025, this figure has been enhanced to Sh8,640 for both employee and employer contributions further increasing employee cost by Sh8,440, compared to the Sh200 paid before the Act was enforced.

Contributions dropped

The increase in 2024 was as a result of the lower earning limit going up from Sh6,000 to Sh7,000 for tier one deductions, while the upper earning limit doubled to Sh36,000 for tier two deductions. As such, tier one deductions at six per cent of the lower limit went up from Sh360 to Sh420 and upper limit increased as well from Sh720 to Sh1,740. This brought the total contribution to Sh2,160 which is matched by the employer to make Sh4,320.

From the RBA data, this strain has been evident for both employees and employers.

"Unremitted contributions continued to rise in 2024, largely driven by a sharp increase in amounts due within 30 days which more than doubled," says RBA in its 2024 statistical anal-



Kenyatta University Teaching Referral and Research Hospital workers up in arms over a number of grievances that affect they daily work. [Bernard Orwongo, Standard]

ysis of the pension industry. "While contributions overdue by more than 30 days remained relatively stable, the large number of unremitted amounts highlights ongoing challenges in timely remittance, especially for public sector."

According to the data set, contributions due less than 30 days stood at Sh9.4 billion in 2021 but dropped to Sh6.3 billion in 2022 and rose slightly to Sh6.3 billion in 2023. In 2024, this figure more than doubled to Sh14.0 billion, a 123.6 per cent growth.

For contributions due more than 30 days, the amounts stood at Sh25.3 billion in 2021, Sh36.6 billion in 2022, Sh55.5 billion in 2023 and Sh55.4 billion in 2024, a slight drop of 0.2 per cent.

In total, unremitted contributions increased from Sh61.8 billion in 2023 to Sh69.4 billion in

2024, a 12 per cent increase.

NSSF demands that contributions to the kitty are submitted by the 9th of the subsequent month.

The doubling of NSSF rates in 2024 also saw either a reduction or withdrawal from post-retirement medical fund (PRMF) as the amounts contributed dropped by 60.1 per cent. This is from Sh625.0 million in 2023 to Sh249.1 million in 2024.

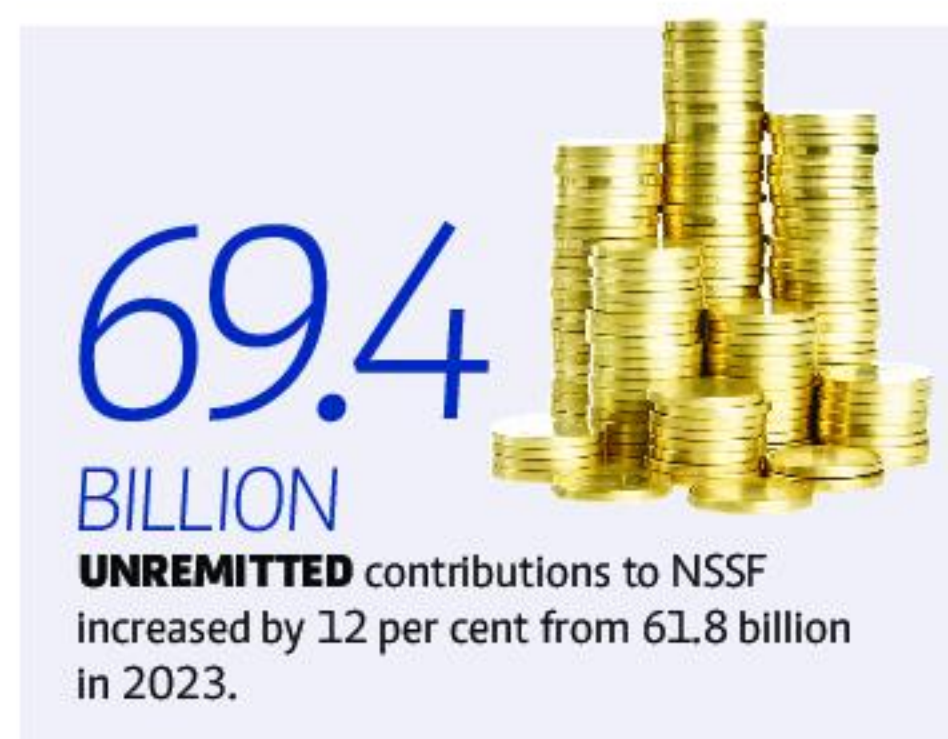
Additionally, members' own voluntary contributions to their pension schemes dropped by 47.2 per cent from Sh1.9 billion to Sh1.01 billion in 2024.

This is while employers' and members' normal contributions grew by 24.15 per cent and 34.33 per cent respectively. Employers' normal contributions increased from Sh110.1 billion in 2023 to Sh136.7 billion in 2024.

Members' normal contributions increased from Sh87.0 billion in 2023 to Sh116.8 billion in 2024.

"Total contributions rose significantly in 2024, largely driven by increased employer and member contributions following the implementation of enhanced NSSF rates. While normal contributions from both parties showed strong growth, additional voluntary contributions and medical fund contributions declined, suggesting a shift in focus toward mandatory contributions," says RBA in the report.

gkajilwa@standardmedia.co.ke



PARTNERSHIP

Insurer name changes to SanlamAllianz

Financial services company Sanlam Kenya will hold a virtual Extra-Ordinary General Meeting (EGM) on Thursday to seek shareholder approval for a formal name change to Sanlam Allianz Holdings (Kenya) PLC.

The proposed name change is part of a larger, continental business growth strategy following the newly formed joint venture between Sanlam and Allianz, called SanlamAllianz. This partnership combines the two companies' operations across Africa to form the continent's largest pan-African non-banking financial services entity.

"The proposed name change is a key step in our alignment with the new SanlamAllianz brand," said Patrick Tumbo, Group CEO of Sanlam Kenya PLC. "By formally establishing ourselves as Sanlam Allianz Holdings (Kenya) PLC, we are moving to leverage the combined expertise and financial strength of two respected and well-known global brands."

Tumbo said that, ahead of the proposed formal rebrand, which is subject to regulatory and shareholder approvals, Sanlam Kenya will continue to strengthen its foothold as a client-centric business that is both resilient and well-positioned for sustained growth. [Esther Dianah]

AIRLINE

Flydubai enters Kenya with budget flights

Kenyan travellers can expect a fierce airfare price war after Dubai budget carrier flydubai, entered the Nairobi market with a disruptive return ticket price of only Sh64,500 (\$500).

The launch of four-times per week flights from Dubai International (DXB) to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (NBO) marks a major escalation in the battle for passengers between the Gulf and the East Africa, a route long dominated by legacy carriers.

The move directly pits flydubai against its codeshare partner Emirates, as well as regional giants Kenya Airways and Ethiopian Airlines. Industry analysts predict the carrier's low-cost model, backed by Dubai's powerful aviation ecosystem, will force competitors to slash prices to retain market share.

"The launch of Nairobi route underlines the importance of connecting Kenya to Dubai's global aviation hub," said flydubai Chief Executive, Ghaith Al Ghaith, in a statement announcing the new route that starts mid October.

[Brian Ngugi]

Crude oil 64.09 -0.43 (-0.67%)	Gold 3,702.60 -22.50 (-0.60%)	BitcoinUSD 116,528.34 +1,027.18 (+0.89%)	Euro/USD 1.1840 -0.0027 (-0.22%)	FTSE 100 9,215.86 +20.20 (+0.22%)	Nikkei 225 44,790.38 -111.89 (-0.25%)	S&P Futures 6,665.50 -2.00 (-0.03%)	NASDAQ Futures 24,510.25 -12.00 (-0.05%)
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Tops & Flops

LONGHORN	2.82	2.96	4.96%
BK GROUP	37.10	38.05	2.56%
EVEREADY	1.36	1.39	2.21%
BOC KENYA	122.75	125.25	2.04%
WILLIAMSON TEA	240.5	0 245.00	1.87%
ORCHARDS	72.00	65.00	-9.72%
EXPRESS	7.94	7.18	-9.57%
HOME AFRIKA	1.51	1.37	-9.27%
FLAME TREE	1.73	1.60	-7.51%
TP SERENA	17.20	16.00	-6.98%



Nairobi Securities Exchange | Main Investment Market

52WK HIGH	52WK LOW	VWAP	PREVIOUS PRICE	VOLUME	
AGRICULTURAL					
23.00	10.00	Eaagads Ltd Ord 1.25 SME	19.75	20.65	15,236
440.00	240.00	Kakuzi Plc Ord.5.00	395.50	395.50	27
350.00	81.00	Kapchorua Tea Kenya Plc Ord 5.00SME	327.00	327.00	155
430.00	310.00	The Limuru Tea Co. Plc Ord 10.00SME	310.00	-	-
32.60	13.60	SasInl Plc Ord 1.00	18.60	19.00	5,899
289.00	120.00	Williamson Tea Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	245.00	240.50	1,218
AUTOMOBILES & ACCESSORIES					
49.00	18.50	Car & General (K) Ltd Ord 5.00	37.75	39.25	8,114
BANKING					
23.75	10.00	ABSA Bank Kenya Plc Ord 0.50	23.30	23.30	18,798,953
42.00	26.50	BK Group Plc Ord 0.80	38.05	37.10	7,485
109.25	43.05	Diamond Trust Bank Kenya Ltd Ord 4.00	104.50	105.00	11,349
57.00	33.70	Equity Group Holdings Plc Ord 0.50	54.00	54.00	19,531,140
11.30	2.80	HF Group Plc Ord 5.00	10.75	10.90	452,459
44.80	15.80	I&M Group Plc Ord 1.00	43.50	43.55	129,307
55.00	15.00	KCB Group Plc Ord 1.00	53.00	53.00	10,596,467
75.00	28.50	NCBA Group Plc Ord 5.00	72.00	74.75	148,898
190.00	90.00	Stanbic Holdings Plc ord.5.00	180.25	180.25	1,120,472
347.50	134.00	Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Ltd Ord 5.00	289.75	291.25	241,621
21.55	10.10	The Co-operative Bank of Kenya Ltd Ord 1.00	20.35	20.30	256,542
COMMERCIAL AND SERVICES					
0.45	0.45	Deacons (East Africa) Plc Ord 2.50	0.45	-	-
1.88	0.59	Eveready East Africa Ltd Ord.1.00SME	1.39	1.36	354,195
10.00	2.70	Express Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	7.18	7.94	30,927
4.66	4.66	Homeboyz Entertainment Plc 0.50SME	4.66	-	-
9.18	3.65	Kenya Airways Ltd Ord 1.00	4.06	4.23	357,552
3.46	2.00	Longhorn Publishers Plc Ord 1.00	2.96	2.82	11,871
5.00	1.58	Nairobi Business Ventures Plc Ord. 0.50SME	1.63	1.67	141,111
22.40	10.60	Nation Media Group Plc Ord. 2.50	13.20	13.80	2,153
17.00	1.80	Sameer Africa Plc Ord 5.00	13.75	14.15	133,285
10.80	4.50	Standard Group Plc Ord 5.00	6.10	6.00	1,208
18.70	10.85	TPS Eastern Africa Ltd Ord 1.00	16.00	17.20	8,722
0.41	0.16	Uchumi Supermarket Plc Ord 5.00	0.35	0.35	318,832
3.95	1.80	WPP Scangroup Plc Ord 1.00	2.75	2.72	33,378
CONSTRUCTION & ALLIED					
5.55	5.55	ARM Cement Plc Ord 1.00	5.55	-	-
84.00	21.30	Bamburl Cement Plc Ord 5.00	54.00	-	-
54.50	29.00	Crown Paints Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	50.00	49.40	395
3.27	0.72	E.A.Cables Ltd Ord 0.50	1.71	-	-
64.25	4.38	E.A.Portland Cement Co. Ltd Ord 5.00	59.00	58.50	9,413
ENERGY & PETROLEUM					
10.40	1.94	KenGen Co. Plc Ord. 2.50	9.52	9.62	846,754
14.90	1.30	Kenya Power & Lighting Co Plc Ord 2.50	14.40	14.45	2,398,126
4.20	4.00	Kenya Power & Lighting Plc 4% Pref 20.00	4.10	-	-
6.00	6.00	Kenya Power & Lighting Plc 7% Pref 20.00	6.00	-	-
39.90	14.55	TotalEnergies Marketing Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	35.45	37.10	78,452
24.75	6.30	Umeme Ltd Ord 0.50	8.42	8.62	387,034
INSURANCE					
9.28	4.01	Britam Holdings Plc Ord 0.10	8.94	8.88	32,996
5.50	1.60	CIC Insurance Group Plc Ord.1.00	4.93	5.18	405,137
326.00	142.00	Jubilee Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00	320.00	320.00	13,573
3.77	1.05	Kenya Re Insurance Corporation Ltd Ord 2.50	3.23	3.36	1,875,058
12.20	3.30	Liberty Kenya Holdings Ltd Ord. 1.00	10.50	11.00	16,898
11.00	4.00	Sanlam Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	9.40	9.46	16,809
INVESTMENT					
16.50	7.60	Centum Investment Co Plc Ord 0.50	14.15	13.90	107,090
1.83	0.27	Home Afrika Ltd Ord 1.00	1.37	1.51	218,188
1500.00	1,500.00	Kurwitu Ventures Ltd Ord 100.00SME	1,500.00	-	-
7.12	1.91	Olympia Capital Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00	5.04	5.08	30,900
1.78	0.29	Trans-Century Plc Ord 0.50	1.12	-	-
INVESTMENT SERVICES					
16.50	5.22	Nairobi Securities Exchange Plc Ord 4.00	14.15	14.75	40,736
MANUFACTURING & ALLIED					
130.00	65.00	B.O.C Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	125.25	122.75	742
495.00	325.00	British American Tobacco Kenya Plc Ord 10.00	430.25	432.50	17,757
27.05	11.00	Carbacid Investments Plc Ord 1.00	25.30	25.30	11,923
244.00	100.00	East African Breweries Plc Ord 2.00	220.00	220.00	602,599
2.33	0.86	Flame Tree Group Holdings Ltd Ord 0.825	1.60	1.73	138,743
80.00	10.40	Africa Mega Agrlcorp Plc Ord 5.00SME	65.00	72.00	1,084
0.27	0.27	Mumlas Sugar Co. Ltd Ord 2.00	0.27	-	-
31.00	12.00	Unga Group Ltd Ord 5.00	22.40	22.05	1,094
8.56	5.90	Shri Krishana Overseas Plc 0.20SME	8.20	8.18	1,745
TELECOMMUNICATION					
31.00	11.50	Safaricom Plc Ord 0.05	29.35	29.30	23,822,645
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST					
20.00	20.00	LAPTRUST IMARA I-REIT Ord.20.00	20.00	-	-
EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS					
3330.00	1880.00	ABSA New Gold ETF	4430.00	4390.00	306
761.00	761.00	Satrix MSCI World Feeder ETF	830.00	828.00	384

DISPUTE

US seeks views on Kenya trade barriers despite AGOA snub

The US Trade Representative (USTR) is soliciting comments from American businesses on trade barriers they face in Kenya, according to a public notice in the US Federal Register, even as the future of a key trade pact for Nairobi remains in limbo.

The move comes as officials in Washington and Nairobi remain tight-lipped on the renewal of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), which provided duty-free access for most Kenyan exports to the United States and which lapses this month.

The USTR's notice, published earlier this month initiates the annual process for its National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers. The office has called for American businesses to submit comments by October 30, 2025, specifically identifying Kenya as a country of interest for the 2026 report.

The notice stated that the purpose of the report is to "facilitate US negotiations aimed at reducing or eliminating these barriers" and is a tool for "enforcing US trade laws and agreements, ensuring trade is fair and reciprocal."

This process continues irrespective of AGOA's status, highlighting the Trump administration's separate focus on resolving specific market access issues for US companies. Barriers previously cited by the American Chamber of Commerce in Kenya include complex customs procedures, intellectual property rights enforcement challenges and restrictions on foreign investment in certain sectors.

The USTR notice outlined a wide range of potential barriers for comment, including import policies, technical standards, sanitary measures, and "discriminatory or burdensome barriers to cross-border data flows."

When contacted for comment on the status of AGOA renewal talks, spokespersons for the USTR and Kenya's State Department for Trade did not immediately respond to requests.

The simultaneous occurrence of the AGOA lapse and the USTR's call for comments on barriers presents a complex picture of US-Kenya trade relations. Analysts suggest it underscores the administration's broader shift towards bilateral, reciprocal trade terms over unilateral trade preference programmes.

The public can submit comments electronically through the US Federal eRulemaking Portal at www.regulations.gov under docket number USTR-2025-0016. The USTR stated it will use the information to decide which "significant barriers" to include in its official 2026 report.

[Brian Ngugi]

Exchange rates

CURRENCY	EXCHANGE RATE	JAPANESE YEN (100)	88.0524
US DOLLAR	129.2389	SWEDISH KRONER	13.9752
STERLING POUND	176.4951	NORWEGIAN KRONER	13.1850
EURO	152.8185	DANISH KRONER	20.4706
SOUTH AFRICAN RAND	7.4380	INDIAN RUPEE	1.4680
KES / UGANDA SHILLING	27.0816	HONGKONG DOLLAR	16.6057
KES / TANZANIA SHILLING	19.1506	SINGAPORE DOLLAR	101.1734
KES / RWANDAN FRANC	11.2220	SAUDI RIYAL	34.4564
KES / BURUNDIAN FRANC	23.0931	CHINESE YUAN	18.1638
AE DIRHAM	35.1857	AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR	86.2217
CANADIAN DOLLAR	94.0090		
SWISS FRANC	163.8217		

SOURCE: COMMERCIAL BANKS

Unit Trusts

MONEY FUNDS	DAILY YIELD	E. A. RATE	ICEA LION MONEY MARKET FUND	8.71%	9.10%
Zimele Fixed Income Fund	12.47%	13.21%	Lofty-Corban Money Market Fund	11.44%	12.14%
Dry Associates Money Market Fund	9.48%	9.90%	Lofty-Corban Bond Fund	12.07%	12.76%
Dry Associates High Yield Fund	12.05%	13.22%	NCBA Fixed Income Fund	7.79%	8.08%
Stanbic Money Market Fund	6.28%	6.47%	NCBA Fixed Income Fund (USD)	4.46%	4.55%
Stanbic Fixed Income Fund (USD)	4.83%	4.94%	CIC Money Market Fund	8.22%	8.53%
GenAfrica Money Market Fund	10.18%	10.66%	CIC Fixed Income Fund	10.32%	10.83%
African Alliance Money Market Fund	7.27%	7.51%	CIC Fund (USD)	4.61%	4.71%
African Alliance Enhanced Yield	7.75%	8.04%	Sanlam Money Market Fund	9.09%	9.52%
Genghis Money Market Fund	8.47%	8.83%	Sanlam Fixed Income Fund (USD)	4.93%	5.05%
Mali Fund	9.43%	9.43%	Sanlam Fixed Income Fund (GBP)	2.53%	2.56%
Madison Money Market Fund	10.27%	10.82%	Apollo Money Market Fund	9.67%	10.15%
Madison Fixed Income Fund	11.54%	12.23%	Equity Money Market Fund	5.04%	5.15%
GCIB Money Market Fund	11.55%	12.18%	Etica Money Market Fund	11.33%	12.00%
GCIB Fixed Income Fund	11.91%	12.59%	Etica Fixed Income Fund	12.30%	13.09%
GCIB Shari'ah Fixed Income Fund	6.93%	7.15%	Etica Shariah Fund	6.62%	6.84%
Kuza Money Market Fund	10.81%	11.42%	OTHER FUNDS		
Kuza Money Market Fund (USD)	5.61%	5.77%	Equity Balanced Fund	162.92	164.3
Kuza Fixed Income Fund	11.48%	12.16%	Apollo Balanced Fund	160.96	154.42
Old Mutual Money Market Fund	10.33%	10.83%	NCBA Equity Fund	214.72	214.72
Enwealth Money Market Fund	10.65%	11.18%	ICEA LION FIXED INCOME FUND	124.63	124.63
Enwealth Fixed Income Fund	9.02%	9.40%	ICEA LION EQUITY FUND	149.20	149.20
Old Mutual Special Fixed Income	10.85%	11.45%	ICEA LION USD FIXED INCOME FUND	106.97	106.97
Faulu Money Market Fund	9.23%	9.63%	Kuza Momentum Special Fund	140.48	140.48
Britam Bond Plus Fund	10.70%	11.29%	African Alliance Balanced Fund	23.4197	22.0568
Britam Money Market Fund	10.00%	10.51%	African Alliance Equity Fund	208.4581	195.7643
Britam Money Market Fund (USD)	4.51%	4.61%	Zimele Balanced Fund	16.5663	16.0838
			Amana Balanced Fund	144.4727	144.4727
			Amana Fund Class C	7.68	7.95



NUMBER OF THE DAY

132.5M

MANUFACTURING & ALLIED: EABL concluded the day at Sh220.00, with shares worth Sh132.5 million transacted.

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NSE ALL SHARE INDEX Down 0.46 points | NSE 20-SHARE INDEX Down 17.45 points to close at 2987.99



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Shipping & Logistics

Plans to turn Kenya into a maritime hub shelved as Ruto disbands key secretariat

The ambitious plan seems to have gone into the drain despite its potential to change the maritime landscape.

By Patrick Beja
Pbeja@standardmedia.co.ke

In 2018, Kenya signed an ambitious deal to transform the nation into a regional maritime transport logistics hub, making Mombasa the gateway to Africa and the world.

Five years on, from the fanfare surrounding the agreement signed between the government and the Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), there has been little progress.

In the pact, the shareholding of Kenya National Shipping Line (KNSL) was altered, with the Kenya Ports Authority's (KPA) equity decreasing from 75 to 53 per cent. Meanwhile, MSC equity ownership in KNSL increased to 33 per cent, as it was envisioned then that the Italian-owned shipping giant would turn Kenya into a maritime transport hub.

The vision has indeed proven to be accurate. By 2022, four years after the agreement was signed, MSC had surpassed Maersk to become the world's largest container carrier.

It was further envisioned that the deal would revive KNSL—which does not own even a single ship—and enable it have access to all 500 MSC ports globally at no cost.

This was a good starting point, as MSC boasts of more than 600 vessels. MSC was also to create 1500 sea-time jobs and another 1500 actual jobs for Kenyans every year.

The plan crafted by the Oceans and Blue Economy Office (TOBEO) was designed to ensure KNSL and MSC take over operations at the Container Terminal Two (CT2) at the Mombasa port.

The MSC takeover on the terminal ran into headwinds, and it is currently in courts.

But with the recent dissolution of the



The 2018 plan was key in making Kenya's ports competitive while taking advantage of its capacity. [File, Standard]

TOBEO secretariat at the Office of the President, which initiated the grand plan for blue economy projects in the country, a cloud of uncertainty hangs over the implementation of the blue economy agenda as envisioned in the initial deal.

Making Kenya competitive

In an interview this week, the Founding Advisor at TOBEO, Stanley Chai, argues that despite the delay, the plan is still good for Kenya and can be implemented if the country is to be competitive in the global maritime business.

The maritime consultant argues that Kenya is nearer to the main consumer markets in the USA and the European Union than China and India, hence the need to make it a transshipment hub to serve the region.

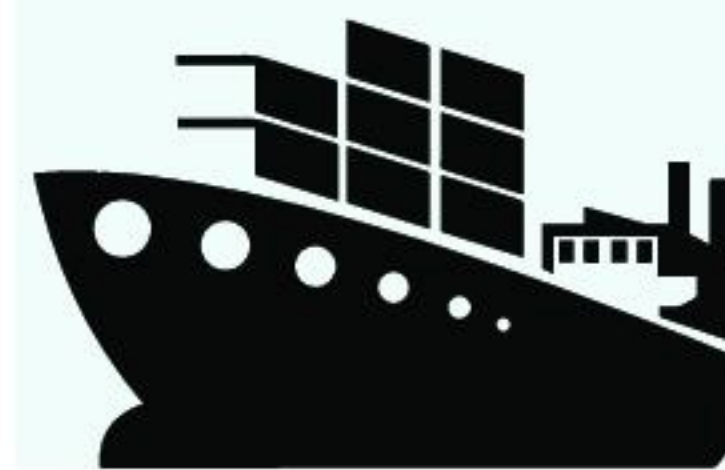
According to Chai, long transit times and transshipment costs in every port ships destined for Mombasa call, reduce the competitiveness of Kenyan ports, and the costs are directly paid by importers in Kenya.

According to him, the distance between Shanghai and Rotterdam is 10,525 nautical miles, while from Mombasa to Rotterdam it is 6,263 nautical miles.

Sailing days from Shanghai at a speed of 20 knots take 22 days, and from Mom-

3,000

NUMBER of sea-time jobs and actual jobs that would have been created for Kenyans every year if the plan was implemented.



basa at the same speed takes 13 days, a difference of nine days, he observes.

On the Mombasa port's capacity to host large vessels, Chai argues that most ships plying the Asia-Europe route are of 10,000 Twenty-Foot Equivalent Unit (TEUs) and the CT2 is 14.5 metres deep at high tide, therefore can accommodate the vessels, as the tide lasts up to eight hours.

TOBEO believes the existence of five sea fibre optic cables in Mombasa-Dji-

bouti Africa Regional Express (DARE), Seacom, East Africa Submarine Cable System (TEAMS), East Africa Submarine Cable System (EASSy), and Lion 2 is an advantage to support the establishment of a maritime transport and logistics hub.

"Kenya has to make bold steps to be the next economic development frontier. We need to sign long-term strategic ventures with shipping lines and terminal operators and operators to build capacity for port development and think globally on port reforms. Kenya should aggressively court targeted industries that are able to create a business ecosystem," he states.

Shipping business hub

Separately, the immediate former Seafarers Union of Kenya (SUK) general secretary, Stephen Owaki, called for a fresh look at the plan to revive the KNSL as envisioned by the TOBEO secretariat, to spur economic growth.

"The government currently lacks goodwill in blue economy projects. There is a need to support KNSL among other blue economy projects in the country," he argues.

Mombasa port was also to be positioned as a ship repair, bunkering, and ship handling hub for the region.

In the original plan, Kenya was to

“

Kenya has to make bold steps to be the next economic development frontier. We need to sign long-term strategic ventures with shipping lines and terminal operators and operators to build capacity for port development and think globally on port reforms,”

Stanley Chai, Founding Advisor at TOBEO

ensure MSC made the country its transshipment hub and enabled global connectivity to over 500 ports.

It was also expected to deepen connectivity with regional ports in Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Somalia, Seychelles, Madagascar, Réunion, Mauritius, and Zanzibar.

The arrangement was to make Kenya the MSCs' business and operations centre in the region and tap into MSC's other business units. It was also envisaged to serve as a platform for other shipping alliances to follow suit.

The regional ports, including Mombasa, are currently served from Salalah, Singapore, or the Colombo-Jebel Ali-Kingi Abdulla in Sri Lanka, Dubai and Saudi Arabia hub ports.

In a report seen by the Standard, the ambitious plan by TOBEO sought to directly handle about 28 million import containers from the Asian market to the African region, leveraging shorter distances and avoiding transshipment costs in Singapore, Colombo, Salalah, Jebel Ali, and King Abdullah.

"It's a short distance and cheaper to serve all the regional ports in the Indian Ocean from Mombasa," Chai argues in a report.

For instance, it states, the distance from Salalah to Madagascar is 2,279 nautical miles and 769 nautical miles from Mombasa to Madagascar, a difference of 1,510, hence seen as an advantage.

>> CONTINUED ON PAGE 20 >>

Clearing firms hope to process more cargo, grow businesses

A 20-foot container attracts Sh64,230 for domestic cargo while a 40-foot containers requires a deposit of Sh128,461.

By Patrick Beja
pbeja@standardmedia.co.ke

A number of clearing and forwarding firms and customs agents have closed shop or scaled down businesses citing high cost of doing business amid strict compliance issues enforced by government agencies.

However a deal with a Swiss firm that takes up the burden of container deposit guarantees with shipping lines is seen as positive development for struggling clearing and forwarding firms that offer logistics to cargo owners.

Kenya International Freight and Warehousing Associated (Kifwa) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Viaservice, a subsidiary of Viatrans that takes responsibility for the container deposits that have been seen a hurdle to small scale businesses at the port.

The question is: Will this deal signed at a Mombasa hotel lift the struggling freight forwarders and give them a chance to grow?

The deal is also hoped to address congestion at the port of Mombasa that has been blamed for high cost of doing business as clearing and forwarders firms will no longer need to spend days raising the container deposits. The more than 1000 corpo-



The container deposit guarantees affected the cost of business for small traders shipping cargo from Mombasa port, resulting to shipping delays. [Omondi Onyango, Standard]

rate members welcomed the pact noting that it would take the small and medium upto four days organising the container cash deposits with shipping lines hence delaying cargo clearance logistics at the port.

Viaservice will now handle the container deposit, demurrage and damage while clearing agents and cargo owners use the money usually tied up in container guarantee to pay for port charges and other business costs.

The deposit for a 20-foot container for the domestic market is \$500 (Sh64,230) and \$1,000 (Sh128,461) for 40-foot container respectively.

Those in transit are charged between \$1,000 (Sh128,461) and \$5,000 (sh642,305) for a 20-foot and 40-foot container respectively. Last year, Mombasa port handled about two million containers.

The money is usually held by shipping lines until the container is returned in time and in good condition.

Addressing port congestion

Speaking during the Mou signing ceremony in Mombasa County, Kifwa National Chairman Fredrick Aloo said this logistics solution will address port congestion and reduce delays in cargo

movement along the northern corridor. "This MOU is a game changer for our members. It is about removing trade barriers through embracing innovation to make Kenya's logistics sector globally competitive," he said.

He noted that the deal will free capital for small and medium enterprises and hence increase their volume of business while also ensuring faster movement of cargo through Mombasa and Lamu port.

"We are relieved that Viaservice will raise the container deposits on our behalf and we can use the money to grow our businesses," said Musa Mbirra, the Kifwa National Secretary.

The money help up in container deposits can be used to pay port charges and there clearing agents can clear more containers at the port as the burden will be taken off their shoulders.

Viaservice Regional Managing Director John Mathenge said the strategic partnership has come at a time when Kenya is positioning itself as a regional logistics hub, and the burden of container deposits has been a costly non-tariff barrier for importers, exporters and freight forwarders.

He noted that the innovative Viaservice Container Solution (VCS) offered a business-friendly and sustainable

approach that addresses the container deposits challenge while protecting the interests of the container owners and users.

"We are proud to partner with Kifwa in delivering a scalable solution that empowers that empowers businesses and strengthens regional trade," he said.

Expanding in Africa

Viaservice introduced its service in Tanzania in 2018 and now covers six shipping lines and 75 percent of clearing and forwarding agents.

In Kenya, the foreign firm landed in June last year and covers four shipping lines and about 35 percent of the freight forwarders.

It has so far signed pacts with Kenya Ships Agents Association (KSAA), Shippers Council of East Africa (SCEA) that represents cargo owners and Kifwa.

"We are happy to have received an endorsement from the Tanzania Revenue Authority," said Mathenge who oversee the market in Kenya and Tanzania. After Tanzania and Kenya, Viaservice now seeks to expand to South Africa, Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Morocco and parts of West Africa.

DEVELOPMENT

Mombasa rail to improve cargo and commuter transport

Travellers to and from Mombasa, and also the residents have every reason to smile after the launch of Mombasa Commuter Rail Services (MCRS) which are expected to improve and reduce the cost of transport within the city's logistics hubs.

The rehabilitation of the 13.8-kilometre metre-gauge railway will also reduce congestion in logistics hubs of Changamwe and Miritini, where trucks pick up and drop off containers.

The MCRS will also reduce the cost of commuting from the city to Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) in Miritini, from Sh300 to Sh50, said President William Ruto during the launch.

The Head of State termed the new commuter rail service as both timely and vital solution to some of the city's most pressing challenges.

"For far too long, passengers commuting between Mombasa's Central Business District (CBD) and the SGR terminus have endured congestion, delays and the burden of unreliable road traffic," he said.

Rehabilitation works of the dilapidated metre-gauge railway measuring 13.8 kilometres from Kilometre Zero in the central area of Mombasa to Miritini, together with the construction of a new 2.8-kilometre link to the SGR terminus, according to the Head of State, have finally closed a gap that separated the city and the rail.

"This link matters because it provides the much-needed first- and last-mile connection for commuters, visitors and tourists alike. With a daily capacity of up to 5000 passengers, it will ease pressure on roads and enhance the commuting experience while making the Madaraka Express more accessible and convenient for all," he said.

Kenya Railways Corporation chairman Abdi Bare Duale said the train will make stops at Miritini, Changamwe West, Changamwe East, Shimanzi, Mazeras, and the Mombasa CBD.

Transport Cabinet Secretary Davis Chirchir reiterated the government's commitment to improve public transport, adding that upon full operation, it will be able to haul approximately 5000 commuters daily.

He said that the Sh4.2 billion project completed in August involved the construction of new passenger stations in Mombasa town and Miritini, as well as the improvement of 16.8 kilometres of the metre gauge railway and the construction of a rail bridge along Makupa Causeway.

He declared that the government would duly compensate communities affected by the rail construction in the Miritini area after it released Sh 2.1 billion to the National Lands Commission (NLC) for land compensation in Miritini, Chanmwe West, and East, respectively.

[Phillip Mwakio]

<< CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19 <<

Sailing time from Salalah to Madagascar is estimated at four days and 18 hours, and from Mombasa to Madagascar at one day and 14 hours when the ships sail at 20 knots, hence a saving to shipping lines.

Saving the costs

TOBEO notes that sailing from Shanghai in China through the current hub ports takes 7,514 nautical miles, or a total of 24 days, while direct sailing from Shanghai to Mombasa takes 6,222

nautical miles, or 13 days, a difference of 1,292 nautical miles, or 11 days.

"Every 10,000 TEU ship calling at the port will generate between five and 10 more ships transshipping to the region (smaller ships of between 1,000 TEUs and 2,000 TEUs to transship containers to the regional ports)," the report says in part.

Chai recommended the removal of the current port headquarters and the high-level staff quarters to create room for containers, as well as engaging the

shipping lines to align with their future plans for growth.

In the report, Chai called for the development of KNLS into a world-class shipping line and a world-class container terminal to ensure all goods from Asia land directly in Mombasa and are distributed to the rest of the region, about 28 million containers at play.

Chai supports the development of the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone (SEZ) as a platform for manufacturers and encourages the develop-

ment of distriparks for value addition and distribution.

This, coupled with the six fibre optics and the Dongo Kundu SEZ, is expected to create derived demand for the port as opposed to the current direct demand, thus making it more competitive.

"There has to be deliberate effort to add value to shipping lines by cultivating a wide scale of connectivity, underpinned by solid operational capabilities.

"It will take forward-looking leadership, coupled with courage to take bold decisions to anchor Kenya as the main hub to attract transshipment business," he adds.

Transforming Mombasa Port into a hub is expected to guarantee fast ship turnaround and regular sailing schedules. Chai argues that there is a need to catch the wave of transshipment before any port in the region to gain the first-mover advantage or to midwife Africa's economic reconnaissance.

The Standard World

Sports. Faith wins 3,000m steeplechase. Page 40



Scan here to give us feedback on these stories and more.

Trump receives royal treatment on UK state visit amid protests

► Huge security operation keep US president far away from demonstrators.

► The visit comes as UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer looks to seal a trade deal with the US.

AFP, WINDSOR

Britain readied to roll out a supersized royal welcome for Donald Trump's unprecedented second state visit on Wednesday, with King Charles III set to greet the US president amid tight security and out of sight of noisy protesters.

From a carriage ride with the monarch to a flypast and a lavish state dinner in the nearly 1,000-year-old Windsor Castle, the UK is going the extra mile to dazzle and flatter the unpredictable Trump.

A huge security operation will keep the 79-year-old Republican far away from demonstrators and the British public—among whom polls indicate Trump remains unpopular—with the extraordinary show of pomp and pageantry unfolding entirely behind closed doors, and outside London.

Knowing that Trump is obsessed with Britain's royals and loves showy displays of pomp, Britain has turned up the pageantry to the max as he becomes the first US president to receive a second UK state visit.

The trip will involve what British officials call the biggest military



A demonstrator wearing an anti-Trump t-shirt, while holding a banner as they protest near Windsor Castle, in Windsor, on September 17, 2025, during US President Donald Trump's second State Visit to the UK. [AFP]

ceremonial welcome for any state visit in living memory — even bigger than when Queen Elizabeth II hosted Trump in 2019.

Trump will also get the first joint flypast by US and UK fighter jets at an event of its kind, and the largest guard of honour at a state visit, featuring 120 horses and 1,300 troops.

It's all designed to appeal to a US leader who this year crowed "LONG LIVE THE KING!" about himself on social media before the White House posted a fake magazine cover of him wearing a crown.

The question for Britain is whether the red carpet welcome will win over Trump, whose unpredictability on everything from tariffs to Ukraine and Gaza has caused

global turmoil.

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer will be hoping Trump leaves on Thursday feeling the warm glow of royal soft power — but there are no guarantees.

120 HORSES

TRUMP will also get the first joint flypast by US and UK fighter jets at an event of its kind, and the largest guard of honour at a state visit, featuring 120 horses and 1,300 troops.

Trump appeared to be feeling the love as he arrived by helicopter at the US ambassador's official residence in London on Tuesday with First Lady Melania Trump.

"A lot of things here warm my heart," said the president, whose mother hailed from Scotland and who owns two golf resorts in the country.

He described Charles, 76, who is undergoing treatment for cancer, as "my friend".

The Republican may also relish a chance to escape a turbulent period at home in the United States, where the killing of right-wing activist Charlie Kirk has caused deep turmoil.

But the spectre loomed of late sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, who is providing domestic headaches for both Trump and Starmer and who has caused the royal family considerable embarrassment.

Police arrested four people after they projected images of Trump and Epstein onto Windsor Castle late Tuesday. Thousands were expected to attend protests planned in London on Wednesday.

Trump's day will begin with heir to the throne Prince William and his wife Catherine welcoming him and Melania to Windsor Castle, the home of the British royals for nearly a millennium.

Charles and his wife Queen Camilla are then due to join them for a carriage procession through the grounds of Windsor estate towards the castle — again behind closed doors.

Briefing

VATICAN CITY. POPE LEO VOICES SUPPORT FOR GAZA

► Pope Leo XVI expressed solidarity with the population of Gaza on Wednesday, saying that civilians had been "once again" forced from their land and were living in "unacceptable conditions". "I express my deep solidarity with the Palestinian people in Gaza who continue to live in fear and survive in unacceptable conditions, being forcibly displaced once again from their lands," said the 70-year-old pope after his general audience. Thousands of residents of Gaza City have been trying to evacuate the northern city since a massive bombardment by Israeli forces aimed at crushing Hamas. "I renew my appeal for a ceasefire, for the release of hostages, for a negotiated diplomatic solution, and for the full respect of international humanitarian law," said the pope. "I invite everyone to join my heartfelt prayer that soon a dawn of peace and justice will rise." [AFP]

NIGER. GUNMEN KILL 22 AT BAPTISM CEREMONY

► Gunmen on motorbikes shot dead 22 villagers in western Niger, most attending a baptism ceremony, local media said and other sources said on Tuesday. The shootings happened Monday in the Tillaberi region, near Burkina Faso and Mali, where jihadist groups linked to Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State group (IS) are active. A resident said 15 people were killed first at a baptism ceremony in Takoubatt village. "The attackers then went to the outskirts of Takoubatt where they killed seven other people," said the resident, who requested anonymity for security reasons. Local media outlet Elmaestro TV reported a "gruesome death toll of 22 innocent people cowardly killed without reason or justification". [AFP]

SWEDEN

'Tinder Swindler' victims 'celebrate' his arrest at Georgia airport



Simon Leviev. [Courtesy]

Two victims of Israeli fraudster Simon Leviev, made famous by the Netflix show "The Tinder Swindler", on Tuesday told AFP that they were glad to learn of his arrest in Georgia.

Leviev, 34, whose real name is Shimon Yehuda Hayut, rose to notoriety after investigative reports and media coverage exposed a pattern of romance fraud and financial crimes.

He was arrested at Batumi airport "at Interpol's request", Georgian officials said Monday.

"I celebrated a bit yesterday. I'm allowed to feel happy because this guy destroyed my life," Pernilla Sjöholm told AFP in an interview in Stockholm.

"I was shocked because it's been such a long time," Norwegian Cecilie Fjellhoy, another one of Leviev's victims, told AFP in London, adding it was like a "little celebration".

Between 2017 and 2019, Leviev allegedly used the dating app Tinder to pose as a wealthy heir and trick women into advancing him large sums of money,

which he never repaid.

His scheme became one of the most notorious examples of "catfishing" — creating a false online persona to lure victims into emotional and financial entanglements.

Fjellhoy said that she was "super relieved" that he had been arrested even though she was frustrated it had taken so long.

"I get this sense of calm because I know that I am being protected. I know future victims are being protected, but

as well, you're angry on that it had to take this amount of time and the amount of victims that we know have been accumulated," she said.

Sjöholm, now 38, said she met Leviev on Tinder in March 2018.

They rapidly became friends and within a few months he was defrauding her, she said.

In total, she handed over more than 600,000 kronor (\$65,000) to him, which he never paid back. His arrest "is a win," Sjöholm said. [AFP]

Nepal Gen-Z rise: Anger at corrupt, rich politicians leaves deep scars

► Gen Z protests toppled Nepal's government, leaving 72 people dead, property destroyed.

► Nepal's youth demand accountability after decades of failed governance.

BBC

Nepal's Gen Z protesters brought down a government in under 48 hours – but the victory has come at a heavy price.

"We are proud, but there is also a mixed baggage of trauma, regret and anger," says Tanuja Pandey, one of the protest organisers.

With 72 people killed, last week's protests were the deadliest unrest in the Himalayan country in decades. Official buildings, residences of political leaders and luxury hotels such as the Hilton, which opened in July 2024, were torched, vandalised and looted. The wife of a former prime minister is fighting for her life after their home was set ablaze.

The protests represented "a wholesale rejection of Nepal's current political class for decades of poor governance and exploitation of state resources", said Ashish Pradhan, a senior adviser at the International Crisis Group. But the damage to government services, he added, could "parallel the toll of the 2015 earthquake which took almost 9,000 lives".

The destruction is not only confined to the capital Kathmandu, at least 300 local government offices across the nation have been damaged.

The financial losses could amount to 3 trillion Nepalese rupees (\$21.3bn; £15.6bn), nearly half of the country's GDP, according to the Kathmandu Post. Its offices were also attacked by crowds and set on fire.

Two days before the deadly demonstration on September 8, Ms Pandey, a 24-year-old environmental campaigner, uploaded a video showing a mining site in Chure, one of the most fragile mountain ranges in the region. Nepal's resources should belong to the people, not to "politicians' private limited companies", she wrote, calling on her peers to "march against corruption and the misuse of our nation's wealth".

Like many youth movements in Asia, Nepal's Gen Z protests were leaderless. Others had made similar pleas to Ms Pandey's after the Nepali government decided to ban 26 social media platforms, citing their failure

to register locally.

For months, fury had been brewing against "nepo babies", the children of powerful politicians of all stripes, who were accused of flaunting their unexplained wealth on social media.

One of the most viral photos showed Saugat Thapa, the son of a provincial minister, standing next to a Christmas tree made of boxes of luxury brands including Louis Vuitton, Gucci and Cartier. In response, he said it was "an unfair misinterpretation" and his father "returned every rupee earned from public service to the community".

Ms Pandey had watched almost all "nepo babies" content, but one video juxtaposing the luxurious life of a political family and an ordinary young Nepali who had to find work in a Gulf country struck her.

"It is painful to watch, especially knowing that even educated youth are forced to leave the country because wages here are far below what one needs to live with dignity," she said.

Nepal is a young democracy. It became a republic in 2008, after a decade-long, Maoist-led civil war that killed more than 17,000 people.

Flaunting wealth

But the promised stability and prosperity have not materialised. In 17 years, Nepal has had 14 governments, and no leader has completed a full five-year term. The country's politics resemble a game of musical chairs, with communist parties and the centrist Nepali Congress taking turns to rule. Three leaders, including KP Sharma Oli who resigned over the Gen Z protests, returned to power multiple times.

Nepal's GDP per capita remained under \$1,500, making it the second-poorest country in South Asia, behind only Afghanistan. An estimated 14 per cent of the population work overseas, and one in three households receives remittances.

Ms Pandey comes from a middle-class family in eastern Nepal and her father is a retired government teacher. Three years ago, she was diagnosed with a brain tumour, for which she is still receiving treatment. The medical bills nearly bankrupted her family, so her older sister moved to Australia to support them.

Before the protests, Ms Pandey worked with others to create guidelines stressing non-violence and respect and reminding participants to stay vigilant against "hijackers".

On the morning of September 8,



Enraged by the huge inequality, young Nepalis have been calling the children of politicians "nepo babies". [BBC]

she arrived at Maitighar Mandala, a huge traffic island in central Kathmandu with several of her friends. She was expecting thousands would turn up at most – but the crowds kept swelling.

Aakriti Ghimire, a 26-year-old protester, said things were initially peaceful and communal. "We were all seated, we were singing old Nepali songs," she said. "The slogans and everything were so funny, we were enjoying it. And after that, we started to march... the police were there to ensure that there were no vehicles disturbing us."

Both Ms Pandey and Ms Ghimire started to sense danger at around midday, when crowds began moving to New Baneshwor, the neighbourhood housing parliament. Both saw

“

It is painful to watch, especially knowing that even educated youth are forced to leave the country because wages here are far below what one needs to live with dignity.

Ms Tanuja Pandey, Protest organiser and environmental campaigner

people arriving on motorbikes, and Ms Pandey said these people appeared older than average Gen Z protesters.

Ms Ghimire believes they were infiltrators. "It became very tricky for us to distinguish the peaceful protesters – some people who genuinely came for something – versus those who came in with the intention of being violent."

When some protesters tried to breach the security around parliament, police fired tear gas, water cannon and shots in return. There is evidence live rounds were used and they are accused of shooting at schoolchildren as well. An investigation into what happened is under way.

Chaos and violence reigned the next day. Demonstrators retaliated by setting parliament, the prime minister's office and other government buildings ablaze. Both Ms Pandey and Ms Ghimire stayed indoors and watched the developments online

Infiltrators

"A lot of people did share that it felt so good to finally see politicians face the consequences of everything they've done," Ms Ghimire said, referring to the destruction of the leaders' homes. But the mood soon darkened. "I saw people with bottles filled with petroleum. They got it from the motorbikes. They started attacking the parliament," said Ms Pandey.

The law graduate cried after see-

ing the Supreme Court on fire, saying that it was like "a temple" for her. Her friends at the scene were pouring water on the flames to try to put them out. They all knew the effort would be futile – they did it only to console themselves.

"People say the arsonists intended to come and burn these things... Who are these people?" asked Ms Ghimire. "The videos show these people are all masked."

Some calm was restored when the army was deployed to take control of the situation – a curfew was in place for days. Later in the week former Supreme Court Chief Justice Sushila Karki was appointed interim prime minister. She had been backed by protesters for the post.

Ms Pandey hopes she "can lead the country efficiently, do the election in stipulated time and hand the power to the people".

But the anxiety about Nepal's political future persists.

Glorification of the army

Rumela Sen, a South Asia expert at Columbia University, said it was "worrying" to see "an unprecedented glorification of the army as a voice of sanity and stability".

Many are also uncomfortable with the involvement of Durga Prasad in the initial negotiation at the invitation of the military. Prasad was arrested for his role in violent pro-monarchy protests in March. He fled to India but was returned to Nepal. The Gen Z protesters walked out of the talks over his involvement.

Meanwhile, families of protesters who were killed are reckoning with their deaths.

"We are deeply shocked because we have lost our beloved son," said Yubaraj Neupane, whose 23-year-old son Yogendra died in the protests. "I am yet to find out how he died."

Yogendra was shot in the back of the head near the parliament building, according to the post mortem report.

From south-eastern Nepal, the family's eldest son had pursued his studies in Kathmandu and aspired to be a civil servant. He was always studying, friends and relatives said.

But on September 8, he joined the protests with his friends, dreaming of bringing change to the country. His family didn't know he was at the scene until he called them after the situation started heating up.

"Our beloved has lost his life calling for change," his great-uncle Saubhagya said. "His blood and sacrifice should be recognised so that other young people won't have to hit the streets again in the future."

Ms Pandey said she was cautiously optimistic about her country's future, but the trauma of the past week would stay with her for the rest of her life.

This is a political awakening for her generation.

"We are no longer willing to stay silent or accept injustice," she says. "This is not just a gentle nudge; it's a bold challenge to a system that has hoarded power for decades."

Additional reporting by Grace Tsui



KTN TV

- 5:30 AM COMMAND YOUR MORNING
- 6:00 AM THE SITUATION ROOM
- 10:00 AM ART OF LIVING
- 11:00 AM YANAYOJIRI
- 1:00 PM NEWSDESK
- 2:00 PM KTN CLASSICS
- 3:00 PM THE HOT SPOT
- 3:30 PM AMPLIFY
- 4:00 PM MBIU
- 4:30 PM KIDS
- 5:00 PM BASELINE
- 6:00 PM TO HAVE AND TO HOLD
- 7:00 PM KTN LEO
- 7:30 PM NJORO WA UBA
- 8:00 PM ART OF LIVING
- 9:00 PM KTN PRIME
- 11:00 PM KTN CLASSICS
- 1:00 AM BASELINE
- 2:00 AM ALJAZEERA



7:00PM KTN LEO | 9:00PM KTN PRIME



CITIZEN TV

- 5:00AM PAMBAZUKA
- 5:30AM PE @ HOME RPT
- 6:00AM DAYBREAK
- 8:00AM SEMANA CITIZEN
- 1:00PM NEWS@1
- 2:00PM MSETO AFRICA
- 3:00PM CITIZEN JUNIOR
- 4:00PM NEWS BRIEFS
- 4:15PM KALI NIKALI
- 5:30PM KALI NIKALI
- 6:00PM KENYA'S GOLD
- 7:00PM NIPASHE
- 7:30PM NEEMA
- 8:00PM THE STORY OF JUANA (LA HISTORIA DE JUANA)
- 9:00PM TONIGHT
- 10:00PM TONIGHT
- 11:00PM THE GANG
- 12:00AM AFROSINEMA
- 1:00AM TONIGHT RPT
- 4:00AM PAMBAZUKA



TV47

- 5:00AM MORNING DECREE
- 5:30AM TV47 FITNESS
- 6:00AM MORNING CAFÉ
- 10:00AM BEAT BREAK
- 11:00AM TV47 MATUKIO
- 2:00PM BAZE 47
- 3:00PM THE DEBATE CYCLE - RPT
- 4:00PM TV47 NEWS NOW
- 4:15PM BEAT KIDS
- 4:30PM KIKI AND NUNA
- 5:00PM BEAT PLUG
- 7:00PM UPEO WA TV47
- 7:30PM MFAHAMU
- 8:00PM DW DOCU FILM
- 8:30PM NEW LIFE BEGINS
- 9:00PM THE GREEN FIX WITH SHIKSHA ARORA
- 11:00PM DW DOCU FILM
- 12:00AM BEAT PLUG MIX



NTV

- 4:00AM ALJAZEERA
- 5:00AM OFF THE HOOK
- 6:00AM FIXING THE NATION
- 10:00AM YOUR WORLD
- 12:00PM FLAQO
- 12:30PM THE GLAM
- 1:00PM NTV ADHUHURI
- 1:30PM LOVE OF MY LIFE
- 2:30PM KWETUMIXX
- 3:30PM GIMZO GO
- 4:00PM BEATZ AND BUZZ
- 6:30PM NTV MASHINANI
- 7:00PM NTV JIONI
- 7:30PM MDUARA
- 8:00PM NOMA
- 8:30PM YOU ARE THE ONE
- 9:00PM NTV TONIGHT
- 9:30PM MURDER TAPES
- 10:30PM THE FOOTBALL REVIEW SHOW
- 11:00PM FIXING THE NATION - RPT
- 1:00AM ALJAZEERA



BERUR FM

- 4:00AM BERUR TAB KARON
- 6:00AM TAAITAB BERUR
- 10:00AM TINY TINY BOISIET
- 2:00PM KOITAMA
- 7:00PM KABUREITO



SPICE FM

- 6:00AM THE SITUATION ROOM
- 11:00AM SUGAR & SPICE
- 3:00PM SPICE DRIVE
- 7:00PM AFTER HOURS



RADIO MAISHA

- 4:00AM SAFARI
- 6:00AM MAISHA ASUBUHI
- 10:00AM STAARABIKA
- 12:00PM KONNECT
- 3:00PM MAISHA JIONI
- 7:00PM RHUMBA REPUBLIK
- 11:00PM MAISHA COCKTAIL



K24 TV

- 5:00AM INUKA
- 6:00PM NEW DAWN
- 8:00AM MORNING VIBE
- 10:00AM NEW DAWN REPEAT
- 11:00AM MCHIPUKO
- 1:00PM K24 NEWS CUT
- 1:30PM JUNGLE SPOTI
- 2:00PM AAPKE AA JAANESE
- 3:00PM AKILI KIDS
- 3:30PM UBONGO KIDS
- 4:00PM K24 MASHINANI
- 4:30PM MCHIPUKO EXTRA
- 5:00PM BEATBOX
- 6:00PM FALLING INTO YOUR SMILE
- 7:00PM K24 SAA MOJA
- 7:30PM AAPKE AA JAANESE
- 8:30PM BBC- FOCUS ON AFRICA
- 9:00PM K24 EVENING EDITION
- 10:00PM BBC- DIRA YA DUNIA
- 10:30PM RIDDIM VYBES
- 12:30AM ALJAZEERA



DENNIS ASETO | NDU OKOH | DENNIS OKARI

KENYA'S BIGGEST CONVERSATION

Monday - Friday, 6AM-10AM

Livestream: [YouTube](#) [f LIVE](#)



- Nairobi 94.4
- Nakuru 96.0
- Nyeri 90.9
- Kisumu 102.5
- Malindi 97.7
- Mombasa 87.9
- Eldoret 96.7

HOROSCOPE



Virgo – Aug 23 - Sep 22
As the day advances, you may consider different or unusual ideas and methods that can free up your time or excite you. You're more confident and hopeful about the future, especially along practical lines.



Libra – Sep 23 - Oct 22
You might wonder if you're being lied to today. If possible and appropriate, try to let things be and depend on yourself for the time being. Watch that you don't say something that leaves too many things open to interpretation, as people may not get it.



Scorpio – Oct 23 - Nov 21
A chaotic or disrupted routine or lack of direction can be distracting today, but the detour your mind takes as a result of this can be enlightening. Nevertheless, it's important to watch for miscommunication, and discretion may be in order today. Positively, someone or something can inspire an exciting new idea.



Sagittarius Nov 22 - Dec 21
This is not the time for make-or-break decisions -- give things time before arriving at firm conclusions. Later today, self-expression comes more readily. You're well-equipped for collaborating, sharing ideas, and relating to others in liberating ways.



Capricorn – Dec 22 - Jan 19
Later today is good for exploring new ideas and possibilities related to your practical goals or work. Improvements to your methods or further information can increase productivity or save you a little time. They might even free up your mind!



Aquarius – Jan 20 - Feb 18
You could be hungry for entertaining and enlightening concepts, ideas, and fantasies. In the right places, these can be rewarding. Later today, playful energy is with you. You can feel just detached enough to enjoy yourself more fully.



Pisces – Feb 19 - Mar 20
Transits later today can bring about freeing objectivity or detachment. You might release yourself from a burden or a secret, clear the air, or talk through a problem and feel relieved and even liberated for doing so.



Aries – Mar 21 - Apr 19
While it's all too easy to become distracted today, it's also a strong time for new ideas and imaginative thinking, especially as the day advances. Given some space and freedom, you can come up with something very innovative.



Taurus – Apr 20 - May 20
Stretching the truth and cover-ups are best avoided now, even though they can be tempting with this transit in play. Seek a better balance between work and rest, which comes more readily later today. Refreshing points of view or perspectives can inspire you.



Gemini – May 21 - Jun 21
In fact, it's a good day for taking it easy and engaging your imagination. Especially later today, you may come up with a breakthrough idea, and a project or plan can suddenly and happily move forward.



Cancer – Jun 22 - Jul 22
Aim to seek people you trust for opinions on your more practical affairs, but look within for answers to matters of the heart. You may have too many choices right now, and, likely, you're not truly ready to come to a solid conclusion. If that's the case, then wait things out.



Leo – Jul 23 - Aug 22
Let your imagination go, but do so at the right time and place and not so far that you set yourself up for a letdown. On the one hand, the desire is to obtain information and make sense of something, but on the other, the tendency to break it apart is powerful. Cafeastrology.com

CHESS

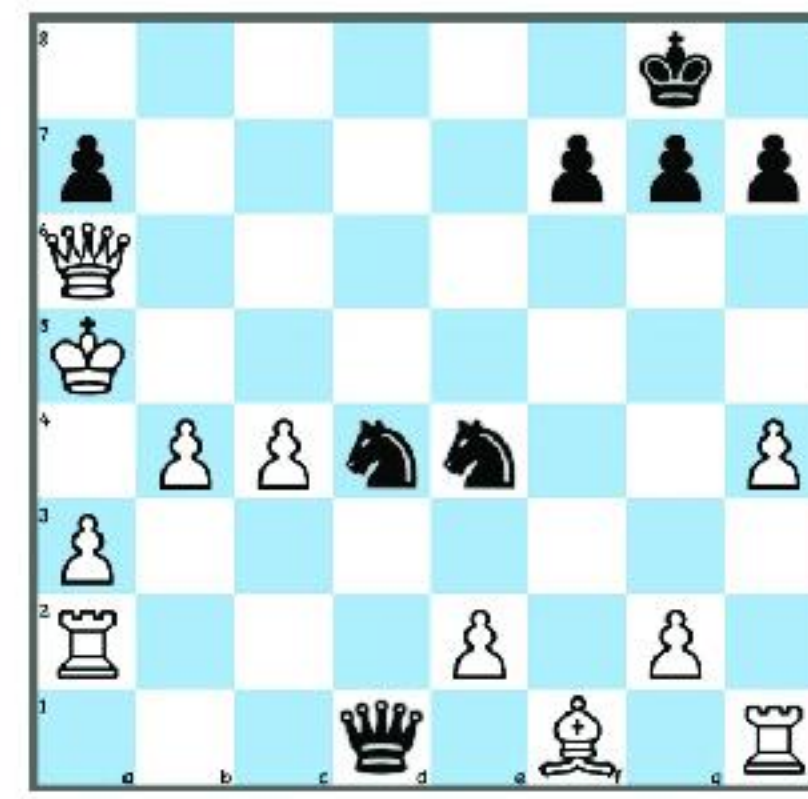
Easy puzzle

White mates in 2 moves.



Intermediate puzzle

Black mates in 3 moves.



Wednesday's solution

Easy:
1. Rxc7+ Kxc7
2. Qg6#

Intermediate:
1. Qxd7+ Rxd7
2. Rxb8+ Rd8
3. Bb5#

SOLVIT

C	H	A	D	22
F	G	B	C	23
H	E	F	G	19
J	B	A	E	21
14	24	23	24	

Difficulty

The letters have a distinct value between 1 and 9. Two of these values and the totals horizontally and vertically have been given. Solve all the values.

Today's Clues

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J
			3					2

Wednesday's solution

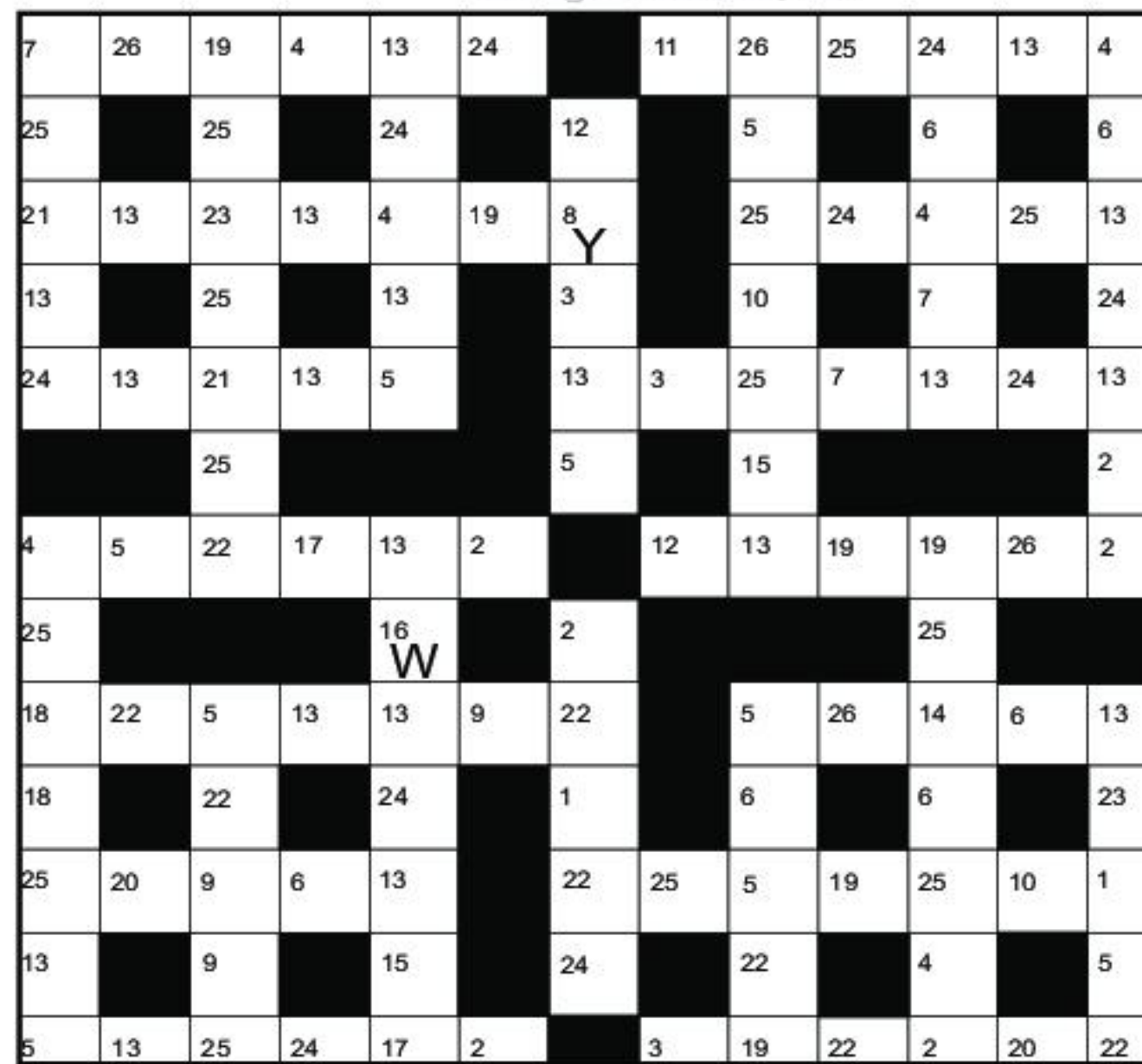
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J
2	4	8	6	3	9	7	5	1

CODEWORD

CLUE
Each letter in this puzzle is represented by a number 1-26.

Crack the code and solve the crossword. Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once.

Three letters are already in place to get you started.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Wednesday's solution

14	1	S
15	2	L
16	3	X
17	4	K
18	5	W
19	6	G
20	7	A
21	8	Z
22	9	J
23	10	P
24	11	R
25	12	Q
26	13	E

KAKURO

11	3	34	4	28	9				
4			8						
	23		20						
	6								
17	14								6
3			5						
16			11						

The totals for the rows and columns are given on the left for the rows and above for the columns in the shaded boxes. The single digits which give the totals are used only once e.g. 10 = 1, 2, 3, 4 or 1, 4, 5 or 2, 3, 5 etc but not 2, 2, 6 or 1, 1, 8 or 3, 3, 2.

Wednesday's solution

	6	23	11	19	3
12	3	9	16	9	2
15	2	5	3	4	1
15	1	8	6	17	
	20	7	4	9	17
	15	14	1	4	6
20	6	1	2	3	8
12	9	3	4	1	3

SUDOKU

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

Wednesday's solution

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

By Kham



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Dwell on the beauty of life. Watch the stars, and see yourself running with them."

Marcus Aurelius



Scan here for more stories, photos, videos and audio clips.



Housing: Why Ruto's numbers don't add up

PG 27

CONSTRUCTION

Equipment firm eyes State projects as it marks 100 years

American construction, mining and other engineering equipment manufacturer Caterpillar has marked 100 years of its operation in Kenya.

This is as the firm eyes the government's affordable housing and infrastructure projects in its next growth cycle.

Egyptian Mantrac Group, which is the sole authorised dealer representative in the country, Africa and the Middle East with presence in 12 countries with offices in China, Dubai and the United Kingdom(UK),

hosted the landmark centennial celebration on Tuesday last week at its headquarters located on Witu Road in Nairobi. Caterpillar equipment was first introduced in Kenya in 1925, through the exclusive dealership of Gailey and Roberts. The dealership was later taken over by Mantrac Kenya in 2002.

Mohamed Ibrahim, managing director of Mantrac Kenya, highlighted Caterpillar's role in Kenya's growth story and reaffirmed Mantrac Kenya's commitment to powering the next century of progress.

"When we build a road, we do not simply provide machines to lay asphalt. We improve lives, like the Kisumu Road that allowed fishermen to bring their catch to Nairobi markets," said Ibrahim.

He added that the company is ready to take opportunities in real estate and construction that come with the government's Affordable Housing Programme(AHP).

"I think we are in the right time in Kenya, we see a lot of good programs for development coming for the next five years at least, and those

programs entail affordable housing. Excavation of foundations, grading and compactors will be the first requirement of any contractor working on AHP, and then after that we can use man-lifting equipment, which we also sell and can also be used in blocks, cement and concrete transportation," said Ibrahim.

Ibrahim said they have started to witness growth nowadays, and they see contractors are busy in different fields, including cement production, road construction, real estate, and agriculture. [James Wanzala]



From left: Mantrac Kenya MD Mohamed Ibrahim, East Africa Regional Director Mantrac Group Nicolas Merer, Group CFO Nigel Lewis, and Caterpillar Vice President, Africa Distribution Lavanya Ajesh at the recent CAT at 100 celebrations in Nairobi. [Bernard Orwongo, Standard]

CONSERVATION

Stakeholders urge partnerships to tame e-waste menace

They say Kenya could benefit from developed countries like Germany, which have established systems.

By Killiad Msafiri
kmsafiri@standardmedia.co.ke

Kenya produces up to 80,000 metric tonnes of electronic waste (e-waste) annually, sparking fresh calls for sustainable management of the waste.

Stakeholders warn that poor handling of e-waste poses serious health risks and contributes to global warming, even as the National Environment Management Authority (Nema) admits it is struggling to manage the crisis despite existing laws.

The concerns were raised at Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Innovation Summit, which began on Tuesday and closes today at Strathmore University.

General Manager at AHK Services Eastern Africa Christian Engels noted that Kenya is ahead of its East African peers in e-waste management but could benefit from partnerships with countries like Germany, which has sustainably managed e-waste for nearly three decades.

Commending Kenya as the first East African country to pass Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Regulations in 2024, Engels said the law will ensure responsibilities and costs are shared across the value chain.

"As the only country in East Africa that has implemented EPR

Some Kenyans eke a living through the extraction of valuable items from e-waste, but throw away the other part to the street and dumpsites..."

regulations, Kenya can be a role model for neighbouring countries," he said.

"There would be great opportunities if we combined German know-how and Kenyan creativity and innovation."

Kenya enacted the EPR regulations in November 2024, shifting responsibility from consumers to producers, importers, and brand owners, making them legally accountable for the entire life cycle of their products. However, enforcement has stalled.

NEMA Director of Environmental Enforcement Dr Ayub Macharia said a

National Environment Management Authority Director of Environmental Enforcement Dr Ayub Macharia at the opening of the opening of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Innovation Summit in Nairobi on Tuesday. [Killiad Msafiri, Standard]

court case has delayed implementation of the new regulations. He also accused some companies of refusing to pay EPR fees.

"Compensation is based on a formula that everyone is aware of, yet when calculations are made, some organisations refuse to pay," he said. Macharia noted that low public awareness is undermining e-waste collection, even as smartphone ownership continues to rise. "Some Kenyans eke a living through the extraction of valuable items from e-waste, but throw away the other part to the street and dumpsites where they pollute the soil and our water bodies," he said.

"We are worried about this trend since there is a lot of environmental pollution from e-waste." Improper disposal exposes humans and animals to toxic metals such as lead and mercury, while burning e-waste contributes to air pollution, water contamination, and greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). These emissions lead to global warming, hindering climate change efforts.

"E-waste has high toxicity and the possibility of being radioactive, and its improper management results in challenges such as air pollution when the e-waste is burnt, leaching into surface and underground water bodies," said Macharia. The summit also highlighted the key role of the informal sector, which handles more e-waste than the formal sector.

"The informal sector plays a unique role in mopping up e-waste and requires facilitation for services rendered," said Macharia.

"If well engaged, it could develop innovative business models including upcycling."

Kenya's e-waste sector was formalised under the Sustainable Waste Management Act 2022, which paved the way for Producer Responsibility Organisations (PROs).

So far, only one exists - the Electronic-Waste Producer Responsibility Organisation of Kenya (EPROK), formed in 2023.

EPROK Coordinator John Ayara said the law has streamlined e-waste management.

"In the past, people operated in silos and e-waste recyclers focused more on making profits because it was just a business. EPROK now coordinates the entire chain, from collectors to transporters, to recyclers."

Despite progress, most recycling facilities remain in Nairobi, leaving other regions with limited capacity to manage growing volumes of e-waste.

ECONOMY

Despite the hype around the project, official data shows it has added far fewer jobs and completed units than the President would have you believe.

By Graham Kajilwa
gkajilwa@standardmedia.co.ke

Upon jetting back into the country from Ethiopia recently, President William Ruto, for the umpteenth time, defended the affordable housing programme (AHP).

This time, he cited South Korea, Singapore, and Malaysia as examples of how a country can catapult its economy through housing.

"Singapore was a slum like Kibera. Today, 95 per cent of Singaporeans are homeowners," he said.

"In Kenya, seven million people live in slums."

He said 320,000 people are currently working in the affordable housing programme, where 170,000 units, another 170,000 student hostel units and 400 markets are being built.

There are 700,000 units in the pipeline, he said.

"The contracts we have signed under the affordable housing programme of markets, hostels, and affordable housing are Sh600 billion, and they are under construction. And that is not money we have borrowed from anybody. This is our money because we sacrificed 1.5 per cent of our earnings," he said.

He argued that the affordable housing programme is transforming the aesthetics of towns in the country, as the largest housing estates, citing Manderu, Kisumu, Wajir, and Bungoma as examples.

"And it is just two years, tell me, what is going to happen in 10 years? You will not recognise this country in 20 years," said President Ruto.

Despite these glossy figures, data from the Central Bank of Kenya and the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) paint a different story, particularly in the construction sector, where affordable housing falls.

From a sector that contracted in 2024, from low absorption of housing budget by the government in the same period, to fewer jobs created than what has been announced by the President, the data reveals gaps in the economic impact of the affordable housing programme.

While President Ruto now speaks of 320,000 jobs, which he infrequently refers to as "new," the KNBS Economic Survey Report 2025 records 233,300 as the number of wage employment jobs

Why Ruto's affordable housing numbers do not add up



President William Ruto and Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki inspect the ongoing construction of the 4,566-unit Shauri Moyo B Affordable Housing Project in Kamukunji Constituency, Nairobi, earlier this year. [PCS]

created in 2024, a drop from 236,000 in 2023.

The private sector employed 223,400 persons, a drop from 226,300 in 2023, while the public sector absorbed 9,900, a slight increase from 9,700 in 2023.

In March this year, the number of jobs under the affordable housing programme was 244,232, according to data provided by Government Spokesperson Isaac Mwaura.

During the same period, the amount of cement consumed in the construction sector dropped to 8.5 million tonnes from 9.2 million tonnes in 2023.

Loans and advances from commercial banks to the construction sector also dropped to Sh528.0 billion from Sh602.7 billion, signalling reduced lending to the sector, which explains the 0.7 per cent contraction in the period.

When building, construction and real estate sectors are combined, the amount of loans and advances stood at Sh576.3 billion in 2024, a drop from Sh602.7 billion in 2023.

The value of completed units under the State Department for Housing and Urban Planning dropped to Sh4.0 billion in 2024 compared to Sh11 billion in 2023.

"Similarly, the number of residential housing units completed by the State Department for Housing and Urban Plan-

ning declined by 50.7 per cent to 1,655 units in 2024," the report says.

It adds that the number of reported completed private buildings in Nairobi declined from 22,093 in 2023 to 21,807 in 2024.

"Similarly, the reported number of completed residential buildings declined from 18,084 units in 2023 to 17,920 units in 2024, while the number of reported non-residential completed buildings declined by 3.0 per cent to 3,887 units in 2024, indicating a slowdown in the construction of commercial, office and institutional buildings," the report says.

The KNBS report adds that the value of building plans approved by the Nairobi City County increased to Sh221.6 billion, probably approving the Sh600 billion claim by the President on the value of contracts signed on the affordable housing programme.

However, in the period, the value of reported buildings completed decreased by 2.3 per cent to Sh149.9 billion.

"The decrease could be attributed to decelerated completion rates of the already ongoing building projects," says the KNBS report.

The report also shows that the estimated government expenditure on housing for the 2024-25 financial year was Sh86.5 billion, which is 10.6 per cent higher than that of 2023-24, an indication of the continued investment in housing development through

AHP. However, the report shows the utilisation rate of budgeted funding was 32.6 per cent in FY 2023-24 compared to 86.8 per cent recorded in FY 2022-23.

During the period of high interest rates, which hit 13 per cent, the construction sector was one of the most affected as credit to the sector shrank.

Between May 2024 and February 2025, credit growth to the building and construction sector had contracted, reaching -16.7 per cent in October 2024.

However, since March 2025, the sector has recorded positive growth that saw July record a 38.8 per cent increase.

Projection by the CBK is that the construction sector will grow by four per cent this year.

"With regards to both the services and construction sectors, we do expect that the lowering of the lending rates by commercial banks to contribute to the growth (in those sectors) and in addition, the improved government spending on development in 2025 compared to 2024," said CBK Governor Dr Kamau Thugge during the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) press briefing in August.

Thugge said payment of pending bills would also significantly help the construction sector.

"That should contribute to increased value addition in the construction sector as contractors go back to work," he added.

“

Similarly, the number of residential housing units completed by the State Department for Housing and Urban Planning declined by 50.7 per cent to 1,655 units in 2024.”

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics Economic Survey Report 2025

PLANNING

How African urban planners can tap into population rise

Two in three Africans will live in cities by 2050, creating immense opportunities for future development.

By The Conversation
newsdesk@standardmedia.co.ke

Africa's population is projected to nearly double by 2050, with 80 per cent of that growth being concentrated in urban areas, leaving two out of three Africans living in cities.

This expansion of cities at an unprecedented rate will bring both challenges and opportunities for African countries.

In this edited extract from a discussion with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Women Leading Change podcast series, feminist urban economist Astrid R N Haas explores three pillars for inclusive and sustainable growth: governance, planning and financing.

What can policymakers do to plan effectively for this rapid growth?

Policymakers must be more proactive. They need to anticipate future needs for infrastructure, services and housing. And they need to plan and invest in those spaces.

To do this, national policymakers must treat urbanisation not just as a city issue, but as a national priority. If they work properly, cities are engines of growth for the whole country. National strategies must support cities with appropriate policies, financing mechanisms and investments.

So African institutions must fit the purpose and context. Institutions must have clear responsibilities to avoid fragmented decision-making. Administrative structures must underpin this, not only from a sectoral but also from a geographic perspective.

One challenge is that local governments are often positioned under the authority of national governments, and in many contexts, working at the local level may not carry the same level of recognition or prestige as national roles, despite the critical responsibilities they shoulder.

The one place that is working to overcome this is South Africa, where the municipal government is a separate sphere of government but equal to the other levels.

Here, the national treasury is working

towards developing a single remuneration framework so that employees performing the same tasks in different spheres of government are compensated equitably.

More thought needs to go into how to support other cities across the continent in a similar way, ensuring they are adequately staffed in terms of numbers and skills. It is about making local government a more attractive place for talent to work and grow.

Most importantly, effort needs to go into making sure governance structures are both legitimate and responsive to citizens. Local government, as the level of



“

Policymakers must be more proactive. They need to anticipate future needs for infrastructure, services and housing. And they need to plan and invest in those spaces.”

Astrid Haas, urban economist



Nairobi's skyline from Westlands. African countries need to invest in infrastructure and services that expand social opportunity, such as accessible public transport. [Elvis Ogina, Standard]

government closest to the people, plays a critical role in this. Local authorities must be equipped to engage with residents and incorporate their priorities into decision-making.

What steps can governments take to create long-term financing strategies?

African governments must plan beyond the typical two-, three- or five-year horizons. Long-term planning is often challenging because it doesn't align with shorter political cycles. But infrastructure and service delivery require sustained, long-term investment and commitment.

We also need to think carefully about which services and investments should be the responsibility of the government, and which can be delivered by the private sector.

Policymakers play a crucial role in prioritising interventions that offer the greatest public benefit, whether by boosting productivity, advancing key social goals like livability through expanded social housing and services, or, ideally,

both. Once priorities are set, investments must be appropriately balanced between public and private actors to ensure impact and equity.

How can policymakers guide sustainable and economically productive urban growth?

By making investments in the places people are moving to. This can be done through projections and then urban expansion planning.

And here the OECD is at the forefront of some innovative work on data production for African cities.

Together with the United Cities and Local Governments, an association of local and regional governments, they've also produced what is probably the most comparable data on subnational financing: the World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment.

Used well, data like this can help make more equitable decisions. These tools can show us where populations are expanding, where services are lagging, and how

people move and work across urban areas.

Policymakers can then respond with targeted investments that improve livelihoods and expand opportunity. Therefore, for people like me who work with cities, data is an invaluable resource.

A note of caution is also in order. It's not just about what the data shows; it's also about what it leaves out. Who's missing from the numbers? Who isn't represented? What don't we see? And why?

If people are underrepresented in official data sets, they risk being forgotten in policymaking too. That is why it is so important that institutions like the OECD not only produce data, but also help identify and fill these gaps.

Governments also need to find ways to complement official statistics to "see the unseen" and build a fuller picture of urban life.

An example is the role of women in the informal food economy, urban agriculture, and service sectors. Their contributions are immense, yet often invisible in the data. That invisibility poses a major challenge for urban planning.

Can municipal financing be reimagined to prioritise gender equity and inclusivity?

Most cities around the world have been designed predominantly by men, and, more specifically, by white men from privileged backgrounds.

As a result, even today, in cities across Europe and the US, urban spaces continue to reflect patriarchal notions of livability. They often fail to account for the different ways that women and other marginalised groups experience life in cities.

In Africa, most urban spaces are yet to be built as most countries have yet to fully urbanise. So there is this unique opportunity to design cities from the outset that are truly inclusive. And here, municipal financing is key. Where we get the money from, and how we spend it, will ultimately shape the urban outcomes that define our cities for generations.

On the revenue side, African countries must carefully examine how both formal taxes and informal fees affect different groups, men, women, and other marginalised communities, and consider who is bearing the greatest burden.

The expenditure side is, in some ways, deemed to be more straightforward. However, it involves trade-offs as African countries need to invest in infrastructure and services that expand not only economic but also social opportunity, such as accessible public transport, affordable childcare, and adequate public spaces.

Borrowing is another critical component of the municipal finance equation. If you look at the OECD-UCLG data, you'll see that very few African cities currently have access to capital markets. This severely limits their ability to finance the infrastructure they need.

Even where borrowing becomes possible, it carries long-term responsibilities. Borrowing is not just a short-term financial tool; it's an intergenerational contract. The funds borrowed today will be repaid not only by current taxpayers but by future generations as well.

CONSERVATION

Tristan da Cunha: The lobsters keeping Earth's remotest town afloat

The fishing gong is calling. At 05:00 local time, the clang of a hammer on an old oxygen gas cylinder wakes me up.

It's fishing day on Tristan da Cunha, a speck of land in the South Atlantic Ocean that is home to barely more than 200 people.

Beyond the UK Overseas Territory, the nearest inhabited settlement lies more than 2,400km (1,491 miles) away.

As the gong fades, dogs bark, engines rev, and the scrape of rubber boots echoes through the air as fishermen head to Callshot Harbor, nicknamed "the Beach", to bait their traps and ready their boats. With just 18 to 72 fishing days per season, every opportunity counts.

They're after Tristan's most valuable commodity: the St Paul spiny lobster (*Jasus paulensis*), found only near remote islands in the world's southern oceans. Prized for their sweet, delicate meat, a single tail can fetch \$39 (£29) on the US market. The lobsters are also sold in Japan and the UK. Here in the cool, temperate waters of the Tristan da Cunha archipelago, the crustaceans thrive close to shore, at depths of up to 200m (656 ft).

But Tristan has not always been able to

depend on its lobster bounty. Decades ago, heavy fishing caused a significant reduction in lobster numbers here.

Today, Tristanians depend on the catch - but they also know that, without proper protections, the lobsters are at risk.

"We have always relied on the ocean as a source of food, managing it to the best of our abilities. Which means not taking more than you need," says James Glass, head of Tristan da Cunha's Department of Fisheries. "This is a precious place, and we want it to stay that way."

"It's our livelihood. Without the ocean, our community wouldn't function," says fisherman Shane Green.

Now, as the world's oceans face mounting pressures, and climate change, invasive species and illegal industrial fishing threaten both the marine ecosystem and the island's main source of income, the people of Tristan da Cunha are determined to ensure the spiny lobsters', and their own, long-term survival.

Julia Gunther
Tristan da Cunha lies in the middle of the world's fifth-largest marine protected zone (Credit: Julia Gunther)



Isolation, and strong survival instincts, have shaped every aspect of life on Tristan da Cunha. [Julia Gunther]

The island's fishermen work in the middle of the world's fifth-largest marine protected zone (MPZ) which covers an area of 687,000 sq km (265,252 sq miles).

In 91 per cent of Tristan's territorial waters, commercial fishing is entirely banned. In the remaining zones, strict quotas, size limits, and onboard monitoring apply, with satellite surveillance helping to detect and deter illegal activity.

Jason Green and his fishing partner, Dean Repetto, have sailed together for a decade. Like most Tristanians, their ancestral connection to the sea dates back more than a century.

"Fishing has been passed down through my family for generations," says Repetto, who also works as a mechanic for Tristan's Department

of Fisheries. On a fine day in January 2024, Dean, Jason and their apprentice Tristan Glass, head out to sea in Island Pride, their 8m (27ft) bright-orange boat.

Leaving Tristan's tiny harbour, they head east, weaving through offshore forests of giant kelp, towering brown algae that can grow over half a metre per day and reach 45m (150ft) in length.

They're headed to their mark, a fishing spot on the southern side of the island that fishermen here can identify through triangulation of landmarks and the depth of the ocean at certain locations.

"It could be a pinnacle, it could be like a gulch, it could be a hut or a hill, and you line one up with the other one," says Eugene Repetto, who fishes on the Kingfisher.

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Swiss paint maker eyes Kenya's booming paint market

► As Kenya's paint industry expands, a new player promises integrity, innovation, and quality
 By Gerard Nyele, Nairobi.

Kenya's vibrant and fast-evolving paint and coatings industry is attracting new global interest, with Swiss-based Aviva Paints now setting its sights on the East African market.

The company's entry comes at a pivotal moment for the sector, which is experiencing both accelerated growth and mounting challenges, from quality inconsistencies to environmental scrutiny and price volatility.

According to Simon Wangulu, CEO of Aviva Paints Kenya Limited, the company is preparing for a full-scale rollout that promises to fill several long-standing gaps in the local market.

"There is a lack of consistency in quality within the market," said Wangulu. "Many players introduce a product, but after some time, the quality is compromised. We are coming in to change that narrative — to bring back integrity and innovation to the sector."

The timing could not be better. Kenya's Paint, Wallpaper & Supplies segment is projected to generate over US\$630 million in revenue in 2025, with a steady Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 2.7% expected through 2029, according to industry analysts.

The broader Paint & Coatings market, including industrial, automotive, and protective coatings, is anticipated to experience even stronger growth, with some forecasts projecting double-digit expansion by 2026.

Wangulu attributes this momentum largely to the country's



Simon Wangulu, CEO of Aviva Paints Kenya Limited during an interview at The Standard Group offices, yesterday. [Gerard Nyele, standard]

ongoing construction boom, infrastructure development, and rising middle-class spending.

"Modernization, rapid urbanization, and a more design-conscious culture are all pushing demand higher," he noted. "This is a market that's hungry for quality, sustainability, and authenticity."

Sustainability and regulation shaping the future

In recent years, consumer preferences and environmental standards have also evolved significantly. With growing awareness around climate change and indoor air quality, more consumers, especially in urban centres, are opting for low-VOC (volatile organic compounds), non-lead,

and eco-friendly paint options.

“At Aviva Paints Kenya Limited, we understand Kenya — its climate, culture, and creativity”

These trends are reinforced by

a tightening regulatory environment, where both the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) and environmental watchdogs are pushing for higher compliance in chemical formulation, safety labelling, and packaging waste management.

"At Aviva Paints Kenya Limited, we understand Kenya — its climate, culture, and creativity," said Wangulu. "We've not just studied global trends, but also the specific needs of Kenyan homes, buildings, and artisans. Our aim is to deliver products that are durable, safe, and environmentally conscious."

Targeting gaps in quality, transparency, and innovation

Wangulu believes the industry's real challenge is not just com-

petition but a culture that has allowed quality compromises to flourish unchecked.

"The big players created a culture where you bribe painters to recommend your brand. This compromises quality and misleads customers. It's something we need to weed out if the industry is to truly flourish."

He added that Aviva's focus on product consistency, transparency, and innovation will help it stand out. The company has also invested in color-matching technology, an area many Kenyan manufacturers have yet to fully optimize, especially in the automotive refinish and custom décor segments.

Despite the strong growth trajectory, the Kenyan paint market is not without its hurdles.

Recent excise duty increases on imported paint inputs, including varnishes, binders, and lacquer components, have pushed up production costs across the board. Industry insiders argue that unless the regulatory framework becomes more coordinated, such taxes could stifle innovation and discourage quality imports.

Additionally, the market continues to grapple with the proliferation of counterfeit or substandard paints, lack of skilled applicators and certified training programmes, limited consumer knowledge on eco-friendly alternatives and fragmented distribution and marketing systems.

"The industry has potential," said Wangulu, "but it remains disorganized. With better regulation, transparency, and collaboration, we can unlock tremendous value, not just for companies, but for homeowners, builders, and the environment."

The government's Affordable Housing Programme, which targets the development of hundreds of thousands of housing

units annually, presents another major demand driver. Paint manufacturers, both local and foreign, are positioning themselves to supply coatings for residential, commercial, and institutional infrastructure.

Meanwhile, wood coatings, especially for furniture and architectural elements, are also seeing growth as local tastes shift toward more natural finishes, luxury home accents, and custom carpentry.

Aviva says it will enter this segment with a product line tailored to local climatic and aesthetic preferences — including humidity-resistant finishes and UV-blocking pigments suitable for the tropics.

With its Swiss engineering, African market understanding, and focus on sustainability, Aviva Paints enters the Kenyan market at a time when consumers are seeking not just colour, but credibility.

While the road may be challenging, the company hopes to build a brand rooted in trust, technical excellence, and long-term commitment. "For us, it's about more than selling paint," said Wangulu. "It's about helping build Kenya beautifully, sustainably, and honestly."

Industry Snapshot: Kenya's Paint & Coatings Market (2025)

• **Estimated Size:** USD 630 million (Paint, Wallpaper & Supplies segment)

• **Growth Drivers:** Construction boom, urbanization, middle-class expansion

• **Trends:** Eco-friendly paints, low-VOC, non-lead formulations

• **Challenges:** Quality inconsistency, counterfeits, high input costs

• **Opportunities:** Affordable housing, wood coatings, automotive refinishing

Why Building codes, quantity Surveyors matter in construction

By Ayoki Onyango

Before laying the first stone on any building project, it is critical to follow building codes and engage qualified professionals such as quantity surveyors. These measures not only safeguard your investment but also ensure safety, compliance, and long-term value.

Building codes are sets of laws and standards that govern how construction is carried out—from the choice of materials to the safety of services provided. Peter Gatheru, an urban planning expert at the University of Nairobi, says they are designed to "encourage and facilitate economic activities related to infrastructure and housing."

However, codes are not without criticism. Sometimes they fail to consider local culture or economic realities, making compliance difficult. Charles Ayoro, Managing Director of Real Estate Associates Limited, notes that "building codes may increase the cost of materials and highlight bureaucratic red tape that frustrates construction work."

Still, their benefits far outweigh the drawbacks. Properly applied, building codes ensure compliance with zoning by-laws, including land use and property setbacks, guarantee professional review of plans and specifications, provide for qualified inspectors at key stages of construction, improves

safety, increases property value and protects investors from heavy penalties or losses for building without permits.

The Quantity Surveyor Advantage

Alongside codes, quantity surveyors (QS) are indispensable in modern construction. They serve as cost and construction advisers, ensuring that the right materials, in the right quantities and at the right prices, are used. Their oversight minimizes wastage, manages costs, and keeps projects on schedule.

"Quantity surveyors manage all costs relating to building projects, from planning to completion," explains Ayoro. "They

provide cost control, quality assurance, project coordination, and contract management." They are key in the preparing feasibility and financial viability reports, developing preliminary cost estimates and budgets, advising on material choices, site conditions, and their cost implications, preparation of tender documents such as bills of quantities and schedules of rates among others. By balancing design aspirations with financial realities, quantity surveyors help clients make informed decisions and ensure buildings are delivered within budget, on time, and to the required quality standards.

TO-LET

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A9/LOST

LOST Title Kiambogo/Kiambogo Blk 2/204 (Mwariki) Jennifer Ruth Njoki Kahare

LOST title No: Kisumu/ Nyalunya/ 6282. Albert Okumu Odiyo

LOSS of TD Ndumberi /Riabal / 6977

LOST title No: Kanyamwa / K / K / Kakaeta / 1460

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LOST T/Deed: Nyaribari Masaba/ Bonyakoni/1505/1506/1507 of Jameson Bosire Mogusu

LOST Title South Teso / Angoromo / 504

LOST Title Deed Laikipia/Uaso Narok B 154 For James Gitau

LOST Title Deed Laikipia/Uaso Narok B 230 For James Gitau Murichu

LOST Title Nyandarua / Ndemi/2479 of Peter Gitiya Ngigi

LOST Title: Pioneer/Ngeria Block 1(Eatec)/11122 Kiptuwei Kiple

LOSS of title deeds Kajiado / Ochoro-Onyore / 11797, 11798 for Francis Mwanzia Nzioki

LOSS of title LR.4894 / 179

LOSS of title LR. NO. 209 / 11092 / 31

LOST title Kjd/Kitengela/3426 for Elvis Maina, Nathan Maina & David Muchiri

LOST Deed File/ Green Card Kajiado/Olekasasi/881 of Evelyn Jepchumba Murei Rono

LOST title deed Nairobi Block 104/120

LOST title Loc 17 / kamahuha / 2779 Gilbert Muchoki L Kirera

LOSS of title of LR No. Ndumberi / Ndumberi / 1198

LOST Title deed-Mwea / Tebere / B / 8670 for Pius Karoki Mabuti

LOSS of title Gatamaiyu / Gachoire / 240

PUBLIC NOTICE

LOSS OF TITLE DEED

LR No. 135/2/1,
LR No. 128/2 - N.20/274

The proprietor has misplaced or lost the document and is in the process of replacing the same.

A22/NOTICES

JFP sources of funds for FY 2023/2024 & 2024/2025 are published at jfpkenya.com

FORM PLUPA/DC/3 (r.23)(4)

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO. 13 OF 2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE

The registered owner of plot no. **MUMTO/THHA/639** located in Nishanga Area along Muluwani- Kasitina Road, proposes to change the use from Agricultural to Commercial cum Residential (Multi-dwelling) use subject to approval by County Government of Nyeri. Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. with comments and or objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within 14 days of this notice to:

The County Executive Committee Member - Lands, Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development,
County Government of Nyeri,
P.O. Box 112-10100, Nyeri.
Name of the Registered Planner: Gitonga K. Riitho Reg. No. PPO270.

FORM PLUPA DC/3

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (CAP 303) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE (ADMINISTRATIVE)

The registered owner of plot L.R. No. **11927/7** located off Ngong Road (coordinates 250179.07 mE, 9855965.85 mS) proposes to change its use from Residential to Commercial Use (Professional Office) subject to approval by Nairobi City County. Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. with comments and or objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

CECM; Built Environment and Urban Planning,
Nairobi City County
P.O. Box 30075-00100, Nairobi
Name of registered Planner: Marvin Mutwiri
Mugambi Reg. No.: 0323

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (CAP 303) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE

The registered owner of plot No. **Nairobi/Block 136/9180** located off Kangundo Road within Ruai area, proposes to change its use from Residential to Commercial Use (Shops) subject to approval by Nairobi City County. Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. with comments and or objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

CECM; Built Environment and Urban Planning,
Nairobi City County
P.O. Box 30075-00100, Nairobi
Name of registered Planner: Marvin Mutwiri
Mugambi Reg. No.: 0323

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO. 13 OF 2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED RENEWAL OF LEASE

The registered owner of plot No. **Nairobi/block 6/102** located within Spring Valley area off Spring Valley road particularly 1°14'49.8"S 36°47'38.9"E, proposes to renew the lease of the parcel, subject to approval by Nairobi City County Government. Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. with comments and or objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within 14 days of publication of this notice to:

THE CECM BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN PLANNING
NAIROBI COUNTY GOVERNMENT
P.O BOX 30075-00100
NAIROBI
RPP: Christopher N. Omara. Reg. No. 0065

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL & LAND USE PLANNING ACT (No.13 of 2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED EXTENSION OF LEASE

The owner(s) of plots **L.R.No.209/136/3 and 209/136/4** located on Racecourse Road in Nairobi CBD propose to extend lease of the plots subject to approval by Nairobi City County Government. Individuals, Institutions, Organizations e.t.c with concerns or comments are requested to forward them in writing within 14 days from the date of this notice to:

The CECM, Built Environment and Urban Planning
Nairobi City County
P.O. Box 30075-00100, Nairobi
RPP: J.N.GACHANJA
REG No: 0173

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO. 13 OF 2019) REGULARIZATION OF AMALGAMATION & CHANGE OF USE

The registered owner of Parcels Title No. **NAIROBI BLOCK 106/808, 813, 814, 815** located off Southern By-Pass Road, in Otieno area, Nairobi County, proposes to Regularize the amalgamation & Change of use from single dwelling to Medical Facility subject to approval by the Nairobi City County.

Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. With comments and or objection(s) to the proposal are requested to forward the same in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to: -
THE CECM-BUILT ENVIRONMENT & URBAN PLANNING
NAIROBI CITY COUNTY
P.O. BOX 30075-00100, Nairobi.
Name Of Registered Planner: Marvin Mutwiri
Mugambi Reg. No. 0323

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL & LAND USE PLANNING ACT (No.13 of 2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE

The registered owner of Plot No. **NAIROBI/BLOCK68/1256** located along **Kaisungur Road** in South C area within Nairobi City County, proposes to change its use from Residential to Public purpose (Medical Facility Out Patient) subject to approval by Nairobi County Government. Individuals, Institutions, Members of the Public etc. with comments and or objections to the proposal should forward them within 14 days of this Notice to:

The CECM Built Environment and Urban Planning,
Nairobi City County,
P.O. Box 30075 - 00100, NAIROBI
Registered Planner: Hellen K. Nzinga.
PPRB.No. 0026

REPUBLIC OF KENYA IN THE SENIOR PRINCIPAL MAGISTRATE'S COURT AT KIMILILI CIVIL SUIT NO. 14 OF 2021

MODE OF TRACKFAST TRACK

SIMON LUNALOMASIKI..... PLAINTIFF
VERSUS
BONAYA ABDI ABDIRAHMAN..... 1st DEFENDANT
LABAN KHAEMBA MUTALI..... 2nd DEFENDANT

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE (Pursuant to the Order of the court issued on the 20th FEBRUARY, 2025

TO:
1. BONAYA ABDI ABDIRAHMAN
2. LABAN KHAEMBA MUTALI

TAKE NOTICE that a plaint has been filed in the Principal Magistrate court, Kimilili vide case No. 14 of 2021 in which you are named as defendant. Service of summons on you have been ordered by means of this advertisement. AND further take notice that unless you enter appearance with 15 days the case will be heard in your absence

DATED AT BUNGOMA THIS DAY OF 2025

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ADVOCATES,
TEACHERS SACCO PLAZA,
3rd FLOOR, ROOM 127,
P.O BOX 944-50200,
BUNGOMA.

United Green Movement Party (UGM)

National Delegates Convention

United Green Movement party (UGM) wishes to notify its Members and the general public of the change in its National Party officials as ratified by the National Delegates Convention (NDC) held on 29th June 2025.

Details of the same can be obtained from the Party website www.ugmparty.co.ke

FORM PLUPA/DC/3 (r.23)(4)

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL & LAND USE PLANNING ACT (No.13 of 2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE

The Registered owner of **NAIROBI/BLOCK 45/1244**, situated along **Juja Road** first Avenue Eastleigh Nairobi City County, proposes to change its use from Single-Dwelling Residential Unit to Petrol Service Station, subject to approval by the Nairobi City County Government. Individuals, institutions, organizations, etc. with objections or comments to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within Fourteen (14) days of this publication to,

The County Secretary,
Nairobi City County Government
P.O BOX 30075-00100
NAIROBI
PPR NO 0065: CHRISTOPHER N. OMARE

RESIDENTIAL & BUSINESS PROPERTIES

L9/PLOTS FOR SALE

KAJIADO 20,130,250,500,1200 acres on tarmac @1.6M neg 0750874068

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT NO. 13 OF 2019 CHANGE OF USE

The registered owner(s) of land parcel number **RUIRU EAST Block 2/8812**, situated off **THIKA SUPERHIGHWAY**, off Kimbo matangi road near matangi shopping center, kimbo area, Theta Ward, Juja subcounty, Kiambu county, wishes to carry out Change of user from Agricultural to Residential Multidwelling units (Flat) subject to approval by the county government of Kiambu. Individuals, organizations, institutions etc with objections or comments on the proposal are requested to forward in writing within four days of publication of this notice to:

The CECM, Lands, housing, Physical planning, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Kiambu County, PO Box 2344-00900, Kiambu. Registered planner: Kelvin Riitho Reg. No. 0270

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The Standard

FORM PLUPA/DC/3 (r.3(3)(xi))

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL & LAND USE PLANNING ACT No. 13 (2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED RENEWAL OF LEASE

The Registered owner(s) of Plot No. L.R.No. T144/XW1 situated off Moi Avenue Road, Lake view area, Naivasha Sub County, Nakuru County, wishes to apply for a **Renewal of Lease** subject to approval by Nakuru County Government. Any individual, institution or organization and members of public with comments and/or objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

**THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER
LANDS, PHYSICAL PLANNING, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NAKURU
P.O BOX 2870-20100, NAKURU
Name of Registered Planner: Kelvin R. Gitonga
Reg. No. RPP 0270**

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT No 13 (2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER

Notice is hereby given that the registered owner of Plot No. **KIAMBAA/RUAKA/5157** located at KIAMBAA Sub-County RUAKA area has applied for permission to change the user from **AGRICULTURAL USE TO RESIDENTIAL MULTI-DWELLING (FLATS)** subject to approval by County Government of Kiambu. Individuals, Institutions, Members of the public etc. with objections or comments to the proposal should serve notice of such in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

**CECM - LANDS, HOUSING AND PHYSICAL PLANNING
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KIAMBU
P.O BOX 2344-00900, KIAMBU.
PHYSICAL PLANNER: KELVIN RITHO RPP NO. 0270**

FORM PLUPA /DC/3 (r.3(3)(xi))

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO. 13 OF 2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner of land parcel no. **Ruiru/Ruiru East Block 2/51903**, located in Matangi Area, Juja Sub-County, proposes to change the use from **agricultural to residential multi-dwelling (flats) units**, subject to approval by the County Government of Kiambu. Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. With comments and/or objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

**THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE MEMBER (CECM),
LAND, HOUSING, PHYSICAL PLANNING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
KIAMBU COUNTY GOVERNMENT,
P.O BOX 2344-00900,
KIAMBU.**

REGISTERED PHYSICAL PLANNER: ...REG. NO. 0284

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT No 13 (2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER

Notice is hereby given that the registered owner of Plot No. **RUIRU/MUGUTHA/T.543** located at RUIRU Sub-County MUGUTHA area has applied for permission to change the user from **AGRICULTURAL USE TO RESIDENTIAL MULTI-DWELLING (FLATS)** subject to approval by County Government of Kiambu. Individuals, Institutions, Members of the public etc. with objections or comments to the proposal should serve notice of such in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

**CECM - LANDS, HOUSING AND PHYSICAL PLANNING
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KIAMBU
P.O BOX 2344-00900,
KIAMBU.
PHYSICAL PLANNER: KELVIN RITHO RPP NO. 0270**

FORM PLUPA /DC/3 (r.3(3)(xi))

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO. 13 OF 2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner of land parcel no. **Ruiru/Ruiru East Block 2/43484**, located in Judah Area, Juja Sub-County, proposes to change the use from **agricultural to residential multi-dwelling (apartments) units**, subject to approval by the County Government of Kiambu. Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. With comments and/or objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

**THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE MEMBER (CECM),
LAND, HOUSING, PHYSICAL PLANNING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
KIAMBU COUNTY GOVERNMENT,
P.O BOX 2344-00900,
KIAMBU.**

REGISTERED PHYSICAL PLANNER: ...REG. NO. 0284



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Cell: 0738 450 457 / 0721 450 457 Email: impexauctioneers@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our principals, we shall sell the under mentioned repossessed motor Vehicles by public auction on 26th September 2025 starting 10:00am at the respective yards.

M/V REG. No.	MAKE / MODEL	LOCATION
KDS 06IV	TOYOTA VITZ	STARTRUCK AUCTIONEERS YARD

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Viewing at the respective yards.
- To be sold on where is as it is basis.
- The highest bidder to pay by close of business of the day.
- Sale is subject to reserve price.

SHINOBI AUCTIONEERS
Licensed Auctioneers, Repossessors, Execution of Court Orders, and Distress for Rent

Ellyson House, Ground Floor Rm 103
Buruuru-Nairobi, Along Muriama Road
Opp Bidi Primary School
P.O. Box 27304-00100, NAIROBI
TEL: 0701342243, 077025842
E-MAIL: shinobiuctioneers@gmail.com
P.O. Box 27304-00100, NAIROBI
TEL: 0701342243, 077025842
E-MAIL: shinobiuctioneers@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from the under mentioned court, we shall sell the undermentioned motor vehicle by public auction.

ON FRIDAY 26th SEPTEMBER, 2025 FROM 10.30a.m
AT JOGOO ROAD MOTORS STORAGE & SALES LIMITED, NAIROBI
KAJIADO COURT, CIVIL CASE/EO43 OF 2023
NURU OKOLA HASSAN & RUKIA SHIKUKU OSENI - VS - ARIEL MU TEMBEI NJERU

M/V REG.NO.	MAKE	STORAGE YARD
KCW 434E	ISUZU NQR	JOGOO ROAD MOTORS STORAGE & SALES LIMITED

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- All interested purchaser(s) are requested to view and verify the details for these are not warranted by the auctioneer.
- The sale shall be subject to a reserve price.
- The buyer will assume storage charges after (3) days of non-collection.
- Cash at the fall of the hammer.

KEYSIAN AUCTIONEERS
AUCTIONEERS AND COURT BROKERS

Tel: 2245492 / 2216510 Cell: 072- 539 419 / 0722 768302 / 0722 663 528
Email: info@keysian.co.ke / keysian2009@yahoo.com / keysianact@gmail.com
Website: www.keysian.co.ke
C.P.F House, 3rd Floor, Haile Selassie Avenue, P.O.Box 2788-00100, Nairobi, Kenya

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions from our principals, the chargees, in exercise of their statutory power of sale, we shall sell by Public Auction the under mentioned property and all the improvements erected thereon.

1.SALE ON THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER, 2025 AS FROM 11:00A.M IN OUR OFFICES AT CPF HOUSE 3RD FLOOR ALONG HAILESELASIE AVENUE NAIROBI.

All that property known as **L.R. NO. 209/16589 MOMBASA ROAD, INDUSTRIAL AREA, NAIROBI** in the name of **VILLA WINDOWS LIMITED**. It is a leasehold interest for a term of 99 years w.e.f 1st January, 1987 at an annual ground rent of Kshs. 24,080/= (revisable). The Plot measures 0.3478 Ha or 0.8594 Acres and is situated in Nairobi Industrial Area, off Maasai Road, Off Mombasa Highway in the neighborhood to the South-West of Libra House. The plot is developed with an Office Building, Office Building with Godown, Godown Building 2 & 3. Accommodation details consist of:-2 Large Workshops, Electricity Main Switch room, Toilet Wing with WCs, Shower room and wash hand basin, Two Rooms, Two Parking Bays, Ablution Block unit - 3 WCs and 2 Bath on the Ground Floor; Landing from Staircase, 5 Offices, Kitchen, Cloakrooms - 2 WCs, Landing from External Staircase & four rooms on the First Floor for the Office Building; Entrance near Godown, Godown Space, Machinery Rooms, Lower Reception area, Staircase to First Floor & Wooden Staircase to go down Mezzanine on the Ground Floor; Storage Space on the Mezzanine Floor; Landing from Staircase, Reception, Three Inter-connected Office for Directors, Quantity Surveyor's Office, Accounts Office, Board Room, Kitchen with Twin Stainless Steel sink, built - in cupboards, granite worktop and serving counters as well as dining area & Cloakrooms - 2 WCs ladies and gents with wash hand basin on the First floor for the Office Building with Go Down; Large Go own Space & Staircase on the Ground Floor; Landing from Staircase & Mezzanine production area for Go Down 2; Large Go down Space & Staircase on the Ground Floor; Landing from Staircase & Mezzanine production area for Go Down 3. All mains services are connected to the property.

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- All interested bidders are requested to view the property and verify the details for Themselves as the auctioneers or the chargees do not warrant these.
- Interested bidders must deposit **Kshs. 1,000,000.00** for the Property in **CASH OR BANKERS CHEQUE** with the auctioneer before being allowed to bid.
- Sale is subject to a reserve price, and the auctioneer reserves the right to reject any bid without giving any reasons for doing so.
- Interested bidders are requested to view the property between 10.00 am and 5.00pm and our office will assist the bidders to point out the property subject to prior arrangement.
- 10%** of the purchase price must be paid to the auctioneer at the fall of the hammer and the balance to be paid in **90 days** to the chargees.

KEYSIAN AUCTIONEERS
AUCTIONEERS AND COURT BROKERS

Tel: 2245492 / 2216510 Cell: 072- 539 419 / 0722 768302 / 0722 663 528
Email: info@keysian.co.ke / keysian2009@yahoo.com / keysianact@gmail.com
Website: www.keysian.co.ke
C.P.F House, 3rd Floor, Haile Selassie Avenue, P.O.Box 2788-00100, Nairobi, Kenya

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions from our principals, we shall sell by Public Auction the following item on **FRIDAY 26th September 2025, at 11:00 am**, at Matriz Moves Kenya Ltd in Changamwe Mombasa.

**In The Chief Magistrate's Court at Voi
Civil Suit No. E052 OF 2022
Joshua Haheni -vs- Roadtrainers Mombasa Ltd & Dreamline Express Ltd**
One motor vehicle Reg. no. KDR 762Q Scania Bus

CONDITIONS OF SALE.

- Cash at the fall of the hammer.
- Subject to a reserve price

BEMAC AUCTIONEERS
Licensed Auctioneers, Repossessors, Commission Agent & Investigators.
Kenya Hse [2nd Flr] Rm 93, Along Kolnango Street |
P.O Box 33812-00600 | Nairobi, Cell: 0722 258 793 | 0718 457 219, Email: Josephbamac@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions from our principals we shall sell by Public auction the following item on **FRIDAY 26th September 2025, at 11:00 am**, at Matriz Moves Kenya Ltd in Changamwe Mombasa.

**In The Chief Magistrate's Court at Voi
Civil Suit No. E052 OF 2022
Joshua Haheni -vs- Roadtrainers Mombasa Ltd & Dreamline Express Ltd**
One motor vehicle Reg. no. KDR 762Q Scania Bus

CONDITIONS OF SALE.

- Cash at the fall of the hammer.
- Subject to a reserve price

DOLLAR AUCTIONS
*Holders of Licenses as Provided Under the Auctioneers Act (1981)
(CLASS B), Investigators, Process Servers & Estate Agents*

Suraj Plaza - Limuru Road
1st Floor, Rm. F 12
Tel: 323 24 599
Cell: 0714 008314
P.O. Box 6075 00100 Nairobi
Email: dollarauctions2012@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Following instructions received from our principals, the following Motor Vehicle will be sold by public auction on the **25th Sep 2025**.
AT SYOKIMAU PLOT NO. 12715/10607 FROM 11.00AM.

**LANDLORD VS NORMAN MUHORO
IN THE MATTER OF UN-COLLECTED GOODS ACT CAP 38 LAWS OF KENYA**
MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION NO. K2K119P/EUGEOT 504

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- CASH at the fall of the hammer
- THE highest bidder will be declared the purchaser.

ALL ARE WELCOME

KEYSIAN AUCTIONEERS
AUCTIONEERS AND DEBT COLLECTORS

Tel: 2245492 / 2216510 Cell: 0724539419 / 0708674 632 / 0722768302 / 0722 663 528
Email: info@keysian.co.ke / keysian2009@yahoo.com / keysianact@gmail.com
Website: www.keysian.co.ke
CPF House, 3rd Floor, Haile Selassie Avenue, P.O Box 2788-00200, Nairobi, Kenya.

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our Principal, **THE FINANCIERS**, we shall sell the undermentioned **Repossessed** motor vehicle by Public Auction.

**SALE ON THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2025 AS FROM 11.00 AM AT KEYSIAN AUCTIONEERS YARD, FEDHA
ESTATE OFF OUTERING RD - NAIROBI.
FINANCIERS -VS - NICHOLAS NJAGI MWANIKI
MV REG NO. KDC 370 VY; NISSAN NOTE**

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Interested bidders are required to pay a refundable deposit of **Kshs. 50,000.00** for the motor vehicle in cash or bankers' cheque before being allowed to bid.
- Cash at the fall of the hammer**
- Viewing can be done during normal working hours to verify the details as these are not warranted by the auctioneers nor their principals. Sale is on "AS IS WHERE IS" basis
- Sale is subject to a reserve price, and the auctioneer reserves the right to reject any bid without giving any reasons for doing so.

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KIAMBU M/WITUMBERIA
2ND FLOOR SUITE NO. 23
CELL: 0713-634330, 0722 282 527
PIN NO. A002896356J VAT NO.0148806

P.O BOX 1496-00800 NAIROBI.
DPP, NGARA POST OFFICE NGARA ROAD
EMAIL: gitongamuchiri.aggm@gmail.com
ffantasyauctions2019@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our principals, we shall sell by public auction the undermentioned goods **On Friday, 26th September, 2025** Starting At 11.00 Am At Pangani Auction Center, opposite Gurunanak Hospital

1. IN THE MATTER FOR DISTRESS FOR RENT ACT CAP 293 LAWS OF KENYA

LANDLORD VERSUS PATRICK MULATI

Fridge von 2 doors, Water dispenser, Television LG 50 inch, Microwave, Brown sofa set 3 pcs, Grey reclining sofa 3pc, Dining table and seats.

CONDITION OF SALE

- Viewing can be done during working hours with prior arrangement with the auctioneers.
- Sale of Motor Vehicles is subjected to the reserved price.
- Strictly cash at the fall of the hammer.
- The auctioneer has the right to accept or decline any bid.

SOFINA AUCTIONEERS
Auctioneers, court process server, private investigator, debt collectors & general commission agent

HEAD OFFICE, CREDEX APARTMENT BUILDING, OPP CO-OPERATIVE BANK MGR, LFT WING 2ND FLOOR ROOM NO.115,
P.O BOX 468-SUNA MIGORI, TEL: 0742419020/0777804161, EMAIL: sofinauctioneers@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

DISPOSAL OF UNCOLLECTED GOODS

WE SHALL SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION the under listed items at ntimaru Police Station on the **25th september, 2025 at 10.30am**

(1)KMDG 276F SKYGO BLUE IN COLOUR(2)KMCH 299A TVS STAR RED IN COLOUR CHASIS MD625GF5091L26984(3)KMPE 282L BOXER BM 150 RED IN COLOUR.CHASIS NO.MD2A21BY8JWB88835(4)NUMBERLESS BOXER 150 BLUE IN COLOUR.CHASIS NO.MD2A21BY5JWD94839(5)TVS HLX NUMBERLESS RED IN COLOUR.CHASIS NO.MD625NF56NIN09403(6)NUMBERLESS TVS STAR RED IN COLOUR CHASIS NO.MD625NF57MLT1428(7)NUMBERLESS BOXER RED IN COLOUR.CHASIS NO.MD2A18AX1LWG77701(8)MOTOR VEHICLE TOYOTA TOWNACE REG NO. T965 BDY(9)NUMBERLESS TVS 150 RED IN COLOUR.CHASIS NO.M625AE30MIF03235.

- All interested purchaser(s) are requested to view and verify the details for these are not warranted by the Auctioneer
- Viewing would be facilitated with prior arrangement with us
- Cash at the fall of the hammer

MIKAEL AUCTIONEERS
 Auctioneers, Repossessors, Court Brokers & Commission Agent
 Muthaiga Suites, 3rd Floor Suite No. 21 Opposite Muthaiga Police Station Tel: 0739685517
 0735657891/0722657891 P.O. Box 598-00100 Nairobi Email: mikaelauctioneers@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our principals the financier, under the matter of repossession, acting upon statutory powers of sale conferred upon them, we shall sell by public auction the following motor vehicle.

On 26th September 2025 at 10:30 am at Purple Royal Yard

NO	REG. NO	TYPE OF M/V	MODEL	COLOR	STORAGE YARD
1	KDE 846T	MAZDA	DEMIO	METEOR GREY	PURPLE ROYAL YARD

TERMS

1. Viewing to be done at the storage yard to verify the details as these are not warranted by the Auctioneers or our principals.
 2. Sale is **AS-IS-WHERE-IS-BASIS** and subject to reserve price.
 3. Payment is via banker's cheque or RTGS before close of business.
- ALL ARE WELCOME**

THE ALE AUCTIONEERS

Licensed Class "B" Auctioneers, Repossessors, Private Investigators, Process-Servers & General Commission Agents
 The Auction Centre (TAC Complex)
 Hill View Lane off Ridgways Road
 P.O BOX 2187-00621 NAIROBI
 Tel 0722-813384
 Off Kiambu Road
 Email: thealeauctioneers@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our principals, we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle by Public Auction on **Friday 26th September, 2025 starting from 11:00am** at **The Auction Centre (TAC) Complex** as shown above.

FINANCIER – VS- DENNIS WACHIRA MICERE

DESCRIPTION	REG. No.	COLOUR	VIEWING AT
MERCEDES BENZ	KCK 566 Z	LIGHT BROWN	THE AUCTION CENTRE (TAC)

CONDITIONS FOR SALE

Cash at the fall of hammer
ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

SWIFTWAY AUCTIONEERS
 NSSF BLDG 2nd FLOOR, SOUTH WING RM 220 NWIRUMAH RD
 P.O. BOX 92933-80100, TEL: 041-2230207, MOBILE: 0722-695093 MOMBASA Email: swiftwayauctioneers@gmail.com
 Auctioneers, Official Court Brokers, Bailiffs, Process Servers, Repossessors, Private Investigators & Debt Collectors

PUBLIC AUCTION

UNDER INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED FROM OUR PRINCIPALS, WE SHALL SELL THE UNDER – MENTIONED GOODS BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON **THURSDAY 25th SEPTEMBER 2025, AT 10:30AM AT BAMBURI YARD.**

PMCC NO E156 OF 2021 AT MOMBASA.

PLAINTIFF – VS – CORPORATE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED
 2 OFFICE TABLES, 6 OFFICE CHAIRS, 1 PC PRINTER, 3 PCS STAND FAN,
 1 PC RECEPTION SEAT, 3 PCS METAL CABINETS, 1PC TV

IN THE MATTER OF DISTRESS FOR RENT

THE LANDLORD – VS – ABDIFATAH OMAR MUHUMED
 3 CARPET, TV, WATER FILTER, OFFICE TABLE, PRINTER, 3 SEATER, PLASTIC CHAIR.

CONDITION OF SALE.

Cash at the fall of the Hammer.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

FRONT LINE AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers, Repossessors, Process Servers, Private Investigators, Debt Collectors, Official Court Brokers, Real Estate Agents, Commission Agents

Development House, 2nd Floor
 Room 112, Moi Avenue
 P.O. Box 1048-00100
 Nairobi

Tel: 0726 274 204
 Email: aame2014@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our Principals the Financiers herein, we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle by public auction: -

ON TUESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2025 AT JOGOO ROAD MOTORS STORAGE AND SALES LIMITED STARTING FROM 10.30 A.M.

MILIMANI SCCC E1786 OF 2025

ELIJAH KABUU GITONGAH VS EASTLANDS EAGLES LIMITED

MOTOR VEHICLE REG. NO.	MAKE/MODEL	COLOUR
KCT 307A	ISUZU NKR	BLUE

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Sale subject to reasonable reserve price
- All interested purchasers are requested to view on prior arrangements.
- Strictly cash at the fall of the hammer.

ALL ARE WELCOME

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The Nairobiian

This week's Nairobiian reveals: Ida library swallows Sh300m & counting...



The Nairobiian, Nothing Stays Hidden



ALSO INSIDE:

GANJA LAND: Sleepy Luanda market where marijuana and gangs define daily life. **PAGE 14-15**

CYBERCRIME: Two in court for attacking Ruto-linked church. **PAGE 6**

COURT: Imara Daima woman charged with attacking sister-in-law with hot tea and chapati roller. **PAGE 8**

AFCON 2027: Harambee Stars must start preparing early. **PAGE 38-39**

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Sports

Athletics. Faith Kipyegon gives hope to new mothers **Page 40**



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Will Nairobi United and APS Bomet shine in SportPesa League?

► Bomet will kick off their campaign against Shabana on Sunday in Kisii.

► Nairobi United face NEC from Uganda in CAF Confederation Cup on Saturday.

WASHINGTON ONYANGO, KISUMU

The 2025-2026 SportPesa League season begins this weekend, and all eyes will be on the two newly promoted sides, Nairobi United and APS Bomet.

While United will be preparing to face NEC FC from Uganda in the Caf Confederations Cup first round on Saturday, APS Bomet will be debuting against Shabana at Gusii Stadium on Sunday.

For many years, the Premier League has been a difficult stage for teams coming up from the National Super League (NSL). Some shine briefly before fading away, while others struggle from the start.

Last season, however, Mara Sugar and Mathare United proved that survival is possible. Mara Sugar fought their way to finish 14th, while Mathare climbed higher to claim 10th place.

The year before, Shabana and Murang'a Seal managed to hold their own and avoid the drop. This



Kibera Black Stars' Joseph Mnala (left) and Evans Kipkemoi of APS Bomet during NSL match at Jamuhuri grounds. [Jonah Onyango, Standard]

time, it is Nairobi United and APS Bomet who must prove they belong at the top.

Nairobi United arrive with plenty of confidence after a brilliant season in the NSL. They topped the table with 72 points, winning 21 matches and losing only five in 35 games. Their achievement did not stop there.

United stunned heavyweights Gor Mahia 2-1 in the FKF Cup final to clinch their first ever national title. That victory earned them a ticket to represent Kenya in the CAF Confederation Cup, where they will join league champions Kenya Police on the continental stage.

While the new SportPesa League season kicks off tomorrow with KCB facing Tusker at Nyayo Stadium, Nairobi United will not be in action.

The club is still preparing for its Confederation Cup preliminary round tie against NEC FC of Uganda. If they get through, they will face either Tunisia's ES Sahel or Al Ahli Madani from South Sudan in the next round.

Their first appearance on the continental stage is a

SPORTPESA LEAGUE – WEEK ONE FIXTURES:

Tomorrow:

■ KCB FC vs Tusker FC – Nyayo Stadium (6PM)

Saturday:

■ Kariobangi Sharks vs Bandari FC – Kasarani Annex (1PM)

■ AFC Leopards vs Sofapaka FC – Ulinzi Sports Complex (4PM)

Sunday:

■ Shabana FC vs APS Bomet – Gusii Stadium (2PM)

■ Murang'a Seal FC vs Ulinzi Stars – St. Sebastian Park (3PM)

■ Gor Mahia vs Bidco United – Kasarani Stadium (4PM)

Monday:

■ Mathare United vs Posta Rangers – Kasarani Stadium (4PM)

proud moment for the club, but it also means they will have to juggle between tough league assignments and international duties.

APS Bomet, who finished second behind Nairobi United in the NSL, also have high hopes of surviving the cut. They have shown serious intent by appointing experienced coach Michael Nam, formerly of Gor Mahia and Vipers SC in Uganda.

Nam has wasted no time in reshaping the squad, bringing in several new signings with top-flight experience.

The list of arrivals includes Sven Yidha, Hansel Ochieng, and Edwin Buliba from Nairobi City Stars, Francis Omondi and Brian Bulleti from Kakamega Homeboyz, as well as Aziz Okaka from AFC Leopards and Enock Wanyama from Gor Mahia.

wonyango@standardmedia.co.ke

FOOTBALL

Arsenal, Real Madrid win Champions League opening fixtures

Arsenal won 2-0 away to Athletic Bilbao as the league phase of this season's Champions League kicked off on Tuesday, with two Kylian Mbappe penalties giving Real Madrid a narrow win over Marseille while Juventus and Borussia Dortmund drew an eight-goal thriller.

Tottenham Hotspur also won on the tournament's opening night which saw outsiders Union Saint-Gilloise and Qarabag claim first ever victories in the Champions League proper.

Arsenal are eager to make a big impression again in Europe's elite club competition, following their defeat by eventual champions Paris Saint-Germain in the semi-finals last season.

They got off to an ideal start in the Basque

Country, with Gabriel Martinelli and Leandro Trossard scoring late goals to settle the game.

The Brazilian had only just come on when he ran through to open the scoring in the 72nd minute at San Mames. Arsenal then went on to seal the victory late on as Trossard -another substitute -scored with the aid of a deflection.

"We started to grow throughout the game. In the second half we were more fluent, dominant, and the finishers made the impact for us to win the game," said Arsenal coach Mikel Arteta.

Real Madrid came from behind to beat Marseille 2-1 at the Santiago Bernabeu, despite playing the closing stages of the game down to 10 men.

Marseille, winners of the inaugural Cham-

pions League in 1993, stunned the home crowd by taking the lead through Timothy Weah midway through the first half.

The record 15-time European champions grabbed an equaliser before the interval when Mbappe converted from the spot for the first time after Rodrygo was fouled in the area.

Xabi Alonso's side lost Trent Alexander-Arnold to injury early on and were reduced to 10 men in the second half when his replacement, Dani Carvajal, was sent off following a VAR check for a headbutt on Marseille goalkeeper Geronimo Rulli.

Juventus against Dortmund in Turin was a repeat of the 1997 final won by the Germans, and the fixture more than lived up to its billing, finishing in a spectacular 4-4 draw. [AFP]



Arsenal's Gabriel Martinelli (right) with teammates in their match against Athletic Club Bilbao. [AFP]



Kenya's Mary Moraa competes in Kenya trials for Tokyo 2025 world championships. [AFP]

Eyes on Moraa and Wanyonyi as race for 800m finals gathers pace

► Moraa will be running the preliminaries while Wanyonyi is competing in the semi-final.

► Faith, Chebet and Ngetich hope to progress to the 5000m final set for Saturday.

STEPHEN RUTTO

The country's 800m greats are this afternoon facing their challengers as they eye spots in semi-final and final of the 2025 World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, Japan.

Olympic bronze medallist Mary Moraa and women's 800m brigade of African silver medallist Lilian Odira, African champion Sarah Moraa and African bronze winner Vivian Kiprotich are competing in their respective Heats.

Kenya's dancing queen Moraa will be defending her title from the 2023 Budapest World Championships in Tokyo.

At stake is the battle for the top three slots in the round one and the women charge will have automatically qualified for the semi-final scheduled for tomorrow afternoon.

It will be the women's first contest in the ongoing World Athletics Championships.

Moraa did not feature prominently in the track this season, but remains the most decorated star in the women's 800m cast and a medal contender in the global show.

She will be looking to book her slot to the semi-final in Heat 2, a group that has among others Nigist



Kenya's Emmanuel Wanyonyi. [AFP]

TODAY'S SCHEDULE:

Women's 5000m Heats	1:05pm
Women's 800m Heats	1:58pm
Men's 800m semi-final	3:45pm

Gatachew of Ethiopia, Adelle Tracey (Jamaica) and Veronica Vancardo (Switzerland).

Sarah Moraa is facing Sage Klecker representing USA, Anna Wielgosz (Poland), Noelle Yarigo (Benin) and Abbey Caldwell (Australia) among other stars in Heat 4.

Odira will be in a nail-biting contest with Briton Gemma Reekie, a world indoor silver medallist, Ugan-

da's Halima Nakaayi, Worknesh Mesele (Ethiopia) and Smilla Kolbe of Germany, among other stars, while Kiprotich is set to take on Australian Jessica Hull who is fresh from a bronze in the women's 1500m. The Australian finished behind Faith Kipyegon and Docrus Ewoi on Tuesday.

In June, Moraa hoped for a big victory dance in Stockholm as she was celebrating her 24th birthday

The pre-race favourite was shocked by Georgia Hunter Bell of Great Britain who came from behind to outkick the world champion in the closing stages of the homestretch, in that race.

The British star won the women's 800m contest in 1:5766, overhauling Moraa, who settled for a season's best 1:57.83 in second place.

But Moraa hopes to return to her winning ways as she leads the Kenyan squad in a day that the men's 800m top guns hope to inject pace to their campaign for final slots.

Meanwhile, World champion Emmanuel Wanyonyi will be facing one of his main rivals in the world championship, Marco Arop of Canada in Heat 2.

"I need to be very keen in the semi-finals because it leads to the finals. I have tested myself and I have seen what my body can do now I need to work harder," said Wanyonyi.

Djamel Sedjati of Algeria, Botswana's Kethobogile Haingura, Irish Mark English and Great Britain's Ben Pattison will also be battling for the top two positions to qualify for the Saturday final.

Kevin Loti will have to contend with Francesco Fernici (Italy), Gabriel Tual (France) and David Barroso (Spain) among other bigwigs in his ambition to compete in the final.

Nicholas Kebenei, who qualified on fastest time after failing to make the top three during round one, will contest for the top two slots with Bryce Hoppel (USA), Tshepiso Masalela (Botswana) and Mohamed Attaoui of Spain in Heat 3.

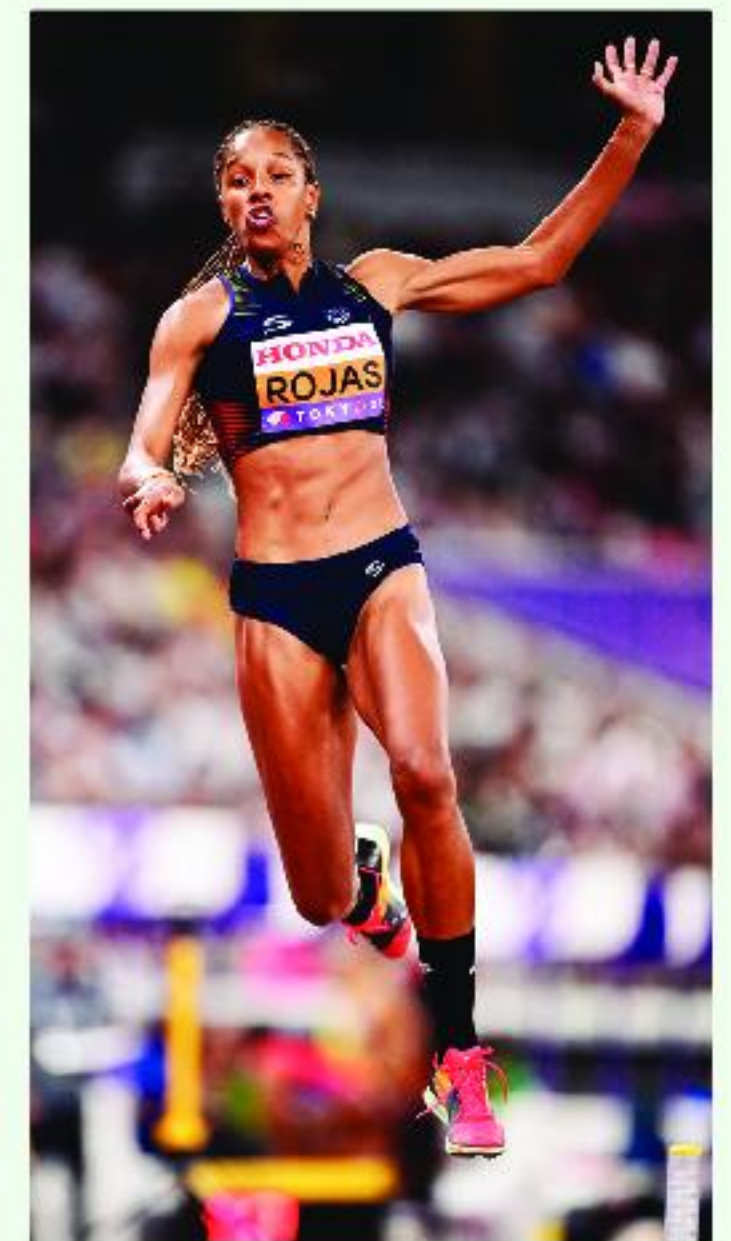
After delivering her fourth 1500m world title on Tuesday, Faith Kipyegon will be joining forces with Beatrice Chebet, who opened Kenya's gold account last Saturday and 10km record holder Agnes Ngetich in the women's 5000m semi-final.

srutto@standardmedi.co.ke

Briefing FORM. JEFFERSON-WOODEN MAKES WORLD 200M SEMIFINAL

■ Melissa Jefferson-Wooden eased into the 200 metres semi-finals yesterday in Tokyo as she began her quest to become the first woman to achieve the individual world sprint double since Jamaican legend Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce in Moscow in 2013. Were she to do so -emulating German Katrin Krabbe's world individual double in Tokyo in 1991 -it would be an excellent launching pad in her goal to follow the "greatest", as she called Fraser-Pryce, and win "multiple medals." [AFP]

TRIPLE JUMP. ROJAS GOES FOR GOLD AT IN TOKYO



Venezuela's Yulimar Rojas competes in women's triple jump. [AFP]

■ Charismatic Venezuelan Yulimar Rojas will go for gold in the triple jump in today's action at the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo. Rojas will be hard to stop in her pursuit of a record-extending fifth successive world title. The crowd-pleasing 29-year-old qualified for the final with her first effort, a season's best 14.49 metres. Rojas is back and keen to reassert her dominance of the event after missing defending her Olympic title because of injury. [AFP]

200M. LYLES, GOUT GOUT ADVANCE TO SEMI-FINALS

■ Noah Lyles' bid to match Usain Bolt's record of four consecutive world 200 metres titles got off to a steady start as the American safely negotiated his heat yesterday. Lyles claimed bronze in Sunday's 100m in Tokyo and immediately turning his attention to the 200m, which he called his "bread and butter." The American, who tops the 2025 world list with the 19.63sec, won his heat in 19.99sec to lead a clutch of favourites through to today's semi-finals, with the final scheduled for Friday. [AFP]

Kipyegon, the supreme Kenyan champion and role model for mothers

- ▶ Kipyegon's fourth world 1,500m title further cemented her grip on the event.
- ▶ Faith is married to London Olympic 800m bronze medallist Timothy Kiptum.

AFP, TOKYO

Faith Kipyegon underlined her credentials as the best middle-distance runner of all time in Tokyo on Tuesday while also having more than succeeded in showing women athletes that having a child can be the springboard to relaunch their careers.

Kipyegon's fourth world 1,500m title further cemented her grip on the event on the global stage, the 31-year-old having also won the three last Olympics.

The Kenyan is fairly unusual on the elite circuit in being a mother, having given birth to her daughter Alyn in June 2018.

"I know what women pass through after maternity leave. They think it's the end of your life. I want to prove them wrong: this is the future, it's the start of your career," Kipyegon told AFP.

"It was not easy. But I had people around me: my coach, my manager, my officials, my husband, who really believed in me."

Kipyegon, who shed 19kg on the road back to competition, added: "It's not an easy journey, it needs a lot of mental strength, you need to be strong and courageous in all you do."

"I just took time. I took time to enjoy the bundle of my joy Alyn, just have fun with my daughter because she was still young, and turn slowly by slowly towards the 2019 world championships."

"I took a lot of time in training to reduce weight, do gym and exercise, to bring my body (through) in a fit way."

Since August 2020, Kipyegon has totally dominated the event.

Over her preferred 1,500m, she has won 20 from 21, including the Paris and Tokyo Olympic finals. In that time, she has also competed in a welter of other events including the mile, 3,000m and 5,000m, winning most.

Kipyegon added a third world title in Budapest in 2023 after first winning in 2017. She was pipped to world gold in Qatar in 2019 -her first major championships since she gave birth -by Sifan Hassan, who has since moved up to the marathon and is absent from Tokyo.

Married to London Olympic 800m bronze medallist Timothy Kiptum, Kipyegon trains

under the watchful eye of Patrick Sang, who also coaches marathon legend Eliud Kipchoge.

Sang described Kipyegon as someone who had an attitude to life and racing similar to that of Kipchoge.

"She is one of those few balanced athletes with a capacity for endurance and also for speed," Sang told AFP.

"I was really impressed. Some athletes are



Kenya's Faith Kipyegon (centre), bronze medallist Jessica Hull of Australia and silver medallist Dorcus Ewoi. [AFP]



31

AGE of Faith Kipyegon

1994

WHEN Faith Kipyegon was born

2018

WHEN she gave birth to her daughter

20

1500 races Faith Kipyegon has won in 21 races



“

I know what women pass through after maternity leave. They think it's the end of your life. I want to prove them wrong: this is the future, it's the start of your career."

Faith Kipyegon, four-time World champion

ATHLETE'S BIO:

- Full name: Faith Chepngetich Kipyegon
- Nickname: The Smiling Destroyer
- Born: 10 January 1994 (age 31)
- Home town: Keringet, Nakuru County, Kenya
- Agent: Valentijn Trouw, Global Sports Communication
- Height: 1.57 m (5 ft 2 in)
- Weight: 44 kg (97 lb)
- Event: 1500m, 5000m

COACHES:

- Patrick Sang (2017–Present)
- Bram Som (2015–2017)

SEASON'S BESTS (2025)

Discipline	Performance	Top list
1500m	3:48.68	1st
3000m	8:07.04	1st
1000m	2:29.21	1st

complaining, she never complains. She does the work. She is a very focused athlete."

Kipyegon first came to fame -barefoot -when winning the junior world cross-country championship in Punta Umbria in 2011 at the age of 17, sprinting to a memorable gold in a photo finish.

"It has been a journey," she acknowledged. "I was feeling comfortable to run barefoot. I was still young, just coming from the village."

"I had never used spikes," she reminisced. "I used what I am comfortable with. After Punta Umbria, I came back home and learned slowly, slowly to use the spikes and now I am using spikes and I don't know how to run barefoot anymore!"

Arguably 2023 was her an annus mirabilis, her third world title coming on the back of three world records in the season.

This year, she even had a tilt, albeit aided by pacemakers and technology, at becoming the first woman to break the four-minute barrier for the mile, clocking 4min 06.42sec in her bid in Paris.

"I would say I didn't do what I wanted to do, but it sent a message that it is possible one day," Kipyegon said.

"If it does not come my way, it will be some one one day. I believe there will be a woman running under four minutes in the next generation or in our generation. and that's why I keep going, keep training."

"I have achieved a lot, all the medals, the Olympics and world championships, but I still have a drive, I still want to show that women are capable of doing what we have to do in this world, that we have got this and we need to do it."

sports@standardmedia.co.ke

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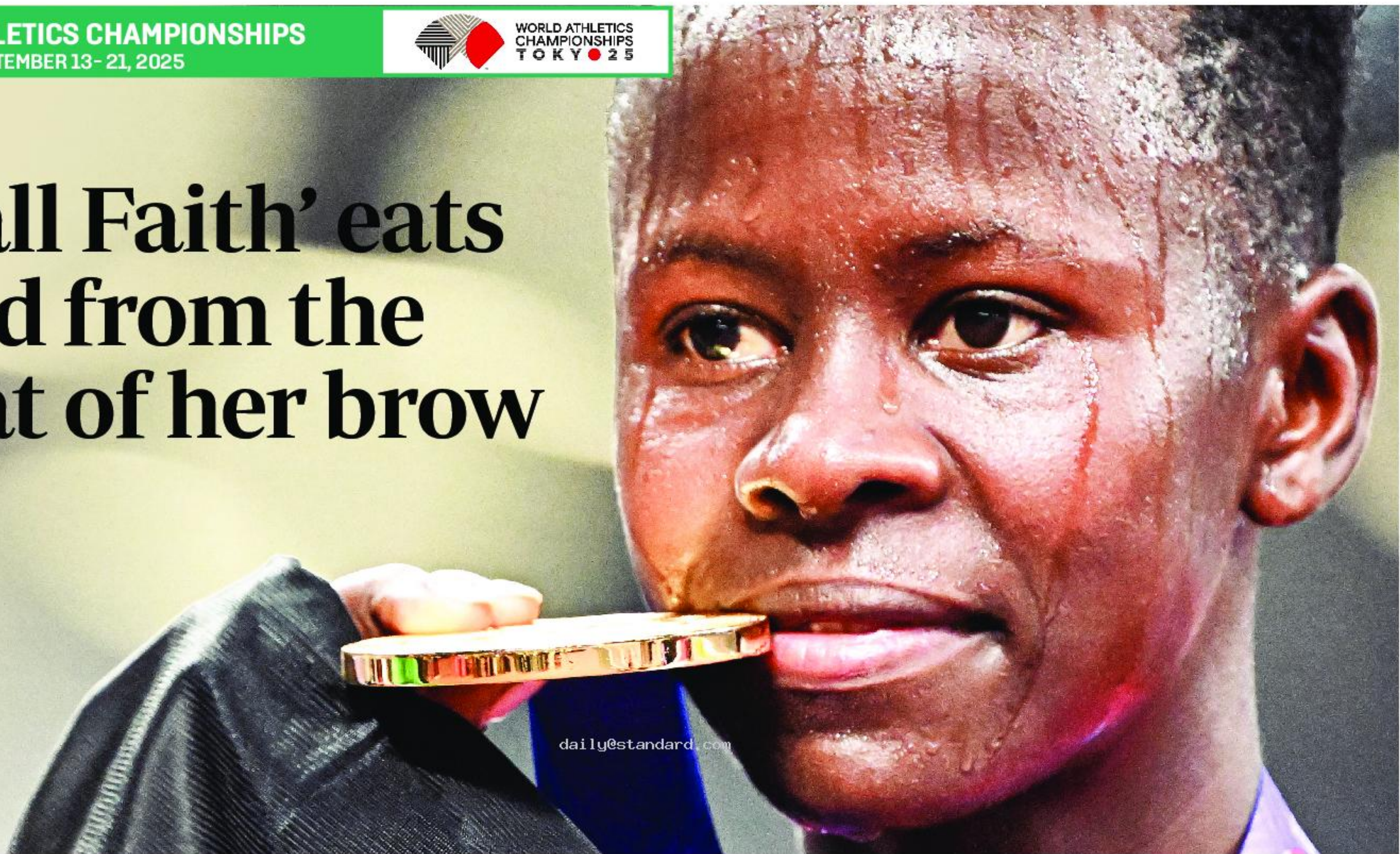


WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS
SEPTEMBER 13- 21, 2025



'Small Faith' eats bread from the sweat of her brow

Kenya's Faith Cherotich celebrates winning gold medal in 3000m steeplechase yesterday. [AFP]



► Cherotich wins gold for Kenya in a brilliant show in 3000m steeplechase.

► She defeated defending champion, Kenyan-born Bahraini Winfred Yavi

STEPHEN RUTTO

There were not enough superlatives to describe Faith Cherotich's first-class show in the women's 3000m steeplechase final yesterday in the ongoing World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, Japan.

The Olympic bronze medallist delivered Kenya's fourth gold medal in a phenomenal race that kicked off with huge expectations at 3:47pm Kenyan time.

Cherotich, popularly known within athletics circles as 'Small Faith', overcame the sweltering heat and humidity in Tokyo to run a phenomenal race and make Kenya proud again, just hours after Faith Kipyegon and Dorcus bagged gold and silver for the country in the women's 1500m.

"I am so happy to win today. Improving from bronze to gold is amazing to me," Cherotich said.

"I didn't know how it would go at

the start, but I was ready. In the last 400m, I said, this is my moment. My coach reminded me, 'Faith, you can do it.' I believed in myself and I achieved the results I desired."

There were strong talking points in the women's 3000m steeplechase as Small Faith destroyed a superfast field and defeated the defending Champion, Winfred Yavi of Bahrain.

She claimed the title in 8:51.59 (a course record) while Yavi took the silver medal in 8:56.46. Ethiopia's Sembo Almayew clocked 8:58.86 for bronze.

Doris Lemngole, an NCAA star who was also in medal contention, came in fifth behind Marwa Bouzayani of Tunisia.

Small Faith, a diminutive figure aged 21, made her intentions of taking the 2025 world 3000m steeplechase title clear in the last lap as she displayed unmatched tactics and endurance.

The 3000m steeplechase started with Olympic gold medallist Peruth Chemutai of Uganda controlling the pace from the front.

Cherotich and Yavi, however, breathed down Peruth Chemutai's neck before the

Julius Yego competes in men's javelin throw Group B qualification. [AFP]



Kenya's Reynold Cheruiyot (top centre) stumbles over fallen Britain's athlete Jake Wightman after crossing the finish line in men's 1500m final. [AFP]



Kenyan-born Bahraini came to the front in the 4th lap with Norah Jeruto of Kazakhstan also pushing for the lead.

But Chemutai's ambition for a medal in Tokyo came tumbling after the Ugandan great faltered and fell to the ground with barely two laps to go.

At the bell, the big shots put their tactics into practice. Yavi attempted to maintain the lead, but Cherotich was following closely and at the last water jump, the youngest world champion in

WOMEN'S 3000M STEEPLCHASE:

Faith Cherotich (Kenya)	8:51.59
Winfred Yavi (Bahrain)	8:56.46
Sembo Almayew (Ethiopia)	8:58.86

Men's 1500m:

Isaac Nader (Portugal)	3:34.10
Jake Wightman (G. Britain)	3:34.12
Reynold Cheruiyot (Kenya)	3:34.25

Kenya's medal tally:

4 Gold	1 Silver	2 Bronze
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the women's category made the most decisive move.

Just moments after Cherotich secured gold for Kenya, former World Under-20 champion Reynold Cheruiyot delivered a bronze in the men's 1500m.

Timothy Cheruiyot, the 2019 world champion and Reynold were not giving up the leadership positions in most of the race but were overpowered in the final stages by Portuguese Isaac Nader who claimed the gold medal and Jake Wightman of Great Britain who took silver.

Reynold ran 3:34.25 behind the 2025 champion, Nader (3:34.10) and Wightman (3:34.12).

srutto@standardmedia.co.ke