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Wiper storm ahead of Raila DP interviews



Spanners: Panel to pick Azimio's running-mate begins work today but Kalonzo's allies say they have suspended campaigns until he gets the position and threaten to pull out representative from group selected to identify Raila's deputy **PAGE 4**

KALONZO MUSYOKA

Everything is plain so why should we waste time? If Odinga takes me, he will be the next President of Kenya. Because I am a sure bet, there is no need to waste time

DAN MAANZO

We have advised Kalonzo not to appear before the panel because there is nothing about the former Vice-President that Raila does not know,

News Beat > PG 9



Naivasha's Jayne Kihara



Westland's Tim Wanyonyi



Rarieda's Otiende Amollo



Nyal's Mohamed Ali

Audit puts MPs on the spot over misuse of CDF

Gathungu, in reports tabled in the National Assembly, has accused more than 20 MPs of failing to account for millions

US abortion draft ruling elicits ire

Page 17 Suggestions that court will overturn law allowing termination of pregnancies has activists up in arms

ODM leader activates Uhuru's Mt Kenya networks

Page 6 Azimio's presidential aspirant meets leaders and pressure groups in Mt Kenya whom he asks to campaign for him to change the tide in the region



POINTERS



OPINION PAGE 11

Get immunised, give your system a fighting chance



BUSINESS PAGE 15

Why banks are concerned about cybercrime increase

WEATHER TODAY

Nairobi	23°	Nyeri	22°
Mombasa	28°	Kitui	27°
Kisumu	22°	Wajir	33°

Online media fuel divisions, global tensions - report

Reporters Without Borders say democratic societies increasingly fractured by social media disinformation

■ London, Tuesday

Unregulated online content has spread disinformation and propaganda that have amplified political divisions worldwide, fanned international tensions and even contributed to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, a media watchdog warned Tuesday.

Reporters Without Borders said democratic societies are increasingly fractured by social media spreading disinformation and more opinion media pursuing a so-called "Fox News model", referring to the controversial right-wing television network in the United States.

At the same time, despotic and autocratic regimes that tightly control information in their societies are using their "asymmetric" position to wage "propaganda wars" against democracies and fuel divisions within them, the watchdog said in the 2022 edition of its annual World Press Freedom Index.

"Polarisation on these two levels is fueling increased tension," Reporters Without Borders, widely known by its French acronym RSF, said in a five-page summary.

Russia invasion of Ukraine

It noted Russia, where state-run media overwhelmingly dominate and independent outlets are increasingly stifled, invaded Ukraine following a propaganda war.

"The creation of media weaponry in authoritarian countries eliminates their citizens' right to information but is also linked to the rise in international tension, which can lead to the worst kind of wars,"

RSF Secretary-General Christophe Deloire said.

He added the "Fox News-isation" of Western media also poses a "fatal danger for democracies because it undermines the basis of civil harmony and tolerant public debate".

Deloire urged countries to adopt appropriate legal frameworks to protect democratic online information spaces.

Record 'very bad'

The situation is "very bad" in a record 28 countries, according to this year's ranking of 180 countries and regions based on the degree of freedom enjoyed by journalists.

The lowest ranked were North Korea (180th), Eritrea (179th) and Iran (178th), with Myanmar (176th) and China (175th) close behind.

Russia (155th) and ally Belarus (153rd) were also on its red list of the most repressive.

Hong Kong's position plummeted dozens of places to 148th, reflecting Beijing's efforts to use "its legislative arsenal to confine its population and cut it off from the rest of the world", RSF said.

Nordic countries Norway, Denmark and Sweden again topped the index, serving as a democratic models "where freedom of expression flourishes".

The NGO commended Moldova (40th) and Bulgaria (91st) this year due to government changes and "the hope it has brought for improvement in the situation for journalists".

But it noted "oligarchs still own or control the media" in both.

Media polarisation was "feeding and reinforcing internal social divisions in democratic societies" such as the United States (42nd).

That trend was even starker in "illiberal democracies" such as Poland (66th), a European Union country where suppression of independent media was also noted by RSF. The NGO, launched in 1985 and which



Audrey Azoulay (right), Director-General of UNESCO, and Uruguay's President Luis Lacalle Pou attend the opening of the World Press Freedom Day Conference in Punta del Este, Uruguay. AFP

has published the yearly index since 2002, has become a thorn in the side of autocratic and despotic regimes around the world.

This year's listing was developed with a new methodology redefining press freedom and using five new indicators -- political context, legal framework, economic context, sociocultural context, and security -- to reflect its "complexity".

SOCIAL MEDIA ATTACK

● Reporters Without Borders said democratic societies are increasingly fractured by social media spreading disinformation and more opinion media

● Journalists in Uganda often face rough treatment at the hands of security forces, which soared during the 2021 election, marred by the worst bloodshed in years.

Ugandan journalists in trouble

In Kampala, journalists in Uganda often face rough treatment at the hands of security forces, which soared during the 2021 election, marred by the worst bloodshed in years.

The East African country has seen a series of crackdowns on those opposed to President Yoweri Museveni's rule, particularly around last year's election, with journalists attacked, lawyers jailed, vote monitors prosecuted and opposition leaders violently muzzled.

The rights situation in Uganda has also been highlighted by the case of an award-winning author and outspoken government critic, Kakwenza Rukirabashaija, who was charged with insulting President Yoweri Museveni.

Last February, the novelist fled to Germany to seek medical treatment out of fear for his life after being tortured, according to his lawyer. Kakwenza Rukirabashaija

was arrested shortly after Christmas and charged with "offensive communication" in a case that raised international concern.

The charges against him relate to unflattering comments on Twitter about Museveni, who has ruled Uganda since 1986, and his powerful son Muhoozi Kainerugaba.

The author was awarded the 2021 PEN Pinter Prize for an International Writer of Courage, which is presented annually to a writer who has been persecuted for speaking out about their beliefs. Rukirabashaija has been repeatedly arrested since the publication of "The Greedy Barbarian", which describes high-level corruption in a fictional country.

Ugandan activist Norman Tumuhimbe was then arrested on March 10 alongside Farida Bikobere, who works with him at online media platform DigitalTalk TV, on charges of cyber-stalking the country's president.

Both were released on bail on March 21. The duo were among nine journalists arrested for offensive communication under the Computer Misuse Act which can carry a one-year prison sentence and/or a fine.

Seven were released without being charged.

Tumuhimbe, who heads local pressure group The Alternative Movement, was to launch a book critical of President Yoweri Museveni on March 30.

—AFP



Turkana UDA parliamentary aspirants resolve to bury the hatchet

Two UDA aspirants for Turkana Central seat have agreed to work together after a hotly contested nomination exercise that threatened to split the party members in the constituency.

Joseph Namwar and Festus Lorogoi agreed to bury the hatchet and work together to secure the seat currently occupied by UDA county gubernatorial candidate John Lodepe.

Namwar was declared the winner

but Lorogoi felt the nominations were not free and fair and threatened to vie as an independent candidate.

There were complaints that both camps had damaged each other's reputation so much in the campaign trail that it seemed that it was almost impossible to reconcile the two factions.

UDA Lodwar Township Ward candidate Ruth Kuya took the bull by its horns and challenged the two to shake

hands in a church service yesterday.

The two shook hands but agreed that a committee with representation from both camps would sit and agree on how the two teams would campaign for UDA.

So vicious was the fight that the spouse of Governor Josaphat Nanok, Margaret could not hide her joy after the duo shook hands.

"Indeed we have seen the working of God, the disunity between the two

camps was almost denying us the Turkana Central seat," she said.

UDA gubernatorial candidate John Lodepe said the unity of the two camps would now enable the county team to focus on winning the seats instead of fighting amongst themselves.

Lodepe will face former Petroleum and Mining CS John Munyes of Jubilee party and Loima MP Jeremiah Lomurukai of ODM in the August polls.

—KNA



Cycling would cripple you—or worse

You know what's awesome for the body? Exercise. And you know what's awesome for exercise? Yep, a bike. They didn't think that in the late 1800s though. In fact, doctors were totally against people riding bicycles—especially women. These medics the bike would disgrace a woman's walk by turning it into a "plunging kind of motion." They also felt that the activity could actually wear a person's body to the bones, causing fearsome conditions such as "bicycle foot," and "bicycle hand." What's more, the strong winds created by the bike's blistering speed, combined with the strain of cycling, would cause "bicycle face"—allegedly a permanent condition! Plus, the exertion would most certainly cause the women's slight frames to become far too masculine, providing they could survive the torture of course. Nope. These doctors never got the memo about the value of exercise.

Modern conveniences that faced weird resistance

We take them for granted today, but these modern conveniences faced some pretty crazy resistance when first proposed



Coffee was Satan's drink

In the 16th century, coffee was a popular beverage in the Islamic world. In fact, it was so popular throughout the Ottoman Empire, Sultan Murad IV thought of chopping the heads off of anyone found drinking the brew. But even that horrific threat didn't stop coffee lovers from indulging. However, the beverage didn't receive such reverence from the Roman Catholics and Christians, who dubbed it

'Satan's Drink' since the Islamic world drank it. Eventually though, coffee made it to Rome, and after a steaming cup was placed in the hand of Pope Clement VIII, he allegedly said after drinking it, "This Satan's drink is so delicious that it would be a pity to let the infidels have exclusive use of it." He then gave it his blessing... and the rest is a cliché.

The telephone was a devil's instrument

By 1885, no other country had as many phones connected as Sweden. Not everybody was so excited about the new-fangled thing, though. People were afraid of being shocked by them, and for a good reason, considering the susceptibility of telephone lines to lightning strikes. But superstition took hold when people started thinking that evil spirits could enter their lives through the fragile wires. Many clergymen considered the telephone to be an instrument of the devil himself. Landowners such as farmers did not want the lines intruding on their property, and many even resorted to sabotage by destroying them. In the end, the truth was apparently phoned in, and Sweden embraced the technology with open arms along with the rest of the globe.



Nobody would want a portable computer

Quite often, those who write about new technology, never get the memo, and don't see which direction it may be heading. Take tech writers around 1985. They were certain of the laptop's death and wrote gloomy predictions about that new trend in personal computing. The tech experts at the New York Times said laptops would be too expensive to build, and that nobody would want a portable computer in the first place. "...no matter how inexpensive the machines become...[they just couldn't] imagine the average user taking one along when going fishing," one wrote. In other words, if you were fishing, you wouldn't want a computer, because you were outdoors. In their defence, the World Wide Web, Internet, and Wi-Fi didn't exist then, so our digital world wasn't even near their radar.



Trains would rip out women's uteruses

The fire-breathing, steam-hissing, smoke-belching monstrosities that were the original train did cause a real scare. The earlier opponents of those modern contraptions even called them locomotives, with 'loco' being the operative word since they were kind of crazy-looking. They were of the opinion that the female physique couldn't withstand lightning speeds of up to 80kph. In fact, they feared that the women's uteruses would be ripped bloody from their bodies by the sheer acceleration and raw power of the fanatical beasts. They also had never seen the beast in action. Called the fear of the unknown aka fear of the 'new-fangled', what was not understood was often feared, especially if it seemed it might injure women and children.

The world would need 5 computers only

In 1943, Thomas Watson, the one-and-only chairman of the giant computer magnate IBM, made the very unlikely and even more unprophectic statement, "I think there's a world market for maybe five computers." (Silence.) Well, if you added up all the computers you own now, you'd be absolutely amazed. From desktops, laptops, tablets, smartphones, smartwatches, smart TVs, game systems, cars, calculators, microwaves, clocks, MP3 players, etc. You name it; it has a computer in it. I mean, yesterday it was said nobody wanted them; today, we can't live without them. And tomorrow, we might watch them build themselves. Incredible.

Kalonzo throws spanner in hunt for Raila deputy

Wiper Party to withdraw its representative from selection panel, says its leader will not be vetted

by Mathew Ndung'u
@PeopleDailyKe

Wiper Democratic Movement (WDM) party headed by former Vice-President Kalonzo Musyoka has engaged top gear in its quest to land the number two position in Azimio La Umoja-One Kenya Alliance.

It says it has suspended campaigns for the the Azimio presidential candidate Raila Odinga until it gets the slot. The announcement, coming on the eve of the day a panel selected to vet short-listed running-mate candidates begins its work, will ruffle feathers. Instructively, the deadline for presidential aspirants to submit the names of their running-mates is May 16, hardly two weeks away.

To ensure former Vice-President Kalonzo Musyoka is handed the slot, his allies say they will pull their representative from the panel and that Kalonzo will not undergo vetting.

Yesterday, Kalonzo's allies indicated that Kitui Senator Enoch Wambua would not be in the selection panel that is set to start interviewing candidates today.

In what signals a hardening of positions, Suna East MP Junet Mohammed, who is Azimio's Executive Committee Secretary General, yesterday said that failure to appear before the selection panel would be deemed as withdrawal from the contest.

Demeaning interview

Makueni MP Daniel Maanzo confirmed that Wiper Party has put on hold campaigns for Raila until the issue of the running mate is conclusively "made in our favour".

Even as the selection panel begins its work tomorrow, Kalonzo's troops have threatened to ensure that their leader does not appear before it for any interview as that would be demeaning.

Instead, the foot soldiers of the former Foreign Affairs minister want the seven-member selection panel dissolved and Kalonzo directly nominated by Raila as his running-mate in the August 9 General Election.

"Our stand remains the same. That no

Kalonzo, no votes for Raila. We have also advised Kalonzo not to appear before the panel because there is nothing about the former Vice-President that Raila does not know," Makueni MP Daniel Maanzo, a hardliner in the Wiper party, told the People Daily yesterday.

Maanzo added that the panel is a face-saving entity to hoodwink Kenyans that the exercise is transparent yet "the head-hunt is meant to rig out Kalonzo."

"If anyone is still thinking that Kalonzo will take up any other position other than that of Deputy President, he or she is day-dreaming. What matters at the moment are the two million votes that Raila will either get if he nominates Kalonzo, or will lose if he bypasses him," Maanzo said.

Yesterday, Kalonzo, as if reading from the same script said his experience, standing in society, and performance are written in white and black.

"Everything is plain, so why should we waste time? If [Raila] Odinga takes me, he will be the next President of Kenya. I am a sure bet; there is no need to waste time," he told People Daily. And last week, in an interview with a TV station, Kalonzo said it is obvious he is the best choice for running mate, adding that he should not be asked to apply for the position.

Lose Ukambani votes

"If we were to tell each other the truth, and everyone in our team knows the right thing to do, I do not understand why anyone would ask me to apply for the position of running-mate. Did Raila apply to be the flag-bearer?" he posed.

He stated that should Raila fail to pick him as the running-mate, he (Raila) would suffer a big blow as he would lose the majority of votes from Ukambani.

The seven-member panel comprises Ms Elizabeth Moyo, Bishop Peter Njenga, Archbishop (Rtd) Zaccheus Okoth, Kitui Senator

HARD STANCE

● Wiper Party to suspend its campaigns for the Azimio candidate unless Kalonzo gets the running mate slot.

● Also, supporters wants the seven-member selection panel dissolved and Kalonzo directly nominated by Raila.



Enoch Wambua, Narc Kenya Secretary General Michael Orwa, former Cabinet minister Noah Wekesa, Council of Imams and Preachers of Kenya Organising Secretary Sheikh Mohamed Khalifa and Ms Beatrice Askul Moe from Turkana County. An itinerary of the panel indicates that members are to converge at Serena Hotel at 8am today. They will then be driven to an undisclosed venue.

The agenda of today's meeting, according to the itinerary, is to set the terms of reference, agree on the deadline, elect the chairman, secretary and other officials, and agree on the modalities and procedures of carrying out their mandate.

Though the panel has outlined the requisite qualifications, insiders in Azimio La Umoja-One Kenya Coalition say the position is likely to be given to a person from Mt Kenya region, with former Justice and Constitutional Affairs Minister Martha Karua, Health Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe and his Agriculture counterpart Peter Munya being the front runners.

While the Kalonzo camp has been pushing for him to be nominated, sources say some leaders in Azimio are not comfortable with the Wiper leader. They cite his continuous threats and intimidations, flip-flopping and a need to win the support of Mt Kenya region.

Those in support of Karua say she is firm against corruption, reformist-leaning, straight forward and authentic. Other qualities include a good working relationship with Raila and President Uhuru Kenyatta, as well as honesty and integrity.

But some allies of Uhuru are said to have misgivings on Karua for accommodating losers from Jubilee's nominations in her Narc Kenya outfit.

Accusations against her have also emerged that she isolated Jubilee honchos in Central Kenya in Raila's tour of Kirinyaga

Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka at the burial ceremony of Michael Mutuku Nduto, father of Masinga Constituency Wiper nominee David Mutuku, at Masinga yesterday.
PD/DENNIS KAVISU

on Sunday and Monday.

Those fronting for new entrant Kagwe say he is a reformist who is not afraid of daunting tasks, an example being the restructuring he launched at Kenya Medical Supplies Agency (Kemsco) and at National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF). Kagwe is also good at mobilisation of national and international support for critical areas, like he did in the fight against Covid-19.

Other names being mentioned for the position are former Gatanga MP Peter Kenneth, Nakuru Governor Lee Kinyanjui, Murang'a Woman Representative Sabina Chege, Mombasa Governor Hassan Joho and Kieni MP Kanini Kega.

Inconsequential threats

Nyeri Town MP Ngunjiri Wambugu says the prerogative to choose the running mate lies with Raila and nobody should try to coerce him. "At the end of the day, the responsibility will remain in Raila's hands. So, all these threats, intimidations and lobbying are inconsequential. Nobody can force Raila to work with somebody he is not comfortable with," he says.

In a statement on Sunday, the panel outlined the qualifications for the candidates, that included fidelity to the Constitution, personal integrity in public and private life, objectivity and impartiality in decision making. The candidate should also shun nepotism, favouritism, improper motives and corruption. Other attributes include selfless service, public trust, honesty in execution of public duties and declaration of any personal interest that may conflict with public duties.

The statement signed by Ms Moyo said the panel has up to May 10, 2022, to finish its work and submit the shortlisted nominee to Raila for consideration. "Thereafter, the successful candidate shall be unveiled to the public by Raila," she said.

Ngilu: I'm more suited than Wiper leader to deputise Azimio chief

by PD Correspondent

Kitui Governor Charity Ngilu says she is the appropriate person to deputise Azimio La Umoja-One Kenya Alliance's presidential flagbearer Raila Odinga in the coming polls.

She adds that if the candidate will be picked from Ukambani, she is more suited than Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka.

For long, Ngilu has been uncomfortable with Kalonzo's stature in Ukambani. She spoke at twin rallies in the former Vice-President's Tseikuru and Katse home turfs in Mwingi North on Monday.

Flanked by MCAs Boniface Kilaa (Tseikuru) and Johnson Kanandu (Mumoni), the governor said she had high esteem for Kalonzo, "but he was not prolific and dependable".

Stand to be counted

"When the time comes for Azimio to pick its running mate from Ukambani, I will stand to be counted. What do you, the people of Mwingi North and Kitui at large, think? Am I not able and fit?" she asked.

She said her history in politics goes back to 1997 when she became the first woman to vie for the presidency on a Social Democratic Party ticket.

"I fought alongside Raila in the



Opposition to remove Kanu's one-party tyrannical rule. I understand Raila very well," she said.

Nothing to chance

The governor said Azimio La Umoja is not leaving anything to chance, adding that they were resolute in their quest to see Raila win.

She appealed to Kenyans to reject Deputy President William Ruto's candidature for the top seat.

During the tour, she commissioned Tseikuru town's 600-metre tarmac road, funded by her administration to ease transport and reduce respiratory diseases caused by dust.

She also issued 8,500 land title deeds to Mumoni residents and presented empowerment fund cheques to various youth, women and people living with disabilities in the sub-county.

She said: "It is a pleasure to fulfill the promise I made in 2019. Today, land owners will receive title deeds in line with President Uhuru Kenyatta's plan to legally settle Kenyans".

The governor added that registration of boda boda operators and issuance of smart driving licences would be rolled out soon, in conjunction with the Interior Ministry and National Transport and Safety Authority.

Transition to secondary schools begins

Magoha assures that over a million candidates, who sat the 2021 KCPE exam will join secondary schools

by Irene Githinji
@igithinji

Admissions for the 2021 Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) examination candidates to the over 10,000 secondary schools will commence today.

Education Cabinet Secretary (CS) Prof George Magoha, has assured that the over 1 million candidates, who sat the exam will be admitted to secondary schools in line with the government's 100 per cent transition policy.

Last week, the ministry changed the opening date for Form Ones to May 4 occasioned by gazettement of May 3 as a public holiday.

Economic times

"The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Interior has gazetted May 3 as a public holiday, which is the date the Form One students were expected to report. Consequently, it has been decided that the reporting date for Form One students will be from May 4," said the ministry in a circular dated April 27 to Regional and County Directors of Education.

The Form One candidates are joining a week after the rest of the classes resumed learning, even as the government insists that it will work with the local administra-

tion to ensure that all of them report to school.

The ministry has said it will work with other government agencies to ensure that no candidate misses a place in secondary school. Officials from the education ministry will be required to file accurate daily returns on the status of reporting to schools.

Parents/guardians and school managers are expected to facilitate smooth admission of all children to secondary schools.

Yesterday, some parents were in a last minute rush to prepare their children to report to their new secondary schools.

Parents have been complaining of exorbitant amounts charged by some schools for learners joining Form One, but are optimistic that all will run smoothly despite the harsh economic times.

In most cases, the schools either referred the parents to select uniform distributors from where they are required to source the uniform for the new school entrants.

In other cases, the schools directed that the Form Ones should only buy the uniform at the school when they report.

The outraged parents took to social media platforms to register their disapproval of the move by the schools to charge as much as Sh30,000 for uniforms.

Some parents have however said that they have had to look for alternative uniform outlets.

"I looked at the list and prices provided by the school and felt it was beyond my reach, so I had to look for an alternative. We have made sure that the uniform has the appropriate shade and in the long run, I have saved at least Sh8,000 which will pay



NUMBERS

● Some 38,797 KCPE candidates will be enrolled in national schools, 214,960 in extra county schools while 258,456 will join county schools.

● Another 726,311 students will be enrolled in sub-county schools while 2,045 have been placed in special needs schools.

part of the school fees instead," a parent whose child is joining Form One in a school in Nairobi said yesterday.

Already, the Ministry of Education has made a call to needy and vulnerable students joining Form One to apply for the Elimu scholarship.

Vulnerable learners

Some 9,000 needy and vulnerable learners who scored 280 marks and above out of the possible 500 marks in the 2021 KCPE exams, are eligible to apply.

"Only candidates who sat KCPE from public primary schools in all 47 counties in the country are eligible to apply," the Ministry has said, in a public notice.

For affirmative action, candidates who are orphans and those with special needs and disabilities who attained below 280 marks may be considered.

Learners who also qualify are those whose parents are persons with disabilities, which compromises their ways of meeting financial obligations for their children and whose families are affected by HIV/Aids and other chronic illnesses with debilitating effects, that could render parents and guardians destitute thus unable to fend for their children.

The ministry has urged applicants to submit duly filled forms, including supporting documents by close of business this Friday.

Emily Atieno buys a mattress and metallic box along the streets of Kisumu for her child who is to Join Form One. PD/VIOOLA KOSOME

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Raila taps into Uhuru campaign machine in Central

Azimio presidential candidate urges Jubilee candidates to actively market its candidature

by Rawlings Otieno
@PeopleDailyKe

Azimio la Umoja-One Kenya Alliance presidential candidate Raila Odinga has launched a charm offensive in the Mt Kenya region to consolidate votes ahead of the August elections.

Raila, who has never enjoyed the backing of the region since he first ran for the presidency in 1997, has put in place a strategy to tap into the Jubilee Party machinery that propelled President Uhuru Kenyatta to victory in the 2013 and 2017 elections.

In a series of meetings with leaders from the region who won in the recent Jubilee primaries, Raila is seeking to wrestle a chunk of the voters from the region seen to be currently supporting UDA presidential candidate William Ruto.

Yesterday, Raila appealed to those who clinched Jubilee tickets during the primaries and other Azimio affiliated parties that they should not be afraid to sell his candidature to the electorate and promised to accommodate those who lose in the August elections in his government.

"Do not be afraid to sell Raila to the electorate. We have come together to consolidate the votes in the larger Mt Kenya. All those aspiring as MCAs, National Assembly Members, Senators, Woman Representatives and Governors should not be afraid of selling Raila," he said.

Bottom up

Raila urged the aspirants that the Azimio secretariat led by Raphael Tuju had formed committees from the Ward level all the way to the constituency and county levels and will be supported by the National Secretariat.

He asked aspirants in Kiambu county to be his foot soldiers.

"You are the link between the voters and me," said Raila.

He pledged that his administration would ensure that Kenya's economy is on

the right track.

The former Prime Minister accused Ruto of seeking to entrench poverty using his Bottom Up economic model.

"We will not just create jobs, but we will create meaningful jobs to our people and our youths. We do not just want to give jobs because jobs are jobs, we have the potential of creating meaningful jobs," said Raila.

While drumming up support for Raila during the meeting with Kiambu aspirants at Windsor Hotel in the county, Tuju said there was a reason Uhuru had decided to back the former premier for the top seat.

Tuju described Raila as a reformist and a champion of good governance while Ruto, he said, was only out to secure his own interests.

"I did not vote for Raila in 2017 but there is a reason why we are supporting his candidacy. He is a person who thinks about the country first and is not selfish. President Uhuru knows Ruto more than you know him and there is a reason why he is not supporting him," said Tuju.

Single mothers

The Azimio Executive Director told the aspirants that Uhuru's administration had achieved more thanks to the support he received from Raila after the March 2018 Handshake.

Murang'a Woman Representative Sabina Chege, who is also a member of the Azimio Council, asked the gathering to back Raila's candidature.

She claimed that their opponents had looted public coffers and should not be trusted with the leadership of the country.

"Show me your friends and I will show you your character. If you look at those coalescing around him, almost all of them are tainted with corruption. Is that the team you want to place at leadership helm?" posed Chege.

Nyeri Deputy Governor Carol Karugu said that under a Raila's administration, women, single mothers and widows would benefit from a special social protection programme, adding that the aspirants should tell the electorate the truth about Azimio's manifesto.

"The programme will help single mothers. In fact Central Kenya has many single mothers. A social protection programme is



Azimio presidential candidate Raila Odinga addresses Azimio candidates from Kiambu at a Nairobi hotel. PD/KENNA CLAUDE

PLEDGES

● Raila pledged that his administration would ensure that Kenya's economy is on the right track.

● The former Prime Minister accused Ruto of seeking to entrench poverty using his Bottom Up economic model.

● He promised to accommodate those who lose in the August elections in his government.

what we want. The Sh6,000 will help cushion the poor of the poorest in society," she said.

Former Gatanga MP Peter Kenneth said the politics of the country had changed, adding that Coast, North Eastern, Eastern, Nairobi, Samburu and Turkana all back Raila.

"I have accompanied Raila in many parts of the country and they are all backing his presidency. Where there is a problem is only Central. We also need to be in Raila's camp and ultimately in his government. Kiambu is the biggest county in Mt Kenya and once Kiambu delivers, Mount Kenya will have delivered," said Kenneth.

He said the campaign think-tanks were in the final stages of preparing a manifesto that would be given to the candidates to sensitise the electorate with.

Sankok, wife questioned following son's death

by George Sayagie
@PeopleDailyKe

The Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) officers in Narok are carrying out investigations into the circumstances under which the son of Nominated MP David Sankok allegedly shot himself dead at the family home in Ewaso Ng'iro trading centre on Monday afternoon.

The team led by the County Criminal Investigations Officer Mwenda Ethaiba camped at the MP's home for the better part of yesterday seeking to know how the boy accessed the gun.

They interrogated the MP, his wife, daughter and workers.

Ethaiba said they are trying to establish what could have triggered the minor to shoot himself and what the MP told him during a Monday afternoon argument regarding his failure to report to school.

The officers are investigating how the 15-year-old son, a Form Three student, gained access of his father's bedroom where the shot gun was kept.

"We are also trying to establish what could have triggered the minor to shoot himself," he said.

The detectives recorded statements from workers at the MP's Osim Country Lodge which is about 100 metres from his home.

According to area Sub-County Police Commander Isaac Ogembo, the incident happened at 3:30pm on Monday.

The lawmaker is said to have sent his son pocket and shopping money ahead of the schools' reopening last week, but the boy disappeared from home only to resurface on Monday.

Upon his return, his father is said to have demanded to know why he was not in school, leading to an altercation.

Soon after, the MP reportedly left for the lodge and returned home after one hour only to find his son lying in a pool of blood with the shot gun next to his body. Nobody was in the house at the time of the incident, according to police.

The detectives are also carrying out forensic analysis on the body.

Former Naivasha legislator goes independent after UDA dispute

Former Naivasha MP John Kihagi has declared he will seek to recapture the seat as an independent candidate after the United Democratic Alliance (UDA) overturned his win in the nominations.

This is after the party released a statement Monday saying incumbent Jayne Kihara will carry the UDA flag in the constituency in the election.

In a statement signed by the chair of the UDA Electoral Board Anthony Mwaura, the party defied an order by the Political Parties Tribunal to carry out repeat elections.

The board overturned Kihagi's controversial win and declared Kihara the winner in the nominations held on April 14, with 9,904 votes against Kihagi's 9,903 votes.

Kihagi then filed an appeal to the Political Parties Tribunal who ordered a repeat election. But on Monday, UDA defied the tribunal's verdict and confirmed Kihara as the candidate.

In a rejoinder, Kihagi said: "I have decided to submit to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) my intention to vie as an independent candidate."

—KNA

Joho defends ODM six-piece vote call

by Harrison Kivisu
@PeopleDailyKe

Mombasa Governor Hassan Joho has reiterated Azimio la Umoja presidential candidate Raila Odinga's call for six-piece voting in favour of ODM, saying it is the only way to assure victory in the 2022 election.

Speaking during the annual Eid baraza at the Treasury square in Mombasa yesterday, Joho (left) insisted on the need for Orange party to clinch all positions in order to solidify Raila's chances of winning the presidency.

ODM's call for six-piece voting



has upset leaders of other Azimio la Umoja-One Kenya coalition affiliate parties. But Joho yesterday said everyone has the right to campaign for their party.

"If you are in Wiper, you are free to campaign for your candidate and so are other parties within Azimio. However, that

should not take away my right to campaign for my party," he said.

The outgoing Mombasa governor said under the Azimio la Umoja-One Kenya coalition government, the region would have a major say in the sharing of the national cake.

Joho said under a Raila government, the Coast region would reap big in development.

"We know how Raila works. He listens to advice. All we want is development," he said.

He added: "We have supported Raila for decades, how can we bolt out when he is on the verge of becoming the president?"



The unaudited financial results of the Bank and Group for the period ended 31st March, 2022.

I STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	BANK			COMPANY			GROUP		
	31st March, 2022 Un-audited Shs '000	31st Dec, 2021 Audited Shs '000	31st March, 2021 Un-audited Shs '000	31st March, 2022 Un-audited Shs '000	31st Dec, 2021 Audited Shs '000	31st March, 2021 Un-audited Shs '000	31st March, 2022 Un-audited Shs '000	31st Dec, 2021 Audited Shs '000	31st March, 2021 Un-audited Shs '000
A ASSETS									
1 Cash (both Local & Foreign)	6,320,360	8,926,168	7,505,101	-	-	-	9,331,983	10,643,165	9,603,022
2 Balances due from Central Banks	20,298,474	28,387,550	19,596,141	-	-	-	25,276,948	32,511,158	22,117,986
3 Kenyan Government securities held for dealing purposes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 Financial assets at fair value through profit & loss	911,863	911,863	762,855	-	-	-	911,863	911,863	762,855
5 Investment Securities:									
a) Held to Maturity									
i) Kenya Government securities	121,267,146	123,164,457	93,228,617	-	-	-	121,267,146	123,164,457	93,228,617
ii) Other securities	8,958,026	8,783,706	4,989,978	-	-	-	24,389,340	18,338,899	13,820,461
b) Available for sale:									
i) Kenya Government securities	73,660,740	72,887,496	63,921,109	-	-	-	73,437,011	72,887,496	63,921,109
ii) Other securities	49,686	49,526	55,254	-	-	-	5,245,388	4,418,432	1,598,336
6 Deposits and balances due from local banking institutions	4,383,650	1,999,972	4,296,015	-	-	-	3,499,010	834,123	5,080,604
7 Deposits and balances due from banking institutions abroad	32,922,642	38,353,641	49,757,032	-	-	-	40,321,099	44,285,263	52,111,309
8 Tax recoverable	-	-	-	40,541	36,212	44,595	395,518	390,080	397,344
9 Loans and advances to customers (net)	218,405,637	220,019,614	218,992,419	-	-	-	243,899,340	244,037,961	243,142,141
10 Balances due from banking institutions in the group	1,291,766	2,145,868	1,287,312	61,256	9,650	2,703,894	-	-	-
11 Investments in associates	2,432,436	2,432,436	2,765,028	332,593	332,593	-	3,928,937	3,956,460	3,916,973
12 Investments in subsidiary companies	23,002	23,002	23,002	70,608,568	68,274,304	-	-	-	-
13 Investments in joint ventures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14 Investment properties	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 Property and equipment	1,764,301	1,853,985	2,210,188	-	-	-	2,358,715	2,482,004	3,482,878
16 Prepaid lease rentals	6,220	6,250	6,375	-	-	-	522,220	522,250	522,375
17 Intangible assets	5,490,533	5,763,723	6,101,104	-	-	-	5,665,240	6,060,639	6,330,232
18 Deferred tax asset	11,444,787	10,859,474	9,827,704	24,491	24,491	23,466	11,535,209	11,832,708	10,167,738
19 Retirement benefit asset	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 Other assets	22,891,371	20,965,449	17,939,851	66,752	50,405	100,635	16,573,310	13,789,079	11,901,256
B TOTAL ASSETS	532,522,640	546,733,550	503,274,085	71,134,201	71,061,919	71,146,894	587,377,243	591,088,037	542,105,236
LIABILITIES									
21 Balances due to Central Banks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22 Customer deposits	418,664,606	431,214,219	402,557,386	-	-	-	465,535,871	469,890,083	434,211,154
23 Deposits and balances due from local banking institutions	4,328,543	10,623,516	274,313	-	-	-	7,954,361	14,095,935	274,313
24 Deposits and balances due from foreign banking institutions	1,165,627	1,982,214	1,743,106	-	-	-	1,291,360	679,347	4,951,193
25 Other money market deposits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 Borrowed funds	5,900,165	6,096,755	12,994,758	-	-	-	5,900,165	6,096,755	12,994,758
27 Balances due to banking institutions in the group	348,455	1,073,183	698,872	10,359,729	10,297,692	8,077,358	-	-	-
28 Tax payable	3,942,908	2,437,331	1,155,805	-	-	-	4,302,201	2,761,211	1,276,607
29 Dividends payable	-	-	-	18,622	19,639	32,889	18,622	19,639	32,889
30 Deferred tax liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,970
31 Retirement benefit liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32 Other liabilities	23,229,510	14,663,533	12,115,659	181,006	160,508	2,265,346	22,069,587	19,558,038	13,742,312
C TOTAL LIABILITIES	457,579,814	468,090,771	431,539,899	10,559,357	10,477,839	10,375,971	507,072,067	513,101,008	467,504,196
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS									
33 Paid up/Assigned capital	10,859,384	10,859,384	10,859,384	8,237,598	8,237,598	8,237,597	8,237,598	8,237,598	8,237,599
34 Share Premium	33,406,022	33,406,022	33,406,022	21,424,322	21,424,322	21,424,322	21,424,322	21,424,322	21,424,322
35 Retained reserves	31,167,641	27,912,775	26,539,895	27,206,006	27,215,242	28,637,905	47,889,406	44,201,725	41,983,168
36 Retained loan reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	46,840	33,044	25,753
37 Other reserves	(490,221)	464,598	928,885	-	-	-	(123,842)	(30,512)	265,202
40 Proposed dividends	-	6,000,000	-	3,706,918	3,706,918	2,471,729	3,706,918	3,706,918	2,471,729
42 Capital grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	74,942,826	78,642,779	71,734,186	60,574,844	60,584,080	60,771,103	80,181,242	77,863,095	74,607,323
43 Non-controlling interests	-	-	-	-	-	-	123,934	123,934	193,717
44 TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	74,942,826	78,642,779	71,734,186	60,574,844	60,584,080	60,771,103	80,305,176	77,987,029	74,801,040
45 TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	532,522,640	546,733,550	503,274,085	71,134,201	71,061,919	71,146,894	587,377,243	591,088,037	542,105,236
II STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME									
1 INTEREST INCOME									
11 Loans and advances	5,473,074	22,404,477	5,808,619	-	-	-	6,290,946	25,527,000	6,529,097
12 Government securities	5,357,741	19,192,854	4,105,916	-	-	-	5,777,736	20,339,834	4,389,201
13 Deposits and placements with banking institutions	89,007	479,473	88,595	426	36,707	4,029	58,840	518,741	51,516
14 Other interest income	33,513	119,209	30,695	-	-	-	36,215	128,733	32,926
15 TOTAL INTEREST INCOME	10,953,335	42,196,013	10,033,825	426	36,707	4,029	12,613,137	46,514,408	11,002,744
2 INTEREST EXPENSES									
21 Customer deposits	4,383,608	16,923,632	3,889,341	-	-	-	4,807,324	18,528,164	4,294,844
22 Deposits and placement from banking institutions	53,106	108,758	18,650	-	-	-	50,007	266,832	12,330
23 Other interest expenses	119,007	588,585	104,385	-	-	-	212,881	682,459	124,385
24 TOTAL INTEREST EXPENSE	4,555,721	17,620,975	4,012,376	-	-	-	5,070,212	19,477,455	4,419,559
3 NET INTEREST INCOME	6,397,614	24,575,038	6,021,449	426	36,707	4,029	7,092,925	27,036,953	6,591,181
4 NON-INTEREST INCOME									
41 Fees and commissions on loans and advances	2,356,978	9,731,153	2,388,472	-	-	-	2,684,081	10,788,118	2,718,690
42 Other fees and commissions	848,103	3,300,278	842,850	-	-	-	966,046	3,746,811	930,471
43 Foreign exchange trading income	1,449,461	4,658,390	1,074,210	-	-	-	1,620,135	5,056,517	1,163,691
44 Dividend income	-	50,000	-	-	6,115,000	2,500,000	-	-	-
45 Other income	416,863	1,391,064	163,771	68,200	225,793	54,379	786,697	2,522,857	429,957
46 TOTAL NON-INTEREST INCOME	5,071,405	19,100,885	4,465,303	68,200	6,340,793	2,554,379	6,056,959	22,114,303	5,242,809
5 TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	11,469,019	43,705,923	10,490,752	68,626	6,377,500	2,558,408	13,149,884	49,151,256	11,833,990
6 OPERATING EXPENSES									
61 Loan loss provision	2,215,301	10,311,641	2,297,197	-	-	-	2,525,048	12,716,521	26,394,412
62 Staff costs	1,701,495	6,072,301	1,499,266	50,523	191,068	19,248	2,161,127	7,959,949	1,962,302
63 Directors' emoluments	12,210	38,616	12,759	18,516	92,584	45,607	94,464	189,050	71,717
64 Rental charges	212,373	674,510	267,587	514	2,058	-	219,531	706,335	282,311
65 Depreciation charge on property and equipment	99,203	550,540	132,251	-	-	-	153,936	780,195	183,547
66 Amortisation charges	257,856	1,079,919	289,596	-	-	-	297,307	1,264,613	302,555
67 Other operating expenses	2,201,595	8,158,881	1,893,498	12,266	35,133	9,131	2,665,462	9,833,224	2,326,714
68 TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	6,700,033	26,886,408	6,392,154	81,819	320,843	73,986	8,116,875	33,449,887	7,768,012
69 Profit before tax and exceptional items	4,768,986	16,819,515	4,098,598	(13,193)	6,056,657	2,484,422	5,033,009	15,701,369	4,065,978
70 Exceptional items	184,668	755,864	156,625	-	-	-	184,668	555,864	156,625
9 PROFIT AFTER EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS	4,584,318	16,063,651	3,902,973	(13,193)	6,056,657	2,484,422	4,848,341	16,257,233	3,870,353
10 Share of associate profit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	89,485
11 PROFIT/(LOSS) BEFORE TAX	4,584,318	16,063,651	3,902,973	(13,193)	6,056,657	2,484,422	4,848,341	16,034,990	3,870,353
12 Current tax	(1,505,558)	(5,970,200)	(1,534,680)	3,958	(48,837)	4,673	(1,612,968)	(6,130,973)	(1,514,468)
13 Deferred tax	176,105	1,287,610	479,134	-	1,025	-	176,105	1,319,627	479,134
14 PROFIT AFTER TAX AND EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS	3,254,865	11,381,061	2,847,427	(9,235)	6,008,845	2,489,095	3,411,478	10,223,644	2,835,019
15 OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME:									
151 Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	(105,041)	169,607	(93,126)
152 Fair value changes in available-for-sale financial assets	(954,819)	(1,105,905)	(641,618)	-	-	-	(988,289)	(1,247,599)	(689,152)
153 Revaluation surplus on property, plant and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
154 Share of comprehensive income of associates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
155 Income tax relating to components of other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR/NET OF TAX	(954,819)	(1,105,905)	(641,618)	-	-	-	(1,093,330)	(1,077,992)	(782,278)
17 TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	2,300,046	10,275,156	2,205,809	(9,235)	6,008,845	2,489,095	2,318,148	9,145,652	2,052,741
EARNINGS PER SHARE - BASIC & DILUTED (Shs)	5.99	20.96	5.24	-	3.65	1.51	2.07	6.21	1.72
INTERIM DIVIDEND PER SHARE - DECLARED (Shs)	-	6.08	-	-	0.75	-	-	0.75	-
FINAL DIVIDEND PER SHARE - DECLARED (Shs)	-	11.05	-	-	2.25	-	-	2.25	-

II OTHER DISCLOSURES	BANK			COMPANY			GROUP</
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NMS to spend Sh1.47b on pedestrian, cyclist lanes

by Alvin Mwangi
@PeopleDailyKe

Nairobi Metropolitan Services (NMS) is set to spend Sh1.47 billion to expand Non-Motorised Transport (NMT) within the capital.

The move seeks to create more walking spaces for pedestrians. It entails construction of pedestri-

an and cycling lanes and is expected to cover a total of 116 kilometres.

Project, which was first rolled out in the city centre, is being expanded in the estates with the aim of providing safety and decongesting the city.

"Non-Motorised Transport lanes (red for cyclists, grey for pedestrians) are currently being expanded in surrounding estates. The project

is expected to cover 116 kilometres," NMS Director-General Lt-Gen Mohammed Badi (pictured) said.

Already, the pedestrian and cycling lanes have been rolled out on Kenyatta Avenue, Wabera, and Muindi Mbingu Streets.

The grey and red lanes are currently being expanded beyond the CBD to Hurlingham, Uhuru Park,

Jogoo Road and Westlands.

"Through our contractors, we have created NMTs in the city center and plans are already in place to extend it to other areas. We are now working on more along Jogoo road and Westlands," Badi said.

First phase will cover 36km, with NMT corridor spreading to Eastlands.

Poll finds 53pc of city voters undecided as election nears

Aspirants for top seats must now work tooth and nail to promote their candidature in a bid to garner votes

by Jeremiah Kiplang'at
@jere_kiplang'at

With about three months to this year's General Election, 53 per cent of eligible voters in Nairobi are yet to decide on who to vote for, a new survey that was released yesterday has shown.

Consequently, aspirants for top seats in Nairobi may have to work harder to promote their candidature.

A survey by Trends and Insights for Africa (Tifa), which was conducted between April 26 and May 1, found that most of city residents were yet to make up their mind on who they want to be their next governor, senator and Woman Rep.

The leading presidential candidates; Azimio-One Kenya's Raila Odinga and his Kenya Kwanza counterpart Deputy President William Ruto will also have to pull up their socks to garner more votes in the city as almost half of the 649 respondents were yet to decide who they will vote for.

In the governor's race that has attracted firm interest from both Azimio and Kenya Kwanza, the poll indicates that the number of the undecided are more than half of the voters.

As per the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission, Nairobi has 2,505,199 registered voters for the August 9 elections.

Tifa's survey's approximates that 53 per cent of this number is yet to decide on who they want to be their governor, raising questions regarding the findings.

However, Azimio and Kenya Kwanza alliances did not pick their aspirants until towards the end of last month, that could explain why many voters are yet to pick their choices. Azimio has settled on Polycarp Igathe for the governor's seat while Kenya Kwanza has picked Senator John-



son Sakaja. From the poll, Sakaja, who is being fronted by Ruto's United Democratic Alliance, is the most preferred candidate although he had 23 per cent support, followed by Igathe of Jubilee, with 16 per cent.

New faces

Another hopeful, Richard Ngatia, who has since dropped out of the race in favour of Igathe, came third with three per cent while Governor Anne Kananu got one per cent, as did businesswoman Agnes Kagure. Kananu has also thrown her support behind Igathe.

The two frontrunners have picked fairly new faces in city politics as their running mates. Sakaja has chosen former Absa Bank Chief Operating Officer Njoroge Muchiri while Igathe, also a former banker, has picked former Kibwezi MP Philip Kaloki.

Yesterday, Tifa chief executive Maggie Ireri said the high percentage of the undecided voters could be linked to the delays by the coalitions in identifying those to carry their flags in the city.

Tifa chief executive
Maggie Ireri. PD/FILE

She also said unfamiliarity of some of the candidates could have contributed to the high figure. "There was confusion and unfamiliarity around the candidates. There appears to be strangers vying for the seats. Azimio might be the most popular coalition in the city but those who are vying for governor in the coalition might not be so familiar with voters," Ireri told People Daily.

She, however, indicated it was normal to have voters waiting until after nominations to make a decision on who they will vote for.

"After the nominations you will see the number of the undecided coming down," Ireri added.

Highest number

For the Senate contest, the poll had the highest number of undecided voters, as 73 per cent of those polled said they were yet to identify who they want to replace Sakaja.

From the survey, however, ODM Secretary General Edwin Sifuna led with 19 per cent of those interviewed, saying they will vote for him, followed by Bishop Margaret Wanjiru of UDA who got six per cent while Maina Kamanda of Jubilee, who has since dropped out of the race, was third with one per cent.

Kamanda was one of the casualties in the Azimio deal that saw Igathe chosen for governor while he stepped down for Sifuna.

Wanjiru was also prevailed upon to forgo her governor's ambitions in a deal struck by Ruto that saw her vie for the post instead.

For the Woman Rep seat, incumbent Esther Passaris (ODM) topped with 27.8 per cent while Millicent Omanga (UDA) was second with 6.2 per cent.

Yesterday, Omanga contested the survey, saying they were meant to drive a particular political narrative.

"Opinion polls (are) tailored to achieve a certain narrative. Ground ndio kusema. DP Ruto has the people and that is what matters," she tweeted.

In the presidential race, Raila led with 41 per cent support of those polled in the city while Ruto second with 26 per cent although many were also still undecided (32 per cent).

649

The number of city residents that were polled by Tifa in its latest findings.

BRIEFLY

Construction of Olkaria 1 complete

The multi-billion shilling Olkaria 1 Unit six power plant is complete and will be commissioned next month. It is expected to generate an extra 83MW into the national grid. According to KenGen, the power plant was undergoing tests before official commissioning as the government moved in to increase green energy. Already, the power generating company has embarked on exploring more geothermal power in Eburru area and rehabilitating the existing power plants in Olkaria. Speaking in Naivasha yesterday, KenGen General Manager Mary Maalu (pictured) says demand for power was on the rise as more companies and consumers sought electricity. Under the company's plans, KenGen had targeted 83.3MW from Olkaria 1 Unit six by May. By 2025, the company was targeting 40MW from turbine upgrading and 50MW from wellhead leasing around the geothermal rich area of Olkaria.

-Kirera Mwiti



Alarm over road reserves land grab

Members of the Kitui County Development Implementation Coordination Committee have expressed concern over encroachment and erection of illegal structures on road reserves. Committee members, chaired by Kitui County Commissioner Mbogai Rioba, regretted that the illegal structures standing on road reserves were posing danger to road users. They further regretted that some of the illegal structures on road reserves were put up recently by Kitui County Government. According to a Report from Kenya National Highway Authority, encroachment of road reserves was notorious at Ikanga Trading Centre situated along Kibwezi - Mutomo - Kitui Road. KeNHA lamented that land grabbers have ignored its demarcation signs.

-KNA

State releases funds to cushion vulnerable households

by Irene Githinji
@Agitshee

The Government has released Sh8.6 billion for the Inua Jamii programme to be paid from tomorrow.

Public Service Ministry yesterday said a further Sh27.1 million has been disbursed for Nutrition Improvement through Cash and

Health Education (NICHE), a complementary programme.

"Funds have been credited to the accounts of 1,071,856 Inua Jamii beneficiaries. Each of the beneficiaries will receive Sh8,000 being payment for November-December 2021 and January-February 2022 payment cycles," the ministry said in a statement yesterday.

The ministry, some 7,454 ben-



eficiaries will receive a top up of Sh3,000 and Sh6,000 respectively, for three payment cycles (July-August 2021, November-December 2021 and January-February 2022).

Another 3,400 HSNP beneficiaries will receive top up of Sh2000 and Sh4,000 respectively for two payment cycles (November-December 2021 and January-February 2022).

20 MPs on spot over constituency funds

Auditor General says millions of shillings in NG-CDF cannot be accounted for

by Mercy Mwai
@wangumarci

With less than three months to the General Election, at least 20 Members of Parliament have been accused of misusing National Government Constituency Development Fund (NG-CDF).

Auditor General Nancy Gathungu in her report says the MPs failed to account for millions of shillings.

In the reports tabled by leader of Majority in the National Assembly Amos Kimunya last month, Gathungu raised queries about irregular disbursement of bursaries, unsupported cash withdrawals, stale cheques, unsupported projects and projects that were not implemented.

Gathungu also pointed out that some of the projects financed by NG-CDF were poorly implemented while others had inflated costs.

Among the constituencies that have queries are Tim Wanyonyi's Westlands, Otiende Amollo's Rarieda, Mohamed Ali's Nyali, Naisula Lesuada's Samburu West, Nduati Nguigi's Gatanga, Kwenya Thuku's Kinangop, Benjamin Gathiru Embakasi Central and Mohammed Maalim's Mandera East.

Others are Jayne Kihara's Naivasha, Beatrice Kones Bomet East, Shadrack Mose's Kitutu Masaba, Joseph Manje's Kajiado North, Moses Lesonet's Eldama Ravine, Mercy Gakuya's Kasarani and Joshua Kimilu's Kaiti.

Bursary funds

In Westlands constituency, Gathungu has raised concerns over the disbursement of bursaries worth Sh32.8 million to secondary and tertiary institutions which she said was not supported by documentary evidence including applications forms, approval process, acknowledgement by learning institutions and the list of beneficiaries.

"In the circumstances, the accuracy and validity of Sh17,344,600 and Sh15,484,124 bursary disbursement for the year ending 30th June 2020 could not be confirmed," the report says.

The auditor also said there was irregular purchase of furniture worth Sh3.9 million for Nairobi School yet the Project Management Committee (PMC) was not consulted contrary to section 57 of NG-CDF ACT 2015.

In Naivasha, Gathungu raised queries over what she said was unsupported bursaries of Sh37.3 million out of



Tim Wanyonyi



Jayne Kihara



Otiende Amollo



Mohamed Ali

which Sh18.6 million was not supported by schedules.

"The accuracy and validity of bursary payments included in other grants and transfers amounting to Sh61.6 million could not be confirmed," the report reads.

In addition, Gathungu revealed there was unsupported compensation of employees amounting to Sh2.2 million, unsupported committee expenditures of Sh9.6 million, incomplete 57 projects amounting to Sh82 million as well as anomalies in bank reconciliation.

In Kinangop constituency, Gathungu pointed out anomalies in bursary disbursement to secondary schools amounting to Sh23.1 million out of which there were double payments of Sh259,200 to 30 students bearing the same registration numbers but different names while another Sh34,000 was paid to six students whose admission numbers were missing.

Gathungu also raised concern about stale cheques worth Sh1.9 million, irregular payment of Sh135,000 to non-committee members and irregular payment of committee allowances worth Sh1.3 million.

Other queries are unapproved hospitality suppliers and services expenditure amounting to Sh9 million, irregularities in projects and irregular purchase of a school bus amounting to Sh7.2 million for Heni Secondary School. The money was supposed to purchase a 52-seater school bus but a 46-seater was bought instead.

In Rarieda, Gathungu said there was irregular expenditure of bursary funds amounting to Sh41 million.

She noted that various anomalies were discovered including lack of minutes showing how the students were

identified.

She added that despite bursary payments schedules amounting to Sh5 million being raised, the cheque drawn for the expenditure amounted to Sh5.9 million resulting in

unexplained overpayment of Sh860,332.

In Nyali, Gathungu pointed out irregularities in re-allocation of bursaries totaling to Sh23.2 million.

"There was no evidence that

the re-allocation was approved by the NG-CDF. As a result, the legality of the bursaries to secondary schools balance of Sh23.15 million could not be ascertained," adds the report.

The report says there was doubtful delivery of goods to Kongwea Secondary School meant for fixing of wooden shelves for the library worth Sh624,580 and another payment of Sh800,000 for supply and delivery of office furniture and equipment to Kadzandani Kwa Bulu Post.

In Gatanga constituency, the MP has been named over Sh8.7 million bursaries for needy students in secondary, tertiary and special institutions which could not be ascertained.

In Kasarani, Gathungu questioned bursary disbursements amounting to Sh9.7 million that were not supported with acknowledgement letters from the recipients institutions.

In Kitutu Masaba, she raised queries over the purchase of school buses amounting to Sh22.4 million. The four buses were bought from dealer without ownership documents.

In Molo, the MP is on the spot over disbursement of bursary funds to a private tertiary institution for 216 students to enroll for short courses at a cost of Sh5 million.

She also raised queries about delayed implementation of nine projects worth Sh14.7 million.

Kilimo
NA BIASHARA
WITH LINDAH KOSKEY



FOCUS ON

**FOCUS ON
SUNN HEMP**

**FORAGE AND
SOIL-BUILDING
SUPERHERO**

GATHUNGU REPORT

● In Gatanga constituency, the MP has been named over Sh8.7 million bursaries for needy students in secondary, tertiary and special institutions which could not be ascertained.

● In Kitutu Masaba, she raised queries over the purchase of school buses amounting to Sh22.4 million.

**THIS FRIDAY
AT 8PM**



EDITORIAL

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QUOTED TODAY



“I sent a message to Putin 20 days into the conflict saying I was willing to go to Moscow. We have not yet received a response and we are still insisting, though I fear Putin cannot, and does not, want to have this meeting at this time.”
HEAD OF CATHOLIC CHURCH POPE FRANCIS



“The high percentage of undecided voters in Nairobi could be linked to delays by the coalitions to identify those to carry their flags in the city. Unfamiliarity of some of the candidates could have contributed to the high figure.”
TIFA CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MAGGIE IRERI



“When time comes for Azimio to pick its running-mate may be from Ukambani region, then I stand to be counted. Or what do you think people in Mwingi North and Kitui at large? Am I not a tested politician?”
KITUI GOVERNOR CGHARITY NGILU

Learners mental health needs urgent attention

It is another phase for over 1 million students joining secondary schools starting today. Having satisfactorily completed the initial eight-years, the culmination of which was the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) exam, the students are now set to join a higher level of education.

The four years in secondary schools is a critical stage for every learner. Unlike primary schools, which involve basic learning on physical, mental and internal growth, secondary school is about developing learners for higher education.

Here, learners are, among other things, moulded to know their career paths and to become responsible people beyond secondary school life. It is also a critical time for parents to be on the look out for their teenagers because peer pressure is at the highest at secondary school level.

In the last few years, the effects of what is believed to be peer pressure have been evident in most secondary schools.

Quite a number of schools have reported cases of unrest, with parents having to pay so much to rebuild what students destroy as they protest.

Mental health problems are not a problem for adults or those in society with enormous responsibilities only. Teachers and parents alike should be involved in the non-academic life of these learners to identify tell-tale signs of mental issues and address them in time to forestall disasters.

As they get to their new environment, we urge learners to concentrate on what is required of them, to maintain the highest level of discipline.

This also goes out to all secondary school learners, there is a lot to learn with little time so it will be easier to deliver if they cooperate.

The 2022 calendar year is one of the shortest there ever has been in the school's history so there is no time to waste. The packed diary will also come with its share of pressure so managing the stresses is also of paramount importance.

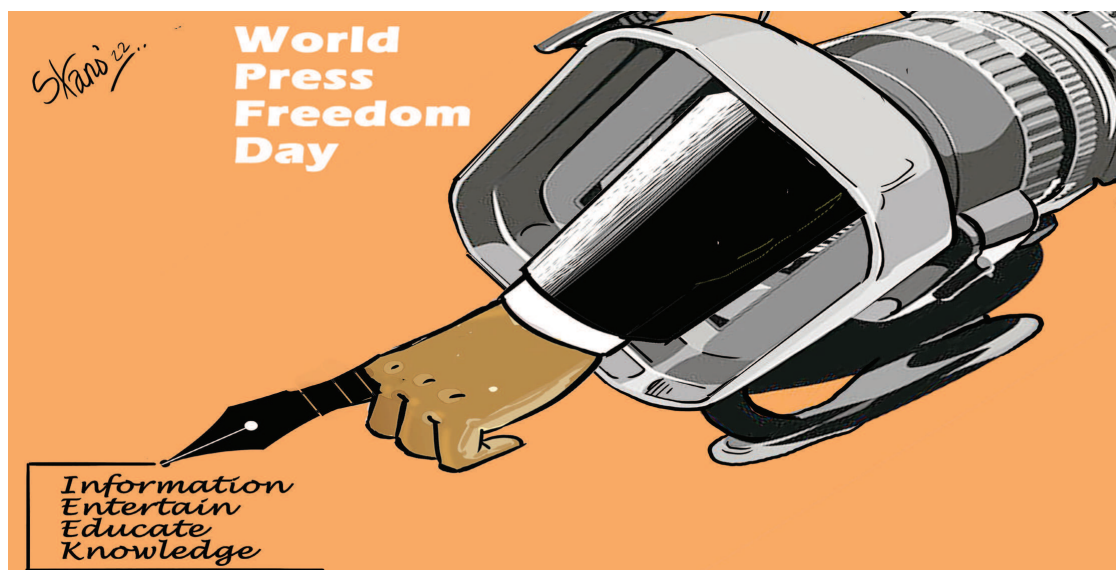
Everybody goes to school alone and will leave alone. Learners come from different backgrounds and focus should be about empowering themselves for a better future.

They also should remember that acts of criminality in school will come to haunt and dent their careers in the future. All stakeholders including teachers, parents and spiritual leaders are asked to join hands to instill good values in children. Learners should be careful not to yield to peer pressure. Remember that time lost cannot be recovered.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

JASMINE WARGA

“What people never understand is that depression isn't about the outside; it's about the inside”



Productive jobs role in improving quality of life

The recent Labour Day celebrations took me back to my business studies classes, specifically on the four factors of production – land, labour, capital and entrepreneurship. These factors are essential resources needed to produce goods and services – they are the building blocks of the economy.

Today, I would like to focus on labour. According to the Principles of economy by the University of Minnesota, labour refers to human effort that can be applied to produce goods and services.

Whereas the celebrations recognise the country's workers for their commitment towards growing our economy, I am reminded of the need for Kenya to create productive jobs for all. Productive jobs yield sufficient returns to workers, allowing them and their dependants a level of consumption above the poverty level, according to the International Labour Organisation.

This is what the manufacturing sector offers. Primarily, the sector is the guaranteed provider of productive, sustainable jobs. Manufacturing has the ability to create new jobs as well as grow existing ones through forward and backward linkages, to 'feed' other sectors of the economy. The growth of productive jobs by manufacturing means that many people will be able to support their dependants and live quality lives with access to basic amenities such as healthcare, education, clean water and food.

The Manufacturing Manifesto by Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) highlights the need to secure the country's growth that creates jobs for Kenyans.



PHYLLIS WAKIAGA

“Growing the quantum of manufacturing jobs is very important”

Unfortunately, Kenya's manufacturing sector is faced with a double conundrum - while the nominal value of output is growing, the sectoral contribution to the overall Gross Domestic Product is falling. Secondly, the share of formal employment in the manufacturing sector is stagnant.

Growing the quantum of manufacturing jobs is important because it provides an avenue for decent wages in addition to ensuring that labour productivity is raised. Granted that the Kenyan economy has sufficient labour reserves, manufacturing sector priority and the country converges in expanding jobs in the sector.

We cannot speak of job creation without increasing women's participation in traditionally male-dominated sectors, such as manufacturing. According to a Women in Manufacturing Report in Kenya, 2020, companies in the manufacturing sector are predominantly male-owned and staffed across all subsectors. The number of young women in manufacturing is even lower. This is attributed to the lack of capital finance, appropriate business development services, and the absence of specialised professional and technical human resources. Additionally, biases

and stereotypes, and gender-neutral laws and policies hinder the participation of women in the sector. On the other hand, some women-owned businesses are stuck in the informal economy and are unable to formalize for sustainability.

When it comes to the growth of industry, it is apparent that women's role is invaluable. Their participation does not only increase their agency as individuals in the economic development of any country but also, encourages the proliferation of other women into starting businesses or monetizing their talents.

Increasing participation of women in manufacturing calls for a deliberate effort to review specific laws, that affect the manufacturing sector through a gender lens and create guidelines for gender-responsive implementation. On the other hand, STEM awareness campaigns aimed at girls and young women shall encourage them to take up STEM subjects and join TVET or other skills-based course.

Public policy dialogue that is integrative, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of women in manufacturing is paramount. KAM continues to advocate for company policies that encourage women's participation industry.

We are all invested in increasing the quality of life for all citizens in the country, but we must apply measures that are sustainable and guarantee long-term benefits for our country. Productive jobs have a critical role to play towards this.

—The writer is the CEO of Kenya Association of Manufacturers—ceo@kam.co.ke

Celebrate that silent 'chief executive' in your office

Every waking day of an administrative professional bursts with duties that pull you in all directions. It is often difficult to describe how a typical day would look like because of the different and often-unforeseen challenges faced.

Our tasks vary from day to day and work revolves around all departments, so we brush shoulders with almost everyone in the workplace. From the receptionist to the transport and travel desk, the finance and human resources team, and from procurement facilities. And administration to security and office cleaners. Despite its broad nature the administrative profession continues to evolve and has become more demanding as one is obligated to handle tasks that may be over and above the job description.

The modern-day misconception is that working in an administrative role means you are only an assistant or just a secretary. Well, that is far from the truth! An administrative position can be fulfilling and a legitimate career choice. Administrative professionals are the foundation of the organisation, they enable each team member get the job done and serve as a liaison between the supervisor and the rest of the team. An administrative professional is a critical part of any team—they are often considered the glue that binds



WINNIE OPONDO

The profession is evolving, and we are by all measures management professionals

everyone together.

I am fortunate enough to know my team members, and this has helped me build my relationships and work well with others. I have watched my team come together during the life of the project. I must say we have gelled well. Listening helps me learn, and has helped me understand my team-mate's strengths and weaknesses to better support them. What's more, I know trust is the glue that holds relationships together. But wait, does administrative support end at that? There is more!

To succeed in any career, one needs dedication, a positive attitude, and a profound desire to learn and improve. The ever-evolving administrative support profession requires relieving the supervisor and the team of tasks, especially procedures that do not require their involvement. Organisations are now moving at such a speed that flexibility is becoming a real sought-after skill. Get yourself in a mindset that allows for constant change. Whether it means having the ability to overcome stress or simply to adjust to changes quickly. Work-

ing with partners means working with their schedules. While planning partner meetings, you can undertake all processes to the end only to receive a cancellation or postponement. Quite usual with government-involved activities! Sometimes, you face tight timelines and last-minute requests that require you to move at extraordinary speed. At the end, you make it happen!

Working with people makes you an influencer to colleagues, organisation and stakeholders. They ask for your opinion and rely on you for guidance. Administrative professionals need to align their goals with the team and organisation and work well with people. We need to see ourselves as part of a team and cultivate skills like advising, collaboration, communication, empathy, flexibility, negotiating, patience and trustworthiness.

Successful administrative professionals have a good grasp of the daily office operations and assume an extensive range of responsibilities and initiatives. They are multifaceted, versatile and understand organisational

goals while building strategic and trusted partnerships with everyone in the organisation. They often make important decisions like purchasing, advising managers on budgets, activities and proposing measures for better projects management. The administration goes beyond secretarial duties.

The profession is evolving, and we are by all measures management professionals. It is no longer only administrative tasks but strategic partners with supervisors and teams. Remember you are a boss in your own somewhat invisible space. You are a silent chief executive and you must be ready for change!

In 1952, the US Secretary of Commerce Charles Sawyer, proclaimed June 4 as the National Secretaries Week, also known as Administrative Professionals Day or Secretaries Day or Admin Day. The annual celebration every Wednesday of the last week of April, recognises all administrative professionals who work silently and diligently behind the scenes to ensure the office is organised and efficient.

Happy Administrative Professionals Day all!

— The writer is an administrative professional at the African Population and Health Research Centre

Get immunised, give your system a fighting chance

The world marked World Immunisation Week last week, which presents us the opportunity to remind ourselves of the lessons learnt from the Covid-19 pandemic.

The crisis could provide useful lessons for longer-term change to build greater resilience in the systems that support well-being over time.

When vaccination services are disrupted, even during emergencies, the risk of vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks increases. Without vaccines, outbreaks of the diseases may result in increased illness, worsen malnutrition and even deaths among children and further burden the health system already under pressure due to Covid.

Official data by WHO and UN International Children's Emergency Fund (Unicef) shows a majority of countries experienced drops in childhood vaccination rates in 2020 due to global service disruptions caused by the pandemic. With many resources and personnel diverted to support the Covid response, there were significant disruptions to immunisation service provision in many parts of the world.

Without the relevant vaccinations, outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases may result in increased illness, deteriorating malnutrition and even deaths among children. This will, in turn, place a greater burden on the health system.

According to WHO director-gen-



ANNE DEMBAH

Immunisation will ensure you will have protection available against a number of diseases

eral Tedros Ghebreyesus, it is more urgent than ever to invest in childhood vaccination to ensure every child is reached, as multiple disease outbreaks would be catastrophic for communities and health systems battling Covid.

Community Acquired Pneumonia (CAP) exerts a substantial burden on older adults, with incidence rates varying from about 200 to 7,000 cases for every 100,000 people in some countries. CAP is a serious disease that has a large impact on both the healthcare system and individuals and is by far more common in sub-Saharan Africa than in Europe or North America.

A rise in the aging population in Kenya is increasing the need for pneumococcal adult vaccination. The most common risk factors for acquiring CAP and invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD) included Diabetes mellitus, alcohol misuse disorders, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, smoking, cancer, cerebrovascular disease, chronic kidney disease and HIV infection.

The comorbidities and risk factors are on the rise in the Kenyan adult

population. Having two or more comorbid conditions drastically increases the incidence of pneumococcal CAP.

The incidence of pneumococcal pneumonia among adults is often underestimated as many affected people are treated outside of a hospital setting, and it is challenging to collect samples to identify the cause of the infection.

Even within the hospital, diagnosing what is causing the infection can still be difficult.

While children need immunisation, it is clear that adults need protection too, whether it is in the form of an annual flu vaccine or where they may be at risk of vaccine-preventable diseases as a result of their age, job, lifestyle, travel or health conditions.

And, let's face it, adults with busy lives do not want to be laid low by an illness that could have been prevented as this could mean missed work, high medical bills and not being able to fulfil their day-to-day commitments.

Immunisation against infectious diseases, prevents deaths every year in all age groups from diseases

like diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), influenza and measles. It is one of the most successful and cost-effective public health interventions.

Vaccines work with your body's natural defenses to help you safely develop immunity to disease. This lowers your chances of getting certain diseases and suffering from their complications.

You have a busy life and too much responsibility as an adult to risk getting sick. Vaccines can help you stay healthy so you don't miss work. If you can avoid getting sick, you will have more time for your family, friends and hobbies.

Adults need to keep their vaccinations up to date because immunity from childhood vaccines can wear off over time. You are also at risk for different diseases as an adult. Remember, vaccines are used to boost your immune system and prevent serious, life-threatening diseases.

Even though getting the necessary vaccines during the pandemic may seem challenging at times, getting recommended vaccines can give you some peace of mind.

You will have protection available against a number of serious diseases. Give your immune system a fighting chance.

— The writer is Pfizer Kenya Country Manager and East Africa Cluster Lead

ODDLY ENOUGH



Britain probes 'fake priest' breach near queen's castle

The British army has launched an investigation after reports a man, pretending to be a priest, spent a night at a barracks with soldiers tasked with protecting Queen Elizabeth near her Windsor Castle home.

It was reported the imposter was allowed onto the barracks of the Coldstream Guards without showing any credentials or identifiable documents and later ate, drank and shared stories with soldiers.

The queen was not in during the incident which took place last Wednesday.

"The army takes this breach of security extremely seriously and it will be thoroughly investigated as a matter of priority," a Ministry of Defence spokesperson said. "This incident is now part of an ongoing investigation and would be therefore inappropriate to comment further at this time."

The Coldstream Guards are a serving infantry regiment in the British Army whose responsibilities include the ceremonial role of protecting royal palaces.

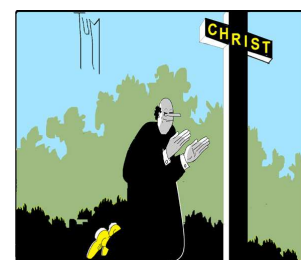
The queen returned from a short break at her Sandringham home last Wednesday but Buckingham Palace said she was not present at Windsor at the time the man was escorted from the barracks.

A palace spokesman said the incident was a matter for the defence ministry.

The man had claimed to be a priest and told officers he was a friend of a member of the battalion's chaplain. He was then invited in and had something to eat and drink and proceeded to tell lots of "tall stories".

Suspicion about his identity began to be raised when he "started talking about how he had worked as an ejector-seat test pilot and had some organs replaced".

—Agencies



TRUTHIS: A wise man only bows at the cross.

BALLOT 2022

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Governor to defend post as an independent candidate

By Hillary Mageka
@hillarymageka

Wajir Governor Mohamed Abdi Mohamud will defend his seat as an independent candidate after the Jubilee Party gave the ticket to his rival, Dr Mohamed Hassan Adam.

Hassan thanked the people of Wajir county for backing him. "This is a great honour for me," said the 60-year-old gynecologist.

"If elected, we will offer much-needed services to the people," he added.

Hassan, a proprietor of Nairobi South Hospital, promised to re-write the political narrative of Wajir county.

However, Governor Abdi claims the method used by the party to award the ticket to his rival was flawed.

He said: "I wish to express my utmost dissatisfaction with the outcome. I will contest the seat as an independent candidate".

Strong line-up

The county chief said the voters would have the final say. "We will unveil a strong formidable, all-inclusive line-up that will ensure our victory on 9 August 2022," he said.

"If Jubilee has not recognized that they have denied the ticket to the strongest candidate, then it is their loss. I am saying farewell to Jubilee. I will go to the people of Wajir as an independent," he said.

He said Jubilee issued its ticket to his rival without informing him in advance.

Sumra laments Azimio zoning of city

by Derek Otieno

Former MP Irshad Sumra (right) cuts a forlorn figure. Holding an affidavit and a lawyer's card, the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) stalwart is frustrated by recent goings-on.

His comeback bid has been stopped in its tracks by a zoning move by Azimio La Umoja principals. He cannot run in his favoured Embakasi South constituency. "I am frustrated. I am disturbed. I have spent so much money and time and it is frustrating that zoning has taken place," says Sumra at a lawyer's office in Agip House, Nairobi.

His prayers for a bid to capture his old seat hang on a decision by Wiper Party to reject zoning in Nairobi. The party, led by Nairobi



chairman Roy Kivusyu, has opposed a decision by the Azimio Coalition to zone Nairobi.

Speaking at Sagret Hotel, Kivusyu said the move undermines the spirit of democracy and Wiper stands to lose. He was flanked by Nairobi MP aspirants Ben Milai from Mathare, Fred Akech (Makadara), Tabitha Muteru (Kasarani) and Joash Ongwae (Embakasi East). Others included Nairobi MCAs aspirants.

He said the Kamba commu-

nity is the second largest voting bloc in Nairobi and cannot be relegated to a few seats. In the zoning, Wiper was allocated Embakasi South seat, with Julius Mawathe as its candidate.

In the Azimio line-up, ODM has bagged Mathare under MP Anthony Oluoch, Embakasi East (Paul Ongili), Ruaraka (TJ Kijwang), Makadara (George Aladwa) and Westlands (Tim Wanyonyi). From Jubilee, Roysambu will be contested by Ndirangu Waihenya, Kasarani (Mercy Gakuya), Kamukunji (Abdi Yusuf Hassan), Dagoretti South (Dennis Waweru), Embakasi North (Harrison Wangoro), Embakasi West (Mark Mwenje), Embakasi Central John Ndirangu and Starehe (Amos Mwango).

Nyamira governor seat attracts eight contestants

Clannism expected to play a role in the polls, pitting the Abagetutu against the Abagirango

by Evans Nyakundi
@PeopleDailyKe

The race for Nyamira County governorship has gained momentum, with clannism set to play a major role in determining the winner.

Governor Amos Nyaribo will be seeking re-election on the Progressive Alliance Party (UPA) after he ditched Amani National Congress (ANC), which sponsored his candidature in the last General Election.

Other aspirants are Walter Osebe Nyambati (UDA), Ben Momanyi (Wiper), Timothy Bosire (ODM), Joseph Kiangoi (ANC), Reuben Marwanga (Kanu), Mwancha Okioma (Jubilee) and James Kemoni (PNU).

Five of the eight aspirants have already named their running mates.

Dropped ambition

Nyaribo has picked former West Mugirango MP James Gesami as his deputy, while Nyambati has named Ereneo Nyakiba after the latter dropped his governorship ambition.

Momanyi, who is the Borabu MP, has settled on Tom Otuto from West Mugirango.

For the past 10 years, Otuto has contested the seat unsuccessfully.

Kiangoi, who is a former North Mugirango MP and assistant minister for Local Government, has picked banker and entrepreneur Julius Mokogi as his running mate.

"My deputy and I have wide experience in both the national government and the corporate world. Given a chance, Nyamira will shine," Kiangoi told his supporters.

Okioma, who contested the seat in the last polls but lost to John Nyagarama (deceased), has settled on Moi University lecturer Charles Nyandusi as his deputy. Those yet to



The headquarters of Nyamira County. A number of county employees have ganged up against Governor Amos Nyaribo after he attempted to demote them five months ago. PD/FILE

name their running mates include Bosire, Marwanga and Kemoni.

Clannism is expected to play a central role in the contest. The county has two main clans: Abagetutu and Abagirango. Twice, the Abagirango have outdone the Abagetutu, with the election of Nyagarama.

Nyaribo, Momanyi, Kiangoi, Kemoni and Marwanga are from Bogirango clan while Nyambati, Bosire and Okioma are from Bogetutu. Interviews revealed that Nyaribo, Nyambati, Momanyi, Bosire and Okioma are the front-runners.

Disappointment over chaotic primaries — which made some aspirants become independent candidates, could also tilt the contest.

Nyambati (UDA) and Bosire (ODM) have urged residents to reject aspirants trumpeting the clan factor. Addressing boda boda riders at Rangenyo in West Mugirango constituency on Monday, Nyambati accused Nyaribo of fanning clannism.

"Elect leaders based on competence and performance; not on clan lines," Nyambati told the riders.

Bosire echoed the sentiments, saying clan politics had adversely affected development in the county.

"We are asking our people to discard clannism. Reject leaders dividing the county," Bosire said.

Nyaribo's administration is also accused of investing resources from

Nyamira in nearby Kisii county.

"We need a governor who can change the culture where workers take money from Nyamira to invest in other counties. Some county workers are also operating from Kisii, affecting service delivery", resident John Ogwora said.

Big task ahead

Governor Nyaribo has a big task of convincing residents to re-elect him following accusations of mismanagement of county resources and poor health services. A number of county employees have also ganged up against him after he attempted to demote them five months ago.

Members of the county assembly also accuse him of failure to release bursary funds in time. "We are asking the governor to release the money in a week, failing which we will tell beneficiaries to camp outside his office," said Duke Masira, the county's majority leader.

But Nyaribo blamed the national Treasury for the delay. "We received the money two weeks ago and are currently disbursing the funds to various institutions," Nyaribo said.

He added that MCAs take too long to submit the required information on the beneficiaries. "The MCAs are not honest. They are merely inciting the public against my administration," he said.

RACE FOR KEY POST

● The main aspirants are Amos Nyaribo (UPA), Walter Nyambati (UDA), Ben Momanyi (Wiper), Timothy Bosire (ODM), Joseph Kiangoi (ANC), Reuben Marwanga (Kanu), Mwancha Okioma (Jubilee) and James Kemoni (PNU).

● Five of them have already named their running mates.



Man, 71, trounces 14 youthful aspirants in UDA Nandi ward poll

by Wycliff Kipsang
@wsang09

A 71-year-old won the first round of the battle for Member of County Assembly (MCA) seat after he trounced 14 aspirants in Nandi county in the just-concluded United Democratic Alliance (UDA) polls.

Raymond Chelule could be the oldest MCA in Deputy President William Ruto's North Rift backyard if he wins the August 9 elections.

Poverty alleviation

In an interview with *People Daily*, Chelule said his main agenda for Songo/Sovo Ward would be to improve the infrastructure. "I would also focus on poverty alleviation, which is a key agenda of UDA's bottom-up economic model. My priority would be the youth," Chelule said.

"Creating employment is a way of empowering the people. Even if one is not formally employed, one can do other things to benefit oneself," he added.

His political journey started with an appeal to the grassroots to back his vision.

"I did not give the electorate anything. They just saw

the potential in me. I will not let them down," he said.

In 1997, he unsuccessfully contested the Tinderet parliamentary seat against former powerful cabinet minister Henry Kosgey, on the Raila Odinga-led National Democratic Party (NDP). Kosgey was on a Kanu ticket.

"I made a big political statement then since Kanu was in power and it was difficult to be elected on an opposition ticket," he said.

Chelule cleared a Bachelor of Science degree course at Makerere University (Uganda) in 1975 and worked at Chemelil Sugar Company for eight years and Miwani Sugar for another eight years.

He then moved to Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) for six years before plunging into politics after being approached by NDP.

"Although Kosgey carried the day, my supporters had hope in me," he recalls.

He came second in the election after garnering 10,000 votes against Kosgey's 24,000 votes.

"I had a sizeable number of voters despite the party I was in at the time," says Chelule, who also wants to improve the early childhood development (ECD) sector.



A woman reacts to a yellow fever vaccine jab during a recent drive by the government to mitigate against the spread of the disease. PD/FILE

Government fights yellow fever attack in 12 NEP counties

Eleven people have so far died since the disease was first reported

by Mathew Ndung'u
@PeopleDailyKE

The government is fighting the outbreak of yellow fever in at least 12 counties in northern Kenya.

Ministry of Health says 11 people have so far died while at least 90 suspected cases have been reported over the last two months.

Dr Emmanuel Okunga, the head of the division of disease surveillance and response, says the high-risk counties are Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Elgeyo Marakwet, Garissa, Tana River, Meru, West Pokot and Mandera, Turkana, Wajir and Baringo.

Okunga said the country, which has not experienced an outbreak of yellow fever since the 1990s, detected the first case around January in Merti, Isiolo, which has been hardest hit, and since then, more than 90 cases have been identified presenting with symptoms of yellow eyes, yellow urine, severe bleeding through the nose, mouth and any other opening, and failure of body organs such as kidneys, lungs and liver.

He says although most infected individuals may not exhibit any symptom, those lucky enough to manifest them will experience headache, fever, jaundice, muscles and joint pains.

Yellow fever is described by medics as an acute viral hemorrhagic disease transmitted by

infected mosquitoes. Mosquitoes mostly draw the infection from primates.

"The hardest hit sub county is Merti in Isiolo where herders congregate and interact with primates, particularly baboons along the Ewaso Ng'iro basin. The disease is usually transmitted by mosquitoes from baboons to human beings," says Dr Okunga.

Human transmission

The disease is also transmitted from humans to humans via the mosquito, which sucks up the virus and then hands it on when it bites someone for a blood meal.

Okunga assures that the risk of further spread was low as the outbreak was in a sparsely populated region.

"Because of the demographics of Isiolo, in terms of the number of people and how people are widely spread apart, it makes it a little easy to control," he states.

Okunga says that they had to move fast because any delay would have likely seen the disease spreading to other

counties and thereby leading to Kenyans travelling to other countries being subjected to production of yellow vaccination certificates as a requirement for entry.

To contain the situation, Dr Okunga told the *People Daily*, the Ministry has dispatched a team to spray, undertake epidemiological investigations and to identify the affected individuals wherever they are and when they got infected.

The government has also requested for yellow fever vaccines from the World Health Organisation (WHO) in order to heighten vaccination in the 12 affected counties.

WHO advises that yellow fever is prevented by an extremely effective vaccine, which is safe and affordable. A single dose of yellow fever is sufficient to grant sustained immunity and life-long protection against the disease.

A booster dose of the vaccine, WHO says, is rarely ever needed since the vaccine provides effective immunity within 10 days for 80-100 percent of people vaccinated and within 30 days for more than 99 percent of people vaccinated.

Other than spraying and epidemiological investigations, the Ministry is also engaging local communities on how to differentiate yellow fever from other related diseases in order to combat and prevent it.

"A team from WHO is already in the country to assess the situation and offer their expertise. We are also working with county governments and several government agencies to contain the situation," said Okunga who also assured that the Ministry has effectively managed the outbreak.

AT A GLANCE

● The Ministry of Health says 11 people have so far died while at least 90 suspected cases have been reported

● Counties affected include Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Elgeyo Marakwet, Garissa, Tana River, Meru, West Pokot and Mandera, Turkana, Wajir and Baringo.

● The government has also requested for yellow fever vaccines from the World Health Organisation (WHO)

National Environment Management Authority

Popo Road, off Mombasa Road
P.O. Box 67839-00200, Nairobi, Kenya, Tel: 0724 253398, 0735 013046
E-mail: dgnema@nema.go.ke Website: www.nema.go.ke

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC TO SUBMIT COMMENTS ON AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF AN OIL AND GAS STORAGE DEPOT ON PLOT L.R. NO. 149107 AT VIWANDANI LOCATION, MAKADARA SUB COUNTY, NAIROBI COUNTY

Pursuant to Regulation 21 of the Environmental Management and Coordination (Impact Assessment and Audit) Regulations, 2003, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has received an Environmental Impact Assessment Study Report for the above proposed project.

The proponent, Makadara Oil Terminal Limited (MOTL), proposes to construct an Oil and Gas Storage Depot comprising of 6No. of above-ground Storage Tanks with a capacity of 12000M³ totalling to 72,000M³, 4 No. LPG bullet tanks of each capacity of 70 metric tonnes 280 Metric Tonnes, Loading/offloading gantries, Depot warehousing facility, Pumps/pumping areas, Administration buildings, Fire-fighting infrastructure, Server rooms, Weighbridge, Truck parking, Rail siding, Drainage system and associated Infrastructure.

The following are the anticipated impacts and proposed mitigation measures:

Impacts	Proposed Mitigation Measure
LPG, Fuel Oil, Gasoline & Gas Oil Fires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic location of Fire Fighting equipment at the depot. Provision of functional firefighting equipment at the depot Compliance to Nairobi County requirements on firefighting including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of periodic maintenance firefighting appliances. Conducting an annual fire safety audit, and Display of a fire clearance certificate at site. Conducting regular emergency drills to include but not limited to fire fighting and response. Maintaining an Electrical maintenance Plan. Marking and checking to ensure all fire escape routes are available and clear at all times. Having a marked Fire Assembly Point at the depot. Fighting procedures for various depot fires. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small fires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any extinguisher suitable for Class B fires, dry chemical, CO₂, water spray, fire-fighting foam or Halon. Large fires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water spray, fog or fire-fighting foam. Water may be ineffective for fire-fighting, but may be used to cool fire-exposed containers. Fire-fighting foam is suitable for polar solvents with >10% oxygenate concentration. Isolate area around a container involved in fire. Cool tanks, shells and containers exposed to fire and excessive heat with water. For huge fires the use of unmanned hose or monitor nozzles may be advantageous to minimize personnel exposure. Major fires may require withdrawal, allowing the tank to burn. Large storage tank fires require specially trained personnel and equipment to extinguish the fire with the need for properly applied fire-fighting techniques.
Occupational Health and Safety Risks; Incidents and Accidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration of all workplaces by the Director, Directorate of Occupational Health and Safety (DOHSS) For fire and safety the Contractor, should ensure the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place portable fire extinguishers at suitable locations. Training all staff on fire safety policy and procedures/fire marshals. Clearly mark all fire exits within the site. Place fire extinguishers in strategic areas within the station. Provide all workers with the necessary protective gears. Ensure all workers are in protective gears all the time when on site. Designate and mark smoking areas. Provide enough first aid kits within the project site. Train workers in administering first aid. Label all potential hazards such as movable machine parts. Raise awareness and educating workers on risks from equipment and training them on the use of the equipment. Placing visible and readable signs around where there are risks. Ensuring security in and around the site to control the movement of people. Providing safe and secure storage for equipment and materials in the site. Placing visible and readable signs to control the movement of vehicles and notify motorists and pedestrians around the site, and workers in the site.
Increased Solid Waste Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following EIA/CA regulations on Waste Management, Legal Notice 121 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of an integrated solid waste management system like: Source reduction; Recycling; Reuse; and Land filling/Backfilling. Using waste minimization techniques like buying required quantities in bulk. Identifying all sources of wastes, and ensuring wastes are handled by licensed personnel. Making available suitable facilities for the collection, segregation and safe disposal of the wastes. All construction materials left over at the end of construction should be used in other projects or sold. Ensure proper handling and storage of construction materials to reduce damage.
Soil Geology, Degradation and Soil Erosion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use properly maintained hoses and fittings. Make the cement screeds in all the chambers using water proof material. Install a monitoring well next to the tanks to check on leaks. Use water finding dipstick and/or a hydrometer to check on density/specific gravity. Ensure there is no oil spills, leaks during refilling and when offloading the fuel. Excavated materials should be removed promptly from the site to avoid erosion. Unnecessary movement of soil materials from the site. Control activities especially during rainy and windy conditions. Regular sprinkling of water to reduce dust. Landscape after completion of the depot with appropriate local vegetation. Apply soil erosion control measures including Control speed and operation of construction vehicles; Sprinkle water on excavated areas; Maintenance of construction equipment; All bare areas should be landscaped after. Provide workers with dust masks if working on sensitive areas.
Hydrology, Drainage and Storm-water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A well-drained area should be identified for parking, servicing and maintenance of the vehicles and equipment. Observe appropriate disposal procedures for oils and lubricants. Provide drainage channels should during construction to minimize any possible water logging. Provide a segregated drainage system where water contaminated with oils drains to instead of draining into the open storm drains. Water contaminated should be directed into the oil-water separator from where it should be treated before it is released to the rest of the drainage system. An interceptor tank made up of reinforced concrete walls and floor shall be constructed and its inner walls shall be plastered with water proof cement. (Each chamber shall have a manhole with a reinforced concrete cover). The used oil tank will have a concrete wall which will be able to contain the net products of used oil. Its plinth shall be sloped towards the Oil-Water separator for treatment. The drainage system should ensure that surface flow is drained suitably into the public drains provided to control flooding within the site. The channels should be covered with gratings or other suitable and approved materials to prevent occurrence of accidents and entry dirt that would compromise flow of run-off. The drainage channels should ensure the safe final disposal of run off/surface water and should be self-cleaning which means it should have a suitable gradient. Implementation of roof water harvesting.
Air/Dust Pollution and Exhaust Emission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid excavation works in extremely dry weathers. Personal protective equipment to be worn. Post signs that limit vehicles speed onto unpaved roads and over disturbed soils. Cover stockpiles of sand, soil and similar materials or surround them with wind breaks. Ensure strict enforcement of on-site speed limit regulations. Sprinkle water on access routes when necessary to reduce dust generation by construction vehicles. Ensure strict enforcement of on-site speed limit regulations. Sprinkle water on graded access routes whenever necessary to reduce dust generation by construction vehicles. Enclosing the structures under construction with dust proof nets. Using efficient machines with low emission technologies for the ones that burn fossil fuels. Regular maintenance and services of machines and engines. Use of clean fuels e.g. unleaded and de-sulphurized fuels. Educate and raise awareness of construction workers on emission reduction techniques.
Noise and Vibrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complying with the EMCA noise regulation Legal Notice 61 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prescribe noise reduction measures if appropriate e.g. restricted working hours, transport hours and noise buffering. Consult with the surrounding community on the permissible noise levels and best working hours. Use best available technology. Sensitize construction vehicle drivers and machinery operators to switch off engines of vehicles or machinery not being used. Ensure that construction machinery is serviced and kept in good condition to reduce noise generation. Observe normal working hours during noisy construction works (0800 to 1700) hours. Ensure that all generators and heavy duty equipment are insulated or placed in enclosures. Construction workers to wear ear muffs if working in noisy condition.
Above-ground Fuel Storage and Handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use properly maintained hoses and fittings. Make the cement screeds in all the chambers using water proof material. Install a monitoring well next to the tanks to check on leaks. Use water finding dipstick and/or a hydrometer to check on density/specific gravity. Ensure no spills during refilling and/or when offloading the fuel. Drill a borehole. Ensure that water is sourced from a sustainable source and from licensed water vendors. Recycling waste water and using it for other purposes Provide information signs on means and needs to conserve Promote re-cycling and re-use of water as much as possible. Sensitize the occupants to conserve water by avoiding unnecessary wastage. Detect and repair broken pipes promptly. Install roof gutters and installing water storage tanks to collect and harvest rain water. Avoid unnecessary toilet flushing.
Increased water demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that water is sourced from a sustainable source and from licensed water vendors. Recycling waste water and using it for other purposes Provide information signs on means and needs to conserve Promote re-cycling and re-use of water as much as possible. Sensitize the occupants to conserve water by avoiding unnecessary wastage. Detect and repair broken pipes promptly. Install roof gutters and installing water storage tanks to collect and harvest rain water. Avoid unnecessary toilet flushing.
Community Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instill good public relation between the proponent, contractor and the community. Erect and maintain relevant information boards including approvals and consultants of the proposed depot facility. Keep a 'Complaints Register' on Site. Continuous community and stakeholder engagement. The proponent to develop a Grievance Redress System accessible to all stakeholders.

The full report of the proposed project is available for inspection during working hours at:

- Principal Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, NHIF Building, 12th Floor, Ragati Road, Upper Hill, P.O. BOX 30128-00100, NAIROBI
- Director General, NEMA, Popo Road, off Mombasa Road, P.O. BOX 67839-00200, NAIROBI
- County Director of Environment, NAIROBI COUNTY

A copy of the EIA report can be downloaded at www.nema.go.ke
NEMA invites members of the public to submit oral or written comments within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice to the Director General, NEMA, to assist the Authority in the decision-making process for this project. Kindly quote ref. no. NEMA/EIA/5/21963.
Comments can also be e-mailed to dgnema@nema.go.ke

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Energy experts differ over effects of Russia gas supply cut

by Herald Aloo
@heraldaloo

Russia has threatened to cut off gas supply to "unfriendly" countries that fail to pay in Russian currency (rubles) in the latest retaliatory tactic to survive financial sanction by the European Union (EU), setting the stage that further constrains the already expensive liquid petroleum gas (LPG) sector.

The standoff brings two challenges; how to pay Russia gas without compromising EU sanctions and how to source alternative supplies to end dependence on Russia. Russia is the second leading producer of natural gas globally after the

United States, supplying about 40 percent of gas needed by EU countries.

Kenya, however, might not be affected directly as it imports cooking gas from gulf countries through the Tanzania and Mombasa facilities with local experts giving mixed reactions owed to the country's unregulated LPG sector.

Cutting off access to the vital Russia gas is expected to exacerbate gas shortage, piling pressure on gas prices as affected big economies scramble for the limited supply, argues John Kirimi, financial analyst at Sterling Investment.

"If Russia withdraws its gas from the market, then the effect will be

a global shortage and the current price hike is going to worsen," says Kirimi.

Powell Maimba, an expert in the energy sector is, however, upbeat that the gas supply cut by Russia will not affect the Kenyan gas landed cost unless there is disruption of global gas production.

Supply system

"The Ukraine factor is already included in the current pricing. Even before the war there was a gas shortage that shot up the prices. So, the main cause of hiked prices is the global supply system and infrastructure, the demand and supply kind of a situation," says Maimba.

Unlike Diesel, fuel, and Kerosene, LPG prices are not controlled by the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA), giving room for LPG monopoly that has left households heaving under hiked cooking gas prices. Linus Gitonga, an ex-commissioner at Energy and Regulatory Commission (now EPRA) concurs with Maimba, arguing that price volatility is not caused by a single driving force.

"It is very difficult to pinpoint if one factor contributes to price changes. Despite the war, we are currently expecting the prices of cooking gas to start going down at the end of the month due to market forces," says Gitonga.



Kenya plans to tap Japanese expertise to spur production

Minister Maina says plans are in place to leverage experts in health, transport and energy sector to boost local production systems

by Jacktone Lawi
@PeopleDailyKe

Kenya is banking on Japanese expertise in the health, transport and energy sector to spur local production systems as the Asian country continues to sink more money into the economy.

Industrialisation Cabinet Secretary Betty Maina said the two countries will leverage the private sector to expand growth in the region. This comes in the backdrop of increased assistance making Kenya the largest recipient of Japan's Development Assistance in sub-Saharan Africa.

"Africa Free Continental Trade Area (Af-CFTA) is one of the successful flagship projects of the African Union's Agenda 2063. It presents vast opportunities for mega projects, that can be undertaken between Africa and Japan," Maina said.

The CS was speaking on the sidelines of the second Japan-Africa Public-Private Economic Forum held in Nairobi yesterday.

State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan Hosoda Kenichi announced that Japan will focus on, among others: support for Japanese companies expanding their businesses with the aim of solving social issues including those in healthcare, finance and green in Africa.

He said this will be done by utilising digital technology and promoting business collaboration between Japanese companies and overseas startups/companies through J-Partnership as well as J-Bridge, initiatives newly extended to Africa.

National Treasury's budget estimates for the financial year starting July listed Japan as the largest source of bilateral loans and grants, leapfrogging China which has been the biggest financier for nearly a decade.

Beijing is projected to lend Kenya

Economy

Projects

Industrialisation Cabinet Secretary Betty Maina says Africa Free Continental Trade Area is one of the successful flagship projects of the African Union's Agenda 2063, adding that it presents vast opportunities for mega projects, that can be undertaken between Africa and Japan

Loans

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Businesses

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Sh29.46 billion for the fiscal year 2022/23, a sharp cutback from Sh140.03 billion in the 2015/16 budget.

Improve connectivity

The completion of the infrastructure has the potential to drastically improve connectivity with the Northern Corridor, promoting trade, investment and new industries.

MAINA

The two countries will leverage the private sector to expand growth in the region.

tries. Since 2016 the Asian nation has been conducting summits in Africa to identify opportunities in the fields of trade, investment, infrastructure and energy.

It is held once every three years, with the participation of people from the highest levels of the public and private sectors in both Japan and Africa. Trade relations between Africa and Asia have grown significantly in recent years with 2020 data showing that Africa's exports to Japan were around \$8.6 billion, whereas African imports from Japan were about \$7.9 billion.

Carole Kariuki, Kenya Private Sector Alliance CEO pointed out the need for Kenyan firms to adopt value addition to increase revenues for their products. "We want to see more value addition than just sending our raw products to the international market," she added.

BRIEFLY

Kenya's Quickmart among fastest growing firms in Africa—survey

Two fastest-growing companies in Africa are in Kenya, a new ranking released by the *Financial Times* on Tuesday shows.

Fintech and a retail technology startup Flo-cash and Wasoko formerly Sokowatch respectively are the fastest-growing companies on the African continent.

Lori Systems also based in Kenya is number seven on the list with Nigeria having five companies in the top ten while South Africa leads with the highest number of companies on the list of 75 companies.

"Kenya is the third most represented country in the ranking, with nine companies, behind South Africa (24) and Nigeria (20), and ahead of Egypt (six)," said the *Financial Times*.

Wasoko, formerly Sokowatch, which heads the ranking, is one of several on the continent seeking to cut the cost of doing business in the massive informal sector, by helping to deliver goods to traders more. "The Kenyan company achieved the highest

compound annual growth in revenues between 2017 and 2020 and, in March, raised \$125mn in a Series B round," said the *Financial Times* in a report.

Kenya's Quickmart also features at position 11 due to its rapid expansion in recent years even as competing stores have shut down.

More entries

Other first growing companies in Kenya include Africastalking, Copia, M-Kopa, Asa International Company and East Africa Business Company.

South Africa dominates the list numerically, with more entries than any other country – but the first SA company features only at number 10. And, were it not for SA's precious metals, Nigeria would have claimed that title too.

The FT created the inaugural list with research company Statista, and it ranks companies on the continent based on their compound annual growth rate (CAGR) in revenue between 2017 and 2020.

– John Otini





Kenya, Netherlands partner to build cold chain infrastructure

EXPORT: Netherlands and Kenya are working to establish refrigerated shipping liners and a cold chain infrastructure to enable the latter export horticulture via the sea to cut costs and carbon emissions.

Netherlands is seeking to replicate its success with Ethiopia and Djibouti exports model in Kenya to help boost trade between the two countries.

"During a meeting with Transport Cabinet Secretary, James Macharia (pictured), we signed a Letter of Intent on the shared ambition to improve a 'Cool Logistics Corridor' for perishables," Netherlands Ambassador to Kenya, Maarten Brouwer said.

This will enable short-life products, such as flowers and vegetables, to be transported as sea freight instead of air freight, thus reducing up to 80 per cent of carbon emissions.

Pilots have shown such a shift is feasible with good quality outcomes and reduced transport costs allowing Kenya to maintain its strong position in the world market for perishables.

This also means that higher volumes of exports can be ferried to Europe at a lower cost than using air transport.

Brouwer said he will continue to promote innovative entrepreneurship, exchange of knowledge and finding green solutions helping to. That is where trade and development meet: Finding the synergy between the two in the Kenyan context. He added that next to economic relations, Kenya

and the Netherlands continue to jointly work towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Yearly, the Netherlands contributes over Sh1.1 billion in development assistance to Kenya, according to the Netherlands Embassy. The embassy also says it works closely with the private sector and with the Kenyan government, more and more also at the county level.

Horticulture market

Netherlands is a key market for Kenya's horticulture exports, especially flowers, fruits and vegetables. The horticulture market has been growing with more Kenyans joining avocado production and macadamia and other vegetables.

The industry value chain is a key source of employment for many Kenyans from the farms to processing and export.

Kenyans exported goods worth Sh69 billion last year up from Sh61 billion in 2020 while Netherlands exported were at Sh71 billion last year up from Sh56 billion in 2020.

This is one of the few countries outside Europe where Kenya has a near one-to-one trade balance.

In 2020, the refrigerated shipping industry and cold chain reached a new milestone with the successful completion of the first shipment of Ethiopian avocados to Europe and establishment of a cool logistics corridor in East Africa.

— John Otini

Why banks are concerned about cybercrime increase

New survey shows 92pc of lenders say internet fraud is one of the top three innovation-related threats

by John Otini
@PeopleDailyKe

Commercial banks have identified cybercrime as a major threat to innovation and launch of new products across the financial sector. A Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) survey found 92 per cent of lenders interviewed said cyber security is among the top three risks they face in their bid to come up with new products.

"Cyber risk turned out to be the key risk for institutions in their innovation endeavours, similar to the findings of the survey for 2020," it said. Ninety-two per cent of banks and 86 per cent of microfinance banks (MFBs) identified it as one of the top three innovation-related risks," the survey added.

Cyber risks in banks target data privacy and threaten data security for the bank customers and the safety of their funds.

Germany's financial regulator BaFin warned Tuesday of the "very big" risk of cyberattacks targeting the financial sector, a threat it said had become "more likely" since Russia's war on Ukraine.

"The risk that companies in the financial sector will fall victim to cyberattacks or that internal IT security incidents will occur is very big and very present," BaFin president Mark Branson told a press conference. In extreme cases, "such incidents could damage the stability of the financial system," he said. "Are we prepared for a really serious security incident? If we are honest, we don't know," Branson added.

Hacking attempts

Ukraine and its Western allies have been on heightened alert for potential Russian hacking attempts since Moscow invaded its neighbour on February 24.

The "Five Eyes" intelligence sharing network -- consisting of the United States, Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand -- warned in April that "evolving intelligence" indicated Russia was planning massive cyberattacks against rivals supporting Ukraine.

The war in Ukraine "has made cyberattacks on the German financial sector more likely," Branson told reporters in



Banks and other financial institutions say cybercrime has turned out to be the key risk in their innovation endeavours. FILE

CYBERATTACKS

● According to Equity Hackathon seeks to drive sustained innovation and crowdsource solutions to address day to day business and social challenges in the payments, financial inclusion and Know Your Customer thematic areas.

● Data from Communication Authority shows that incidents of cyberattacks increased by over 268 per cent in the second quarter of the 2021/22 period.

Frankfurt. The BaFin watchdog is monitoring the situation closely, he said, in co-operation with Germany's National Cyber Defence Centre. BaFin was also keeping financial firms updated on potential attack patterns, he said.

Last month's "Five Eyes" alert said Russian state-sponsored cyber actors have the ability to compromise IT networks, to steal large amounts of data from them while remaining hidden, to deploy destructive malware and to lock down networks with "distributed denial of service" attacks. Locally, Kenyan banks continue to lose billions of shillings to cybercrime every year, meaning that new digital projects are a potential avenue for exploitation by hackers.

KCB Group reported that it managed to stop a Sh2 billion attempted fraud on its banking system last year, underscoring the increase in online attacks during the Covid-19 pandemic. The bank made

public the attempted fraud without giving details on whether the attack was from foreign hackers or local techies. Kenya loses an estimated \$295 million (Sh34.17 billion) to cybercriminals annually, but there is a surge every year, experts say with a recent survey by Ponemon Institute showing 56 per cent of organisations have had a breach that was caused by one of their suppliers.

Sensitive information

The survey also indicated that the average number of third parties with access to sensitive information at each organisation has increased from 378 to 471 which makes it easier to even target those in the supply chain to attack lenders.

Cyber attacks in Kenya recorded a significant increase in the banking and financial sector in the second quarter of 2021 compared to the first quarter of 2021, at 60 per cent.

However, banks have established innovation teams and framework that guides the decision-making process of innovating a product and a committee that reviews innovative product proposals before seeking board approval.

Some lenders like Equity Bank have even started a hacking competition dubbed Equity Hackathon which combines data, technology, creativity, and talent to shape solutions. This year the lender targeted students from The University of Nairobi and Meru University of Science and Technology.

Kisumu County staff asked to surrender Sh99m imprest

by Kepher Otieno
@PeopleDailyKe

Hundreds of employees working in Kisumu County have been ordered to surrender imprests amounting to Sh99,185,962. The imprests date back to the year 2014. The County staff then working under former Governor Jack Rungama processed the imprest.

But they didn't surrender the imprests raising audit queries whether they spent the money for the desired purpose or just squandered it.

In law, failure to submit imprest is contrary to Public Financial Manage-

ment (PFM), Regulations, 2015, and is therefore penalisable.

Kisumu County Finance Executive George Okong'o said the exercise was ordered by the National Treasury.

This is after the Auditor General Nancy Gathungu's Report found that many employees had not surrendered their imprests. As a result, the county found itself in bad books with the Auditor General finding it liable for explanation, on various financial audits.

Okong'o noted that there was damning evidence and risk of loss of public funds if this amount was not recovered in good time.

LVBC head office project 85pc complete

by Kepher Otieno
@PeopleDailyKe

Construction of the first phase Sh142 million of Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) headquarters in Kisumu is 85 per cent complete. Yesterday, LVBC Principal Administrative Officer Millicent Opiyo disclosed that phase two is to start in July.

"We are now looking forward to starting the second phase at the end of this financial year starting in July," she said. The second phase is projected to cost about \$2 million (Sh230.52



million) of the estimated total cost of \$3.5 million (Sh403.41 million).

"This includes administrative and overhead costs. The procurement process will end in July, bids evaluated, for work to start," she said. Opiyo spoke to the press during the opening

of the 21st Sectoral Council of ministers for Lake Victoria Basin Commission (SECOM). SECOM provides overall policy guidance and oversight of the commission. She said they have already received the Commission Secretariat's approval for funding for the second phase of the project.

The East African Community's (EAC) most influential institution in Kenya is being built on a 2.8-hectare piece of land fronting Lake Victoria on Nkrumah Road. LVBC is the coordinating secretariat of the EAC headquartered in Kisumu.

Kenya's Eurobond rates surge as Russia-Ukraine feud rises

Reports indicate that Kenya's Eurobond yields have been rising sharply since February following the attack of Ukraine

by John Otini
@PeopleDailyKe

Payments of interest from Kenya's Eurobond loans soared by the highest margin ever last week since the onset of the Russia-Ukraine war threatening to choke the country's access to the foreign debt market.

"In the international market, yields on Kenya's Eurobonds rose by an average of 68.5 basis points. The yield on the 10-year Eurobond for Angola also rose, while that for Ghana declined," the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) said in its latest weekly bulletin.

Eurobonds are fixed-income debt instruments that are denominated in a different currency than the local one of the country where the bond's been issued. The primary reason for issuing Eurobonds is a need for foreign currency capital.

Reports indicate that Kenya's Eurobond yields have been rising sharply since February when Russia invaded Ukraine to overtake yields on Angola's Eurobond debt and is now almost at par with Ghana's.

New funding

This could chase away investors from the market to the detriment of Kenya's economy.

Further, with Kenya's economy relying heavily on China the global supply chain challenges may affect the Asian giant's fortunes which may also have a direct impact on Kenya's debt situation at a time Treasury attempts to seek new funding to repay maturing loans.

The Covid-19 pandemic and fact that Kenya is a net oil importer, which exposes its economy to adverse impacts of fluctua-



Kenya mulls going back to the international debt market to raise up to \$2.19 billion as part of budget deficit financing measures in the current financial year. PD/ALICE MBURU

tions in global prices

The war in Ukraine which escalated last week saw Russia halt gas supply to Poland and Bulgaria. Further, US equities fell amid a sharp rise in equity volatility due to poor earnings as Russia pounded Ukraine.

This has sent global commodity markets soaring with food and energy prices skyrocketing causing further spiking inflation both abroad and at home.

Last week, Kenya hinted it may suspend a planned \$1 billion (Sh115.26 billion) Eurobond debt issue, on account of the rising yields and uncertainty on the international market. Fears abound that rising yields globally will make the borrowing expensive.

This has seen the exchange rate deteriorate making it hard for the Kenyan government to service its debt obligation as foreign exchange becomes even harder to get with banks being accused of hoarding forex.

Apart from avoidance of currency or forex risk, Eurobonds were supposed to

expose Kenya to a huge range of bond maturity periods and also broaden the potential investor base.

Global oil prices dipped during the week ending April 28 after the US administration reported a modest crude oil inventory build-up while Murban oil prices decreased to \$104.68 per barrel on April 21 compared to \$108 per barrel on April 14.

As of April 28, the usable foreign exchange reserves remained adequate at \$8.4 billion, or 5.01 months of import cover, which is fine by the regional standards.

Loans cushioned Kenyan economy

"This meets the CBK's statutory requirement to endeavour to maintain at least 4 months of import cover, and the EAC region's convergence criteria of 4.5 months of import cover," the CBK said.

Last week, the International Monetary Fund said it had reached an agreement to provide Sh28 billion to the central bank to help Kenya deal with external shocks and inflationary pressures while USA noted the loans cushioned Kenyan economy.

GEOPOLITICS

● European Union officials say it is possible to wean Europe off Russian oil, meaning there could be a shortage of oil in the global market, which could push prices higher once again.

● The US government revealed that emergency loans from the IMF had cushioned Kenya's economy from near collapse amid mounting public debt.



Dubai virtual assets regulator enters metaverse

Dubai's virtual assets regulator said Tuesday that it was entering the metaverse and establishing a new headquarters on platform The Sandbox, state news agency WAM reported.

The announcement makes Dubai's Virtual Assets Regulatory Authority (VARA) the "world's first regulator to make its debut in the metaverse", according to WAM.

The move reflects Dubai's "confidence in virtual assets being integral to the future digital economy, and its readiness to establish the emirate as the world's virtual assets capital", the news agency added.

The metaverse, touted by Meta and other companies as the future of the internet, consists of a set of parallel "universes" accessed primarily through augmented and virtual reality platforms.

Dubai Crown Prince Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed was quoted by WAM as saying the emirate was "ushering in a new era" in which the Dubai government "utilises modern innovations to extend its services and regulatory power to audiences in an open technological expanse". The authority was established in March under the emirate's first law to regulate virtual assets.

Meta, which changed its name from Facebook last year, has invested heavily in the metaverse, a 3D virtual world that will see people interact through avatars.

In November, Barbados announced that it would establish the world's first diplomatic embassy in the metaverse.

- AFP

Banks must embrace green financing for sustainable growth

In recognition of the threats posed by climate change, banks are emerging as shining lights in efforts to stem the tide and lead the transition of businesses towards a low carbon, green economy through green financing.

This is because effects of climate change may cost Kenya up to Sh7 trillion in the next decade if not dealt with, according to the Ministry of Environment.

Further, it could lower gross domestic product (GDP) in Sub-Saharan Africa by up to three per cent by 2050, notes the State of the Climate in Africa Report.

Therefore, though their resource allocation capabilities financial institutions are now becoming an indispensable cog in the war against climate change.

But why green financing? This is the eco-friendly approach to funding that integrates innovative funding models with sustainable development across

diverse sectors of an economy.

Businesses will always need financial resources to survive and banks can now leverage their position as financiers to transform Kenya's economic structure through capital formation, capital leveraging and industrial integration.

Acting as a bridge between the financial sector and environmental conservation, banks can guide businesses looking to tap from an increasingly vast pool of green financing, spurring them to adopt eco-friendly practices as an important starting point in business creation or development.

Green finance can form the basis for achieving high-quality economic development in Kenya. It motivates businesses, both large and small, to get keener on building green credentials and finding innovative ways to operate sustainably, reduce their carbon footprint as well as energy consumption.



JANE WAIYAKI

Green finance can form the basis for achieving high-quality economic development

In the long-term, these measures will improve profit, reduce business risk and deliver the desired effect which is to slow down the rate of global warming.

By integrating green financing structures, banks can indirectly influence an accelerated adoption of green solutions in carbon-intensive industries such as manufacturing and transport, which account for 35 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions.

Through green financing mechanisms, financiers gradually reduce their investment in low-end industries that are guilty of environmental pollution and increase their investment in green energy industries.

Financing policies can help banks

divert the flow of funds to green industries, thus spur rapid improvement of the national green development level, and help save the world.

Private and public sector players are appreciating the gravity of the matter and taking action. The Kenya Bankers Association (KBA) has initiated Sustainable Finance Initiative (SFI) programmes to train bank employees on how to scale up green financing models and partnerships.

Absa Bank recently signed a Sh1.25 billion Credit Guarantee Scheme with the Africa Guarantee Fund (AGF) to women entrepreneurs as well as mid-sized businesses qualifying as green transactions.

The Capital Markets Authority (CMA) has appreciated the Absa Af-

rican Financial Markets Index (AFMI 2021) for championing sustainable finance products such as green bonds, equities and mutual funds in the market.

Last year, the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) released Climate-Related Risk Management guidelines to facilitate the integration of climate-related risks in governance, strategy, risk management and disclosure frameworks by local banks. The guidelines also spell out transition risks and how to mitigate them. These guidelines provide an opportunity for banks to lead a national drive towards accelerated change and transformation of the country to a low carbon economy.

The government can support this agenda further by creating pro-sustainability policies such as tax reductions which encourage banks to invest more in supporting eco-friendly businesses.

- Writer is the Head of Sustainability and Citizenship at Absa Kenya

The left continues its assault on the Supreme Court with an unprecedented breach of confidentiality.

US reacts to ouster of abortion law

Leak indicates Supreme Court is poised to overturn landmark safe abortion for women across the US

Bamako, Tuesday

US Supreme Court is set to overturn a landmark ruling allowing abortion for women across the country, according to a leaked draft opinion published by *Politico* magazine.

The news outlet said it had obtained an initial draft majority opinion written by Justice Samuel Alito that showed the court had voted to strike down the 1973 *Roe v Wade* ruling. The leaked draft does not represent an official decision on the matter, and there is still the possibility that votes could change as deliberations continue. Here is how various members of the Democratic and Republican parties, rights groups and legal centres have so reacted to the news:

Democrats

In a joint statement, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer said the court seemed "poised to inflict the greatest restriction of rights in the past 50 years –



Pro-life and pro-choice demonstrators gather in front of the US Supreme Court in Washington, DC, yesterday. The Supreme Court is poised to strike down the right to abortion in the US, according to a leaked draft of a majority opinion that would shred nearly 50 years of constitutional protections. - AFP

not just on women but on all Americans". Rounding on the "Republican-appointed" members of the court, the statement said a vote to overturn *Roe v Wade* "would go down as an abomination, one of the worst and most damaging decisions in modern history".

New York Governor Kathy Hochul, also a Democrat, said the draft opinion was a "disgraceful attack" on women's right to choose and said abortion would "always be" safe and accessible in New York.

Hillary Clinton, former secretary of state, former first lady, and a Democrat who ran for the presidency, called it "outrageous".

Republicans

Meanwhile, former presidential candidate Bernie Sanders, an Independent who caucuses with Democrats, said *Roe v Wade* must be codified as the law of the land. Many Republicans hailed the ruling.

"The left continues its assault on the Supreme Court with an unprecedented breach of confidentiality, clearly meant to intimidate," said Republican Senator Josh Hawley. "I will say, if this is the Court's opinion, it's a heck of an opinion. Voluminously researched, tightly argued, and morally powerful."

ROE V WADE

● The 1973 ruling prohibited states from banning abortions across the US and is a bedrock of modern US abortion rights

● A leaked draft opinion by the United States Supreme Court shows justices have voted to strike down the landmark 1973 *Roe v Wade* ruling

Several rights groups condemned the draft ruling.

The president of abortion rights advocacy group Planned Parenthood, Alexis McGill Johnson, said: "This leaked opinion is horrifying and unprecedented, and it confirms our worst fears... While we have seen the writing on the wall for decades, it is no less devastating, and comes just as anti-abortion rights groups unveil their ultimate plan to ban abortion nationwide... [We] will continue to fight like hell to protect the right to access safe, legal abortion."

The National Women's Law Centre said: "The language in the draft opinion leaked from the Supreme Court is outrageous, irresponsible and shocking. Any Justice who signs onto this opinion is fuelling the harm and violence that will happen to people who become pregnant in this country."

BRIEFLY

Curfew imposed in state capital following Hindu-Muslim clashes

Government authorities have imposed a curfew and cut off internet connections in an area of Jodhpur, the capital of northern India's Rajasthan state, following fresh altercations between the Hindu and Muslim communities there. Al Jazeera's Elizabeth Purnam said there was a "very heavy police presence" in the Jalori Gate area, following more fighting between the two groups. The clashes began on Monday during religious festivals for both communities, each of whom wanted to raise

religious flags in the same area. Muslims were marking the end of Ramadan month of fasting, and Hindus were celebrating a festival called Parshuram Jayanti. Things had calmed down overnight, and Eid prayers took place on Tuesday peacefully. However, clashes between Hindus and Muslims later erupted again in at least five different areas in Jalori Gate. "Local media is saying at least 10 people have been injured and one person has been taken to hospital," Purnam said.

- Xinhua

Sri Lanka monks picket

Buddhist monks participate in an anti-government demonstration outside the President's office in Colombo yesterday, demanding President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's resignation over the country's crippling economic crisis. - AFP



AU forces foil military base attack in central Somalia

African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) repulsed a deadly pre-dawn attack by the al-Shabab militant group on its military camp in the central Somalia town of El Baraf, local security officials confirmed Tuesday. The local security officials told Radio Mogadishu that two loud explosions hit the ATMIS base manned by the Burundian troops followed by an exchange of gunfire between the troops and the

militants. "ATMIS troops of Burundi contingent have repulsed a complex attack by the terror group al-Shabab on an army base in El-Baraf town of Somalia's Hirshabelle State in the early hours of Tuesday," the state-owned radio reported. There was no comment from the government or ATMIS officials on the latest assault by the extremist group. Al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the attack.

- Xinhua

Mali junta breaks French defence accords

Bamako, Tuesday

Mali's ruling military has announced it is breaking its defence accords with former colonial ruler France, condemning "flagrant violations" of its national sovereignty by the French troops stationed there.

The announcement was the latest sign of deteriorating relations between Mali and France.

Authorities in Bamako said they had informed Paris of the decision on Monday

afternoon. France so far has not issued an official reaction to the announcement.

"For some time now, the government of the Republic of Mali notes with regret a profound deterioration in military cooperation with France," spokesman Colonel Abdoulaye Maiga said in a televised statement.

Maiga cited multiple instances of French forces having violated the country's airspace. He referred to the June 2021 move by France to end joint operations with Malian



forces and mentioned another decision taken in February to pull French troops out of the West African state.

The agreements Mali has ended were those that set the framework for France's intervention in Mali in 2014.

They were signed a year after France deployed a large force to help Mali's army stop an offensive by armed groups there.

Tensions between France and the military government in Mali, which seized power in August 2020, had been rising for some time.

Since then, France's relationship with Mali has worsened as the government resisted international pressure to set a timetable for a swift return to democratic governance. - AFP

Spice ► Flavour your day STYLE ✉ @martkinel

NATURALLY EDGY

Karun is a Kenyan alternative R&B artiste, who loves to make music on the soulful side, playing around with pop sounds such as Afro-pop. She also makes heads turn with her unique fashion taste. She chats with **Faith Kyoumukama** on everything her style

Musically, what should we expect from Karun this year?

I have got new music on the way. I promised myself that I'd release a couple of self-produced songs and an album. I've got a lot of music ready, so we're working on putting it out right for you. I recently teamed up with Smirnoff for the 'Unleash the Edge Fiesta', where I was able to perform with a live band, which was quite interesting.

What makes you edgy?

I think anybody who consciously or unconsciously decides to go against the grain and be themselves is naturally edgy. And that's me!

Describe your style in three words.

Comfortable, earthy, and playful.

What's your first fashion memory?

I used to have this cute little three-shade pastel dress (lilac, blue and light green), and orange faux crocodile leather smart shoes. I was obsessed with those shoes! They had gold buckles and were slip on. I looked cute in them and I remember being so upset when they went missing.

Tell us about your style evolution.

I have always gravitated to

comfortable street style, kind of androgynous but clothes that compliments my figure, although when I was younger I tried to wear heels and be normal; I always failed. So, now I'm a bit more confident in my style choices. I aim to express how I feel that day and who I am through my clothes.

Your favorite splurge clothing brand would be?

None; I would rather tailor-make all my clothes if I could, or up-cycle. Normalise sustainable fashion.

What wardrobe item is your favourite?

I have a couple, but I love a good crop top. I got this black bandeau boob tube that

I could honestly wear everyday.

Where do you shop your clothes?

I have a stylist who does that for me; shopping gives me anxiety.

Have you ever had a wardrobe malfunction?

Yes, kind of, but not recently. There was a red carpet event when I was younger for the Chaguo La Teeniez, and the outfit I wore to it wasn't my favourite. I don't think I had a clue what I was doing those days.

If you could wear one colour for the rest of your life, which one would it be?

That would be black. I just love black pieces.

Which occasion do you have the hardest time dressing for?

Anything official or office related. The best option is when I can show up in my style.

If you could trade characters with anyone for their fashion alone, who would it be?

Kim Kardashian! Crop tops and cargo pants for the win.

You seem to love sneakers how many pairs do you own?

I have more than 20 pairs, but I only wear around 15 of them.

GET THE LOOK
With Nalantei Norari

Stylishly coupled up

When two become one, it behooves them to dress in a fashionable yet cohesive way. Fashion is one way that couples can use to express their oneness and their personality as a unit. The Mathenges (Wahu and Nameless) are great at this. The power couple has found a way to look fashionable, both independently and as a couple. Here are a few fashion tips to borrow from them.



Wear a dress whose colour is in the guy's print shirt and you'll both stylishly stand out.



When in doubt, just wear black. It effortlessly gets in easily with just anything.



A yellow dress, and a blazer whose print is large yellow for a colourful ensemble.

KARUN

I think anybody who consciously or unconsciously decides to go against the grain and be themselves is naturally edgy

Clique & Clicks ▶ Get Spotted

HERE TO SERVE



Somerset Westview Nairobi GM Ashwin Vijayasekar, International College of Liberal Arts Kenya rep Dr Willie Nyambati, and The Ascott Ltd (Middle East, Africa, Turkey, India) MD Vincent Miccolis make a toast.

■ By Faith Kyoumukama
Forging forward with its Africa expansion plans, The Ascott Limited recently announced its first foray into the East African region with the opening of Somerset Westview Nairobi in Kilimani. The property hosts

contemporary brasserie restaurant La Mascotte, with live jazz music and a radiant ambience within the 11-storey serviced residence. The facility comprises 162 units with a mixture of up-scaled one and two-bedroom apartments.

Present were Somerset Westview Nairobi GM Ashwin Vijayasekar and Ascott Ltd (Middle East, Africa, Turkey, India) managing director Vincent Miccolis. Zawadi Band entertained the guests.

PD/JOHN OCHIENG



The Ascott Ltd director Tim Boothe converses with George Ambrose Dabani of Britam.



Jules Baughns with Katy Clark.



Pamela Miriti, Janet Odindi and Anastasia Karanja.



Zawadi Band fills the air with some beautiful melodies.



Kipkorir Evans, Lucy Wanjiku and Ian Muriu.



TV presenter and animal enthusiast Karen Karimi Knaust.

About animals' welfare

■ by Milliam Murigi

Global animal welfare organisation World Animal Protection (WAP) held a colourful event recently in Nairobi to launch their 10-year strategic plan. Dubbed 'A new World for Animals', the strategy recognises the deepening crisis facing animals around the world and aims to tackle root causes fueling animal cruelty, envisioning a world where animals live free from cruelty and suffering. It also seeks to

ensure that farmed animals live a good life by transforming the global food system as well as to stop the cruel exploitation of wild animals as commodities by changing the systems that allow it. Present were WAP Africa director Tennyson Williams and African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources acting director Dr Nick Nwankpa.

PD/MILLIAM MURIGI



The Wildlife Campaigns manager Edith Kabesime.



WAP Africa director Tennyson Williams.



World Animal Protection 10-year strategy is unveiled.

Ten...

Financial red flags to heed in relationship

In Kenya, discussing finances is the last thing that couples want to do. This is imprudent, especially since monetary incongruence is one of the major reasons for divorce. This is why **Nailantei Norari** highlights a few signs that you should be on the lookout for when it comes to money matters

1. Different money habits

Opposites attract, but they rarely stay together for long. This is especially true when it comes to money habits. If one partner is a spendthrift and the other is frugal, there will be plenty of financial disagreements throughout the relationship. They will both have to change and find a middle ground or have to break up. Couples financial classes can help partners come up with congruent financial goals. You can also simply bolt if your partner has undesirable financial habits as they are bound to get worse with time. If your partner spends

her money shopping for designer bags, it is just a matter of time before she uses your joint account to finance her habit.

2. Financial abuse

While it is important to be open about money and to advise relationship partners about good financial habits, it is imprudent to control a partner's finances. Forcing a partner to change their financial habits by withdrawing their finances, no matter how good your intentions might be, is financial abuse. Using money as a power tool is also financial abuse. The most you can do is advise your partner without forcing them to do anything they are against.

3. Secretive about money

If your partner is secretive about money or how they get their income even after you have been going out for some time, it would be wise to run. This is how you find out you are dating a drug dealer on television or when you are both getting arrested. Get with someone who is open to discussing finances and is not secretive about how they spend or invest their money.

4. They've bad debt

If they have multiple loans on digital lending apps and owe multiple of their friends, run before they take a loan from you too. While debt is not by principle bad, having multiple debts is unwise. Moreover, taking out money for frivolous things such as a night out or a flight to Mombasa is unwise. So, run even if the loan they took was for you. Your portion is not to be in endless debt.

5. Late payment of debt and bills

If your partner is always late with their bills and debts, it means that they lack personal accountability. If they need someone to call them and remind them of what they owe, they do not take finances seriously. Run and find someone who takes finances with the gravitas they deserve.

6. Love flaunting their wealth

No one will spend money more than the person trying to gain validation from fellas and women. This is the person who will buy a Mercedes Benz to drive to work while their Subaru is perfectly functional. This is the person who will tip waiters Sh5,000 each and

hand out Sh1,000 notes to any street children you may come across. Run before they start giving out your hard-earned money as well.

7. Never pick the bill

If someone claims to have forgotten their wallet on several dates, they do not want to pay the bill, leave them. Dating someone who has gender expectations on who picks up the bill is a glimpse into how financial responsibilities will be divided. A male or female partner, who is unwilling to pay for dates will be unwilling to go Dutch on household expenses, which will lead to resentment in the long run.

8. Earnings but no investments

If someone has been working for several years and they have no investments to show for it, they are probably financially irresponsible. Investments here can be in the form of paying school fees for their siblings, or even buying land for their relatives. The investment does not have to be for themselves but can be for loved ones as well. Someone who cannot show where their money goes is not the correct choice of partner.

9. Lack of financial agency

If your partner continuously blames their financial circumstances on outside forces, it is probably best if you left them. You need someone who will take agency over their financial circumstances rather than blame the economy and inflation. You need someone who is willing to surmount prevailing circumstances to make a better life for themselves.

10. Monetary instability

If your partner is not financially stable, do not build a long-term relationship with them as financial expenses are bound to grow over time. Financial instability here does not point only at those who do not have a steady source of income, but also includes people who have no emergency funds or insurance and are therefore a paycheck away from poverty. Avoid them all.



Eureka ▶ Design, innovate, engineer

Misconceptions on 5G technologies debunked

James Irungu is the brand and communications manager at Vivo Smartphone Kenya. He talks everything concerning the 5G technology including its benefits, risks and myths

by **Milliam Murigi**
@milliamur1

You recently launched your first 5G mobile phone in the Kenyan market. Do you think the country is ready for the 5G technology?

Yes, Kenya is ready for the 5G technologies. We have seen operations to test 5G capability lately. For instance, Safaricom recently confirmed that it is planning to launch a commercial 5G network in 2022 and 2023. Apart from that, the Communications Authority of Kenya (CAK) has set the ball rolling by developing a roadmap that outlines strategies to facilitate the deployment of the technology, enabling the country to derive maximum benefits from this new frontier. The CAK subjected the 5G roadmap to public consultation in October 2021, during which it received invaluable input from various stakeholders. Once stakeholders' input is adopted, they shall embark on the implementation of various activities in the roadmap such as the establishment of a national 5G forum, allocation of pilot frequencies, authorisation of first 5G pilot projects, release of requisite frequency bands and subsequent issuance of 5G commercial licenses.

What are the benefits of 5G and why should we embrace it?

The main benefits of the 5G technology are; the network has increased bandwidth compared to 4G, has greater speed in the transmissions, a lower latency and therefore greater capacity of remote execution. It also has a greater number of connected devices and the possibility of implementing virtual networks (network slicing), providing more adjusted connectivity to concrete needs. This provides faster internet speeds that help in faster downloading and communication. 5G technology will revolutionise how different industries operate. These network improvements will have far-reaching impacts on how people live, work, and play all over the world.

Which industries will benefit most from the 5G network?

Although it is still in the early stages, this fifth-generation technology, will effectively fuel innovation and increase performance across a number of industries simultaneously when utilised well. This will range from healthcare, hospitality, financial services, manufacturing, transportation, entertainment, agriculture and

the retail industry. As it is observed, the telecommunications industry looks to benefit more, but all the industries at large shall reap big because this is an upcoming revolution, which promises to bring advantages in every aspect of human lives.

What are the disadvantages of 5G?

The main disadvantage of 5G is that it has limited global coverage and is available only in specific locations. Only cities can benefit a lot from 5G network, while the remote areas may not get the coverage for some years. Moreover, the expenses for setting tower stations are high when compared to other networks. Currently, as you can see in Kenya, 5G is very limited until proper infrastructure is put in place.

Hailed as the next digital revolution, how will 5G technology re-shape businesses?

This technology will transform business by offering a leap to universal high-rate connectivity and a seamless customer experience from the contemporary mobile networks. Promising to deliver peak data speeds, reliable communica-

tion, and vast network capabilities, 5G will create a more uniform user experience as compared to the current situation.

There are a lot of conspiracy theories about 5G technology and health. Is it true the technology can cause cancer?

It's unfortunate that there has been contradictory information about 5G and that many people worry about the dangers. However, there is little evidence to suggest there is such a problem so far. According to different findings, there is inconsistent evidence to suggest that very heavy users of mobile phones may have a slightly increased risk of cancer.

What are the other myths and misconceptions about 5G network?

Apart from the myth that 5G has the ability to cause cancer, it has also widely been linked to Coronavirus, and that the virus can be transmitted via 5G radio waves. However, there is no proven link between the latter and Covid-19. The other misconception is that 5G will only benefit the technology industry. To the contrary, 5G has the power to revolutionise nearly every industry and has massive potential to



completely redefine the way we live. As data becomes increasingly important around the world, 5G has the ability to adequately handle the enormous scale.

With 5G using higher frequencies than existing mobile phone technologies, does this mean that they are more dangerous?

5G uses a higher frequency in order to increase the capacity of the mobile networks and support high data rates. When it comes to health according to different findings, there is inconsistent evidence to suggest that heavy users of mobile phones may have a slightly increased risk of cancer.

Now that you have introduced new phones with 5G connectivity, does this mean that you will stop producing phones with 4G connectivity?

Not at all. The V23 5G phone was launched based on the local conditions of the 5G market and preparations of the 5G in Kenya. As we elevate, Vivo will consistently offer latest products possible to meet different market needs and preferences.

James Irungu, brand and communications manager at Vivo Kenya.
COURTESY



JAMES IRUNGU

It's unfortunate that there has been contradictory information about 5G and that many people worry about the dangers

Google ready to set up Africa's first product development centre in Nairobi

Alphabet Inc's Google has announced its first product development centre in Africa to be located in Nairobi. This comes just weeks after Microsoft officially opened its African Development Centre (ADC) in Nairobi, after three years of successfully running operations locally.

The new centre will help to create transformative products and services for people in Africa and around the world and will be hiring visionary engineers, product managers, user experience (UX) designers and researchers to lay the foundation for significant growth in the

coming years.

The facility will be looking for talented, creative people who can help solve difficult and important technical challenges, such as improving the smartphone experience for people in Africa, or building a more reliable internet infrastructure.

Suzanne Frey, the Vice President for Products at Google, said that Google's mission in Africa is to make the internet helpful to the people and partner with governments, policymakers, educators, entrepreneurs and busi-

ness to shape the next wave of innovation in Africa.

"Today I am excited to welcome all Africans passionate about improving the digital experience of African users by building better products to apply for the open roles at our first product development centre in Africa," she said.

Google Africa MD Nitin Gajria added, "There are 300 million internet users in Africa who are young, mobile first and have similar patterns to mobile youth globally. By 2030, Africa will have 800 million internet users and a third of

the world's under-35 population. The potential for Africa to become a leading digital economy is right on the horizon and Google is committed to accelerating Africa's digital transformation through human capital and enabling 'African-led solutions to African and global problems' through better products."

The American-based conglomerate had already opened an artificial intelligence centre in Accra, Ghana, focusing on innovations that can be applied to various challenges.

-Adalla Allan

Family Fusion ▶ All about kin and kith

Rediscovering self after losing identity in marriage



When you get married, it is easy to let yourself go and get swallowed in your partner's career and ambitions. **Chari Kingsbury** shares how she got herself out of this scenario

CHARI
In the end, since I was happy, he was happy too because he had a contented wife instead of an angry one.

Chari and Chip Kingsbury. They came to the country as missionaries. BELOW: Relationship expert Dayan Masinde PD/ COURTESY

by Harriet James
@PeopleDailyKe

Four years after US couple Chari and Chip Kingsbury got married they were sent to Kenya as missionaries. The two first settled in Nyeri, where they ministered and started churches as well as taught in Bible schools between 1980 and 1993. But when Chari got to her 40s, a sense of dissatisfaction overwhelmed her.

"When I got married, I was shy and quiet, but my husband had and still has a dominant and outgoing personality. So, it was kind of easy giving up my things and being overshadowed by his personality. At some point, this was my own crisis and I was really angry at him at first. I was feeling like what I was doing in a foreign country, I could still do it in the US, so why was I still here?" narrates the mother of three.

Struggle for life purpose

Many married women are sometimes forced to give up their careers, friends, dreams or passion for their families or to assist their spouses do their businesses. While some end up loving this compromise, there are others who feel like they have to find their purpose and add meaning to their lives.

Chari shares how she was afraid to tell Chip that she wasn't happy because he

seemed to enjoy his missionary work and the new country. However, one time when they went for a break in the US, she shared her predicament with a pastor friend who encouraged her to talk with her husband.

"We went out for dinner and I told him that I had something important to talk about. He just listened quietly and then we decided to pray about it till God gives me a vision on what He wanted me to do. We both started praying separately and one day, I shared with him what I wanted to do. I thought of starting mentorship programme for university students. That is how Ukarimu Ministries started through my husband's help. We would help students with a variety of problems from stress over exams, to working through past issues in their families, to how to develop healthy, godly relationships," she shares.

During this period of exploration, Chari discovered that she allowed things to happen in her life without setting boundaries. She took time to rediscover herself. The period was a bit painful for her husband as he wasn't used to his wife saying 'no' or expressing opinions contrary to what he wanted to do. "It was a tough period, but necessary and I thank my husband for being supportive through the process of exploration and discovery. I think in the end, since I was happy, he was happier too because he had a contented wife instead of an angry one," says Chari.

Relationship expert Dayan Masinde ob-

serves that both men and women can easily lose themselves in marriage. "Largely because, many think that to love is to die to self-growth and individual ambitions and yet marriage ought to provide an environment for you to be best version of you. The one who loves you, loved you for you and in marriage, they want you to continue being you. We live in a society where many idolise marriage and have made marriage their identity and meaning; marriage is a season of two whole individuals walking together without stopping to be whole. Don't shelve your dreams and goals, complement them; you were created for more than marriage," he explains.

Dayan says that the dangers of losing yourself in marriage is that it puts one in undue pressure, which leads to frustration.

Much more than a spouse

"Over time, when you don't make progress as a person in marriage, you will begin to develop low self-esteem and become insecure with your spouse, jealous towards your peers, self-sabotaging in your actions, harsh towards your children, bitter towards your friends, reckless in your decision making and even abusive or resentful towards your spouse. You will see your spouse as the reason your life stagnated, your voice shrank and you lost your way, yet personal growth is your personal responsibility; some things you

cannot delegate," he notes.

To avoid this, Dayan advises couples to find themselves and discover what contribution they want to make in the family and life.

"Find out what legacy you want to leave behind, what your values are, who are you besides the role of spouse and parent, how can you grow emotionally, mentally, spiritually, socially and professionally? Share this with your spouse and find out your spouse's individual potential too. Love you as you love your spouse, you cannot pour water from an empty jug. Make each other secure so that you can allow each other to grow without feeling suspicious or threatened; many times, spouses inhibit each other's growth and voice due to insecurities. Don't always wait for your spouse's approval or validation; grow in every area, but grow without friction towards your spouse — grow together," he continues.

Fulfillment in vision

Also, having a vision as a couple that can accommodate both your individual visions will also assist in fulfillment.

"Remember, marriage will not bring your fulfillment, if you are not fulfilled as an individual. Love is mutual, it is not just about looking after the interests of your spouse, but your interests too. Build a marriage that brings out the best in you," he advises.

Chari shares how in 2008, the two decided to expand Ukarimu Ministries to not only deal with university students, but also family at large.

"I was studying for my Master's in Counselling Psychology and was preparing for my practical examination. A pastor told me to design some kind of a group counselling programme for troubled marriages. I managed to come up with a first group of three couples. I was worried that no one would share their marriage issues in a group, but interesting enough, people were open enough to share their struggles. From that, we decided to expand our Ukarimu Mission to also cater for family needs. We began to offer marital and premarital and individual counseling, marriage enrichment seminars, parenting seminars among others," she says.

Chari does not regret the direction her life and her family has taken, and the fact that she is impacting others leaves her fulfilled.

AT A GLANCE

● Marriage doesn't mean the death of self-growth and individual ambitions. It ought to provide an environment for you to be best version of you.

● You might see your spouse as the reason your life stagnated, your voice shrank and you lost your way

● Personal growth is your personal responsibility.





MOM IN THE MIX
WITH FANNE MWAMBI

Don't be an excuse for your child's failure

The long holiday was undoubtedly called for. It's the kind of break that allows you to take two, so if opening schools hit you hard, take two. Now is your chance to plan better and trackback where you need to get you going through to the end of the year.

Equip your child

As a school director, my mother constantly ensures all pupils are fully dressed in school uniform. I noticed that she did the same even when they sat their Kenya Certificate of Primary Education exams. This did not sit well with some of our parents. See, you reason this way - they are finishing school, so what's the point of getting a new shirt that they will only wear for a year? Or why buy a new short or dress, yet they have no younger sibling to hand down when they join secondary school?

While it makes sense in some way, think about it. We buy new attire for events such as weddings, funerals, and holidays such as Christmas, et al. I remember buying new jeans and a funky tee-shirt for my birthday once! Why then do we find buying essentials that will be used for a year as wasteful?

Your best is enough

Once, my now eight-year-old, Raine, did poorly in Kiswahili and later blamed me for it. "You said I would learn Kiswahili in class and that it was enough," she bluntly explained, to which I cringed and vowed never to become an excuse for my children's poor performance.

In the same way, don't go beyond your means to provide for your child. Don't let it burden you. Your peace of mind matters, and no one will give it to you more than you, yourself. Talk to your child and let them understand your situation. I have seen families that blame their children for their school demands. If you're dissatisfied with the value your school gives your child, don't hesitate to move them. In the end, it's your child's future at stake. Give them your best because your best is all they need. Let's get our minds back to work.

PARENTING 101 BY KWACH WAKHISI @PEOPLEDAILYKE

We planned for three children, but got six

Despite losing their third child, who was meant to be their last born, **Mullen Awuor** and her husband **Pastor James Ochieng Magak** went ahead to get four more, some conceived even when Mullen was on family planning. They share their highs and lows in their marriage life

When Mullen Awuor Oigo Magak and her husband Pastor James Ochieng Magak lost their third born child when he was only three months old, they were shattered and devastated.

"When we got married, we planned to have three children, but when our third born child passed away, we asked God a lot of questions. God revealed to us that due to the loss we suffered he would reward us four times. And from that point I just embraced and loved the idea of having a big family," says Mullen.

And indeed, this came to pass and today the couple has six children— five girls and one boy. Their children are aged 16, 13, 10, seven, five and two years.

The first three pregnancies were smooth for Mullen, but for the fourth pregnancy she encountered some challenges. "I was on family planning and started bleeding. I decided to go to hospital. The doctor told me I had lost a pregnancy. Remember that I had lost my third born child some nine months back and now I was being told I had lost a pregnancy, which I was not aware of. The doctor advised me to go to Metropolitan Hospital in Buruburu to have all the remains in my womb removed," says Mullen.

"My husband looked at me and asked whether I had faith and I said 'yes'. He requested we go home and he prayed for me. After six months, I delivered a beautiful baby girl whom we named Ushindi Praise for she was our victory of praise. I also conceived my fifth baby while I was on family planning, but since I was taking some drugs for

TB, I had been informed that they would tamper with the family planning. With the last born child, I only knew that I was pregnant while on a mission in Congo and Botswana," she explains.

Journey of love, prayers and patience

The parenting journey has not been without challenges, but not anything that is insurmountable. "Each child is unique. They portray different talents, but we don't make comparisons. We love them equally since all of them need our attention," she says.

Mullen and Pastor James serve as missionaries in the Southern part of Africa, at Destiny Chapel under Bishop Joel Chola and Pastor James Okumu.

She recalls how they met years ago at a fellowship in which James was pastoring. "It was called Climax Fellowship. That is where our journey of friendship began and later companionship," says Mullen.

She adds: "I loved the way he was relating to people. He had a big heart to accommodate everyone in the fellowship, yet he was a guest. Another unique thing I loved about him was that on that particular day, his mum died and he was coming from the morgue to preach to us. I told myself this is surely a man after God's heart and if he loved God like this, what about his family?"

For Pastor James, he says God revealed to him that Mullen would be his wife. "After the fellowship, she went back to school while I went back to business and preaching. Later on, I got engaged to a black American woman. One day, I had a dream in which I saw Mullen pregnant with my child. From

that point I changed my mind about getting married to the other woman. And as they say, the rest is history," James explains.

"We did not have money for a big wedding. We just went to the pastor. He told us if we didn't have money, he would still bless our marriage. And that is what happened," says James. The two will be celebrating their 17th anniversary this year.

Just like any other couple, they have faced challenges, but managed to work it through. "My husband loves his phone and spends most of his time on it if he is not conducting Bible Study. It took me time to adjust to that. Also, when we travel and go for missions, we always miss our children so much," says Mullen.

For the Magaks, God has always been the author and pillar of their marriage. James offers: "The secret to a long and fulfilling marriage is for husbands to love their wives just as Christ loved the church. If men can do that, then women will not submit. Also, you can only love if you have the source of love who is God. Marriage is a ministry. We minister to one another. It's a two way thing."

Balancing act

As a family, they love spending time together by going out on dates with the children, especially when they have closed school.

"We take some time off from mission and just give the children a treat. They are our biggest treasure and they know when it's not mission time, it's family time - eating nyama choma and pizza, going out for a swim or a road trip," says Mullen.

Mullen shares how she has learnt to balance between motherhood and other roles she plays well. "I play my motherhood and wife roles as required. I always have time for myself because I need to be me. If I don't spare some time, I don't think I can handle the children and my husband well," she says.

To couples and parents, especially in this era when marriages do not last and the marriage institution has been shunned by many young people, they have a word of advice.

"Let God be the foundation of your marriage. The day you remove Him from your marriage, it will die. Just like the three-legged African stool that needs each leg for it to be stable; there is need for husband and wife to connect with God in everything they do. The husband is the vision of the family while the wife is the helper of the vision and God is the source of the vision. Communication is important in a marriage and if couples adhere to this, they will have a good marriage," she says in conclusion.



Mullen Awuor and Pastor James Magak.

MULLEN
Each child is unique. They portray different talents, but we don't make comparisons.



Pastor James Magak, his wife Mullen Awuor and their six children. PD/ COURTESY



DADDY'S DIARY WITH JUSTUS NJOROGE

Should you stay in an unhappy marriage for the sake of your children?

Some years back, I used to argue that it's foolhardy for anyone to stick in an unhappy marriage because of children. I would make arguments such as, "You deserve to be happy", "Children will eventually leave," "You should not sacrifice your life because of children, walk out of the unhappy marriage." I would castigate such people, especially the women, as being unreasonable and foolish.

But having been married for over

a decade, I now fully understand and my view is different. Having developed that close bond with children for these years, it is difficult to leave the children behind or deprive them of one of the parents. It is not a simple rational decision and matters of the heart cannot be rationalised.

Recently, I have seen people getting divorced or separated after 30 plus years in marriage. I used to wonder why, but now I know better.

Such people, especially women, stuck in unhappy marriages to allow their children to complete their education and once they were out of their home, there was no more reason to stick in the unhappy marriage. The main reason that lead them to stay is no longer valid and they can freely express their opinions and their children who are adults would fully understand their decision.

But should you stick in unhappy

and abusive marriage just because of your children? This is not a simple answer, as matters of the heart cannot be argued logically. It's not a straight yes or no answer, there are many variations at play. I think this is a personal decision that one would need to make depending on your situation.

If the marriage is physically abusive, should you still stick along? I don't think so. Your life and that of your children will be in great danger.

You may be maimed or even killed by the abusive spouse.

Is there a threshold, which when passed, it means you can leave your marriage irrespective of the impact on your children? I don't know. You will have to do your own self-evaluation and make the right decision, in some cases - hanging on there might be the better decision to make.

Relatively Speaking

Sexual violence survivor turns her pain into power

► Inner circle truth

After surviving attempted rape when she was only five years old, **Pendo Jolline** now fights sexual gender-based violence, be it in her profession as an advocate or through her music as a gospel artiste

by Jasmine Atieno
@sparkleMine

Jolline Katama, popularly known as Pendo Jolline in the gospel music circles is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya with special interests in Sexual Gender Based Violence and Child protection. She is a pastor and gospel artiste, an owner of a Gospel Recording Label- Custodian Music and a model. She has received honorary recognitions by international Nongovernmental Organisations (NGO) and universities as one of the artistes advocating against gender based violence through music. She was nominated for the Annual Pwani Golden Awards 2021. She is also a TV host at Chadi TV.

Under her recording label, she has released songs such as *Usifiwe*, *Jomba* and *Godfidence*, which have earned her a lot of popularity in the industry.

Her brother Kitole Kenda, also a Kenyan renowned entertainer and entrepreneur based in Europe has played a huge role in her music career and fashion interests as the younger sister also models for his cloth line — Kenda Apparels, amongst others.

Unforgettable errand

And as Kitole shares, Jolline is the second born in a family of four originally from Mtwapa, Kilifi County. Born to their father Manasseh Katama a businessman and mother Dr Christine Kasichana, a doctorate holder in food Science.

"We grew up in Mtwapa, we spent our early years in a middle-class estate in the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) now Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organisation (KALRO) headquarters, later moving into the then developing ghetto neighbourhood Mikanjuni on our own piece of land and slowly built our privately owned home/house. This change was not easy at all, to say the least," shares Kitole about their childhood.

As a child, Jolline was quiet and kept to herself. However, she was active and cheerful when around people she knew... until something happened that made her build a wall around herself and become rebellious for some time. When she was about five years of age, their mother had sent them to the shop, which was a distance from their home. The road to the shop passed through an abandoned house in the middle of a mini-forest. As children, these trips also involved other personal errands—while Kitole rode his tyre, he left his sister behind who was also picking grass

to make herself a doll. While she was at it, a group of about five men approached and grabbed her and attempted to rape her. While Kitole had gone a long distance, he noticed that his sister was not behind him and decided to go back for her—he found the men right in the middle of their dirty business. They dropped her and ran away and he carried her home.

Voice of reason

This is an experience that traumatised Jolline for a long time, and it is just one of the attempted rape cases that she survived. This opened her eyes to the societal rot called rape and sexual gender-based violence and she made it a lifetime goal to fight for victims of Sexual Gender Based Violence and also fight for children's protection.

The 30-year-old gospel musician attended SOS Kindergarten, Nyali before joining Ganjoni Primary School, Mombasa for her primary education. She later joined Murray Girls High School, Taita Taveta and transferred to Mtwapa Elite Academy where she sat her Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education exams before joining the

KITOLE

She creates her music through tunes straight from her head.. she just sings, hums and fill line after line till the song is done

Kitole Kenda and his sister Jolline Pendo. BELOW: Jolline strikes her model poses. PD/JASMINE ATIENO



University of Nairobi as a law student.

"She was a joyful child. Her musical journey started in church... singing in Seventh-day Adventist and Methodist churches at the age of eight. It is our mum who helped nurture her talent forcing her to sing in church and threaten her if she didn't. Later, her talent was nurtured through music classes, grandma and I," shares Kitole.

As her big brother and also a top musician, Kitole taught her the art of song writing and being the fast learner that she is, she picked up the pieces, put them together and created her own style.

Her breakthrough song as he shares was *Usifiwe* and *Jomba*. The songs received massive airplay on mainstream media, especially on Sunday. *Jomba* received recognition by NGOs such as Power Action Changers and Rotary Club, and University of Nairobi in collaboration with UN Women, as a song for advocacy against gender-based violence.

"What makes her songs unique is that she does her gospel music pouring all her soul, skills, experience, truth and the Word, a rare combination to be found in this generation. She creates her music through tunes straight from her head rather than writing down the lyrics... she just sings, hums and fills up line after line as she goes till the song is done. Sometimes she uses musical instrument and sometimes, she doesn't. Jolline arranges her music

chord by chord while playing her base guitar as she goes along. My favourite song from is *Faith is all I have*," shares the proud brother.

Guilty pleasures

Her strongest trait as he shares is her courage and focus. She is focused to a fault and she can stand up to anyone, no matter what size or what position in society they hold.

"I think this is useful in her law and advocacy career as well as entertainment. This inspires me as a person as well. I have always felt that I should be a better example as a first born, from a young age. This has kept me going, when I see my siblings doing good for themselves," he intimates.

When she is not busy with her work, you will catch her playing bass guitar and singing or reading books, in her case it is mostly the Bible. Unlike many models that have turned most finger foods to taboos, Kitole intimates that her sister's guilty pleasure is actually snacking, junk food, and her favourite meal being hot honey glazed chicken and guacamole. Her petite body is simply God given.

For Jolline, there is no telling where she will be in the next five years.

"I can't really tell. All I can say is that she is self driven and focused to a fault. So the future is definitely limitless for her. Great untold things lie underway in wait for her," he says.

AT A GLANCE

● Pendo Jolline is a gospel artiste, owner of Custodian Music recording label, a model a TV host and an advocate of the High Court.

● She has released several songs such as *Usifiwe*, *Jomba* *Faith is all I have* and *Godfidence*, among others.

● When she is not busy with her work, you will catch her playing bass guitar and singing or studying the Bible.

● Despite being a model, she likes snacking and eating junk foods.



Taboo ▶ Let's talk about it

The mystic moon and its energies

At the sight of this heavenly body, Muslims marked the end of the Holy month of Ramadhan. This shows that the cyclic body holds a lot of religious significance. Astrologers, healers and some faithfuls believe in its potent and powerful power

by Jasmine Atieno

✉@sparkleMine

Muslims all over the world marked the end of the holy month of Ramadhan after the sighting of the moon. The crescent moon holds a lot of religious significance for the Muslim community all over the world. It denotes the start and the end of the month of Ramadhan, the holy month of prayer and fasting.

"The Islamic calendar is based on Lunar cycle. Each month lasts for a full lunation, which is the time span from one New Moon to the next. Traditionally, this is based on actual observation of the crescent (hilal) marking the end of the previous lunar cycle. Each month can have 29 or 30 days depending on the visibility of the moon, astronomical positioning of the earth and weather conditions," shares Mwanaidi Mohammed, an Islam teacher.

Great significance

Female Ustadh, Fatma Ahmed shares that the moon is an important feature in Islam spiritual practices since the passing on of their Prophet, Mohammed. "The moon is significant to all of us human, but for us Muslims we observe the moon for 12 months as we go through the year. The Islamic calendar started three months after the death of the prophet. Before then, it was all just the observation of the moon. All our events follow the same. It is significant for recording of these events; we start fasting and end when the moon appears. Then there are three days in a month for fasting, we call them the white days, which also

have to align with the moon. On the 15th day of the cycle when the moon is on its fullest, it's known that it holds a lot of tragedies. People are in the hottest of moods and are angered easily, so at the beginning of the month we pray so that the month can be peaceful and holds blessings," shares the Ustadh.

The spiritual meaning of the moon can vary. The Quran includes a chapter titled the "The Moon," in which the split or crescent moon is a harbinger of the day of judgment. Moreover, the moon is associated with Muhammad in Muslim poetry, and the mystical tradition known as sufism uses the moon as a symbol of the heart responsive to the light of truth.

As Mijikenda elder John Baya shares, the moon holds a lot of mysticism culturally as well and it all varies between the different communities and their interactions. "The moon has been perceived spiritually as the source of mystic powers. First at the coast, the moon is known to have certain powers that affect the ocean. It is also believed that the moon phases affect people with mental issues. The crescent moon, especially influences mental status of those who are mentally unstable," he shares.

He says the moon is said to hold some divine powers. "One of these is its healing powers; this is why some of the diviners will wait for when the moon is full so they can hold their cultural activities. The moon itself is associated with the powers to sort out spirits. This creates a clarification between the spirits that move during the night, the spirits which move in darkness and those that move in the moon



JOHN BAYA

At the coast, the moon is known to have certain powers that affect the ocean. It is also believed to have healing power



PASTOR T MWANGI

In the spiritual realm, witches use the moon to cause witchcraft. It makes it possible for them to release demons

AT A GLANCE

● Astrologers, healers, and the spiritually connected teach that the full moon and the new moon energies are the most powerful.

● While the new moon is a time to set intentions for the future and launch new projects, the full moon is a time of culmination and fruition.

● Waning moon phases after the full moon help you to let go. Just as the light of the moon is retreating itself into darkness during two weeks, the influence of the moon is also retreating itself and therefore supports you to let go of old things.

light," shares the elder.

On the other hand, Pastor T Mwangi of Life Church Limuru, shares that before Abraham (a man who came to be known as the friend of God and father of nations) was called by God, he too came from a lineage of moon worshippers. Abraham was born and raised in Ur of the Chaldees, which is in modern Iraq, near Nasiriyah in the southeastern part of the country. This was an ancient city that flourished until about 300 BC. The great ziggurat of Ur was built by Ur-Nammu around 2100 BC and was dedicated to Nanna, the moon god.

Moon worship

The moon was worshipped as the power that controlled the heavens and the life cycle on earth. To the Chaldeans, the phases of the moon represented the natural cycle of birth, growth, decay, and death and also set the measurement of their yearly calendar. Among the pantheon of Mesopotamian gods, Nanna was supreme, because he was the source of fertility for crops, herds, and families. Prayers and offerings were offered to the moon to invoke its blessing. "The calendar that was used then has a similarity to what the Jews, Greeks and even Muslims use today, the Lunar calendar, which revolves around the cycle of the moon. The calendar we have today with the days of the weeks are Roman in nature, and all fall under the Lunar calendar. So, astrology and study of heavenly bodies is real, but this intelligence is not biblical in nature, it is divination which we don't project, but we don't ignore its existence," shares Pastor T.

Ancient literature and in the realm of histories, show men as 'Stars' and other heavenly bodies. That is why Jesus is called 'The Bright Morning Star.' This is a kind of ranking in the realm of spirits. "In the spiritual realm, witches use the moon to cause witchcraft. It makes it possible for them to release demons, and also to interfere with people's destinies. I have also heard about the rise of madness cases during some phases of the moon. The word 'Lunatic' (a possession by spirit of madness) comes from the word 'Lunar,'" he says.

BRIEFLY

How TB influenced Victorian fashion

Before influencers and advertisements, fashion relied on other factors to steer trends — including deadly diseases. One of the oldest diseases in human history, tuberculosis has had lasting impacts on the world. But it also had an unexpected influence on Victorian fashion when people began to romanticise it.

When tuberculosis began to spread with fervor during the Victorian era, the way it was contracted still wasn't fully understood. It became an epidemic and heavily impacted life in Europe and North America. During this time, it killed nearly one in five people, and around 40 per cent of deaths in heavily populated cities were caused by the disease.

It was often called "consumption" because of how much weight those inflicted with tuberculosis lost. Another nickname was "the white plague" because of how pale people would become. And yet, its final nickname was "the romantic disease." People became enamored with the physical effects of contracting the illness. Pale skin, thin waists, and flushed lips and cheeks from long-term fevers were seen as quite desirable!

As the disease took hold further, scientists began to understand germ theory and transmission. More women were getting sick than men, and they began to realise that it wasn't sanitary to have long trains flowing behind them and dragging through the spit-covered streets. So, gowns shortened and lost their trains. This made it so that shoes were more visible, making their appearance more important.

Though thin waists became popular and women that were ill got slimmer, people realised that emulating the look with restrictive lung-squishing boned corsets was not the most comfortable option when tuberculosis caused rough bouts of coughing. That led to dresses that were cinched at the waist to allow for a slimming effect without the tight pressure.

Voluminous skirts that gave the appearance of a slimmer waist became popular, too. The light fabrics gave way to thicker and sturdier materials. Consumption made the women who were ill appear much weaker and more subdued, and fashion leaned back toward the puritanical to emulate this. Those who were not sick powdered their face to appear pale, rouged their cheeks, and wore dresses that pulled their posture into a fragile and unsteady state.



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FOOTBALL

Real hope
title momentum
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City - Pg32



APS Bomet, Zoo fall from top Super league spots

by Barry Silah
@PeopleDailyKe

The race for premiership promotion at the national super league this season is full blown after two rivals fell along the way on Monday as the table structure changed.

APS Bomet FC and Zoo FC were the biggest casualties with their places being occupied by other teams as the season's see-saw performance continues and the race for the lower tier league title gets hotter.

Only Fortune Sacco who are now at the top though on shared 41 points with APS got good tidings.

The Kirinyaga side won 2-1 against visitors Kisumu All-Stars FC at home in Ki-anyaga Stadium.

Sacco have been inconsistent before the Monday match where their previous two matches ended in a draw and a loss.

In the last five duels, the Kirinyaga County gem has won only twice with all eyes

now firmly on the technical bench to ensure some tidy consistent performances with positive results.

The team has a +10-goal difference to their favour with the lowest goals conceded (17) in the division out of 23 matches played.

Fortune Sacco next face 14th placed Coastal Heroes at home as they seek to maintain their foothold at the apex of the League.

Meanwhile, previous league leaders APS Bomet were humiliated 2-0 by relegation-threatened Migori Youth at the Awendo Stadium to push them below Fortune Sacco due to inferior goal difference.

However, APS have a match in hand and could easily still eclipse but the glitch could very well be an advantage to the new table toppers.

Two draws in their last five matches have also slowed down the South Rift side which is under the tutelage of Charles Odera.



APS Bomet winger Caleb Mugubu (left) vies with Kibera Black Stars Wesley Onguso in a past Super League match at Camp Toyoyo. PD/ DAVID NDOLO

O'Sullivan pip Trump to bag world's title seventh time

SNOOKER: Ronnie O'Sullivan beat Judd Trump 18-13 to win the World Snooker Championship title for the seventh time, equaling the record held by Stephen Hendry. The world number one returned to the table on Monday with a 12-5 lead from Sunday, but the 2019 world champion Trump fought hard to close the gap within three frames at 14-11. In the final session, the Rocket dominated the table again, winning the world title at the age of 46 to become the oldest champion in the season-ending tournament. -Xinhua

Leverkusen see off resilient Frankfurt in Bundesliga

FOOTBALL: Bayer Leverkusen made a big step towards a top-three finish after beating Eintracht Frankfurt 2-0 thanks to the goals from Paulinho and Patrik Schick at the 32nd round in Bundesliga on Monday. The "Werkself" took the reins from the starting whistle and kept Frankfurt's sturdy defense busy with counterattacks. Leverkusen's strategy paid off as the hosts broke the deadlock with 18 minutes gone when Moussa Diaby raced down the right-wing before sending a square pass to Paulinho, who finished the job from close range. The home side remained in control and should have doubled the lead, but unmarked Edmond Tapsoba missed the target. -Xinhua

Kenya's tennis team in Kigali for East Africa championships

TENNIS: Kenya's tennis team yesterday left for Kigali, Rwanda for the Confederation of African Tennis (CAT) East Africa Zone Under 14 and 16 Championships for both men and women categories that will run all through this week to May 9. The competition is a qualifier for the African Junior Team Championships to be held later this year. The last edition was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in 2020 with last year's cancelled due to the ravages of Covid-19. Kenya is the defending champion in both Girls 14 and 16 categories. The team of 12 players will be led by captains Rosemary Owino and Joseph Karanja. -Barry Silah



Kenya Simbas captain Davis Chenge dives for a try during Rugby Africa Gold Cup match against Tunisia in 2020 at Nairobi's RFUEA Grounds. PD/ALEX NJUE

Kenya to host two Currie Cup matches

South African sides Leopards, Eastern Province to play against Simbas as trophy's campaign debuts at home

by Alex Njue
@PeopleDailyKe

Kenya will host two matches of the South African Currie Cup league in Nairobi next month.

have agreed to have the two matches played here in Nairobi at the RFUEA Grounds on June 4 and 11. We are very excited to see the Simbas play at home before the qualifiers. The last time the Simbas played in front of the fans was back in 2019 and the Currie Cup will be a perfect treat for the fans," Oduor said.

Worthwhile experience

"The competitive nature is very crucial for Kenya Simbas in the final stages of their preparations for the July Rugby World Cup (RWC) qualifiers. It's a worthwhile experience for the players despite the results. Only the defence and the areas of the set piece need perfection before we head to the qualifiers," he added.

Without a shirt sponsor, Simbas are still geared to prove themselves against big teams.

Manana said, "Kenya Simbas can only grow from this competition. When we allowed Kenya and the two other teams, we did not know the excitement it would create here. Eastern Province will come on the 9th and play on the 11th of June."

As Simbas face their first opponent - the Leopards, Hare hopes it will in turn become an annual event.



Experts set up athletics equipment at Kasarani

by Amos Abuga
@PeopleDailyKe

Experts from Belgium-based sports events and entertainment company, Golazo Group spent the better part of yesterday morning setting up equipment at the Moi International Sports Centre, Kasarani ahead of Saturday's Kip Keino Classic.

It will be the third season Golazo, who are also the organisers of the AG Memorial Van Damme World Athletics Diamond League meeting will be part of the only Continental Tour event in Africa.

Galazo has partnered with Athletics Kenya to organise the World Athletics Continental Tour Gold, Kenyan leg (Kip Keino

Classic) in Nairobi since its inaugural edition in 2020.

"The team was at the competition venue to help put in place broadcast and other technical equipment ahead of our event on Saturday," said meet director Barnaba Korir (pictured).

"The electronic timing system has been set up in the stadium alongside other live broadcast equipment.

The refurbishment of the media tribune which has been going on is at 90 percent complete," said Korir.

The showstopper event will be the men's 100m where Olympic champion Jacobs Marcell from Italy will battle with African record holder Ferdinand Omanyala and

Olympic 200m silver medalist Fred Kerley. The race is set for 5.55pm.

Three time Olympics 100m champion Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce from Jamaica against Tokyo Olympics 200m silver medalist Christine Mboma of Namibia and American sprinter Sha'Carri Richardson among others, will face off at 4.04pm.

The women's 200m is set for 5.22pm. Four-time world hammer throw champion Pawel Fajdek and Olympics champion Wojciech Nowicki, all from Poland, will renew their rivalry in Nairobi at 4.24pm.

Olympic champion Anita Włodarczyk from Poland headlines the women's hammer throw event that will get underway at 2.20pm.



Daggers drawn

Kenya's Kumari Taki leads a star-studded 1500m lineup for Kip Keino Classic on Saturday

by Amos Abuga
@PeopleDailyKe

The 2016 World Under 20 1,500m champion Kumari Taki will be keen to extend his recent fine form when he competes at the Kenyan leg of the 2022 World Athletics Continental Tour Gold (Kip Keino Classic) on Saturday at Kasarani.

Taki fresh from finishing second during the Athletics Kenya National Championships at the same venue last week has been on a comeback journey from an injury that ruled him out of the competition last

season. "I have now successfully competed at the national championships and Police Championship in the last two weeks and I feel good about it and most importantly fit again," said Taki.

"Kip Keino is yet another chance for me to do a personal assessment and gauge what I have to do to get to the top level," added Taki who was named in Team Kenya for the Africa Senior Athletics Championships slated for June 8-12 in Mauritius.

During the race classified as discretionary, Taki will face in-form World Indoors bronze medal-

ist Abel Kipsang, Tokyo Olympic 5,000m bronze medalist, United States' Kenyan-born Paul Chelimo and defending champion Vincent Keter. Others are Ethiopians Wegene Addisu, Adisu Girma and Melkamu Zegeye.

Record holder

The 2018 Africa 1,500m bronze medalist Ronald Musagala from Uganda and the 2016 World Indoor 800m silver medalist Antoine Gakeme of Burundi will also be in action. The list also includes World Under 20 1,500m record holder Ronald Kwemai and Charles Simotwo.

Meanwhile, World Under 20 800m bronze medalist Noah Kibet has welcomed fans to Kasarani on Saturday to experience top performances.

Kibet said the presence of fans at the one-day World Continental Tour Gold meet will inspire him and many other Kenyan athletes to greatness in their respective races.

"The last time this event was held, we were in the thick of the Covid-19 pandemic and so the fans could not attend in their numbers. This time the government has allowed people to come and watch. We need you to come and fill all these seats on Saturday," said World Indoors 800m silver medalist who will be out to defend his title on Saturday.

Kumari Taki (centre) reacts during the Athletics Kenya National Championships at Kasarani last week. PD/DAVID NDOLO

Kenya's fastest woman Imali braces for Keino Classic

by Amos Abuga
@PeopleDailyKe

National 100m women's record holder Maxmilah Imali is envisioning huge potential when she faces the world's best during the third edition of the Kip Keino Classic, a World Athletics Continental Gold Tour event to be held on Saturday in Nairobi.

The race which pits eight-time Olympic medalist and 10-time world champion, Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce from Jamaica against Tokyo Olympics 200m silver medalist Christine Mboma of Namibia and American sprinter Sha'Carri Richardson among others, will start at 4.04pm.

Also in the mix is fast-rising sprinter Beatrice Masilingi who claimed a silver medal in 100m and 200m races at the 2021 World Athletics Under-20 Championships in Nairobi.

Qualifying time

"I guess anything is possible, my target is to meet the qualifying time of 11.24 seconds. I will be up among

the very best in the world who will push me towards recording the best times," said Imali.

Last week, Imali set a new national record of 11.35 during the Athletics Kenya National Championships at the Moi International Sports Centre.

"I am living my best time as a sprinter, it is nice to have a seat on the high table with the who is who in the world," added Imali whose new mark will now await ratification by Athletics Kenya. Imali is the current national holder with a time of 11.77 which she clocked in March during the National Police Service Championships.

Besides the 100m, the women are likely to confront each other again in the 200m that will be staged at 5.22pm.

According to meet director Barnaba Korir, the Continental Tour Gold meet will start at 12.35pm on Saturday.

It will have 21 events - nine core, eight discretionary and four national. Javelin throw will get the action going from 12.35pm.



National 100m women's record Maxmilah Imali in action at a past event. PD/DAVID NDOLO

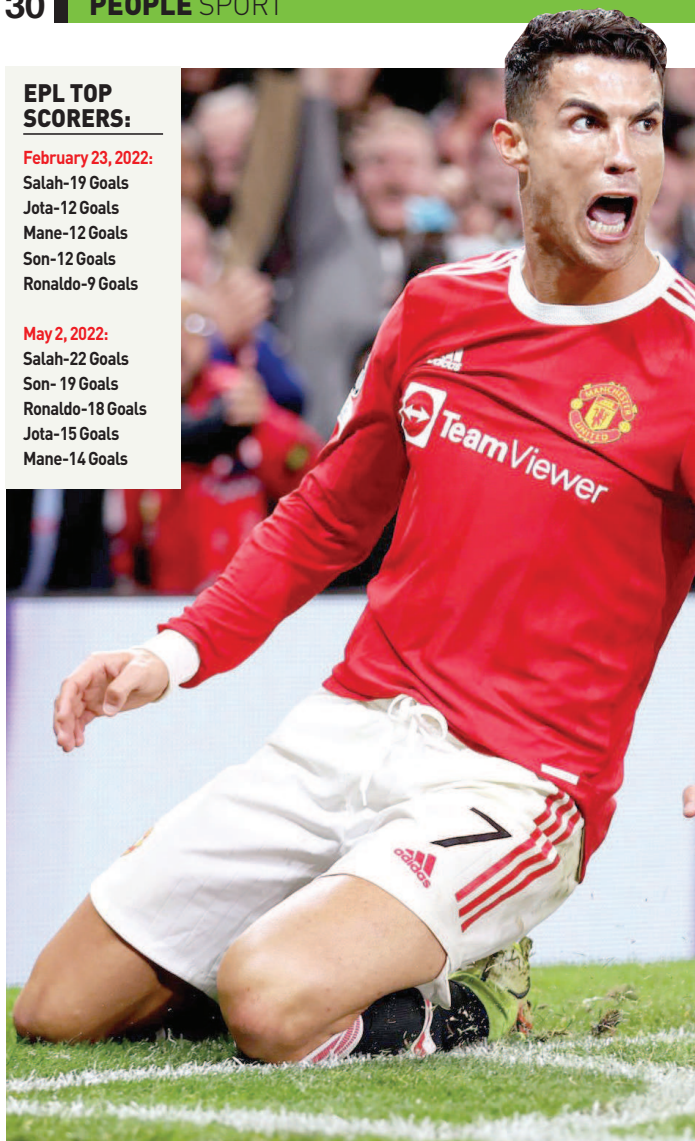
EPL TOP SCORERS:

February 23, 2022:

Salah-19 Goals
Jota-12 Goals
Mane-12 Goals
Son-12 Goals
Ronaldo-9 Goals

May 2, 2022:

Salah-22 Goals
Son-19 Goals
Ronaldo-18 Goals
Jota-15 Goals
Mane-14 Goals



Ronaldo's bravado eases pressure on Utd

Manchester United stroll takes sting out of fan protest against Glazers

■ Manchester, Tuesday
@PeopleDailyKe

Manchester United took the sting out of their fans' latest protest against the Glazer family as they eased to a 3-0 win against Brentford on Monday. Ahead of a summer of change for troubled United, Ralf Rangnick's side won for just the second time in seven games to keep the atmosphere from turning toxic at Old Trafford.

Bruno Fernandes struck early in the first half and Cristiano Ronaldo (pictured) converted a second half penalty before France defender Raphael Varane bagged his first goal for United.

Despite winning their last home game of the season, United remain in sixth place in the Premier League with two games left.

They sit five points adrift of the top four with no realistic hope of qualifying for next season's Champions League.

Fittingly, it was under grey, rain-filled skies that fans protested against despised owners the Glazers for a third successive home match.

Offensive chants

Outside the stadium before kick-off, a group of supporters held up anti-Glazer banners, set off red smoke bombs and made offensive chants about the club's owners.

United fans had been urged by the protesters to leave the stadium with 17 minutes left in the match -- one minute for every year the United States-based Glazers have owned the club.

But that idea proved a damp squib as only a handful left their seats.

There were more empty seats by the time United embarked on a post-match lap of appreciation, but no overt signs of dissent

towards their underachieving stars.

"In possession that was one of our best performances this year. It was the type of performance we wanted to show to our supporters," Rangnick said.

Regardless, there is no doubting the overall level of frustration at another trophyless season for United, who haven't won the Premier League since 2013 and last lifted a major trophy five years ago.

Aside from a few scathing comments about the club's direction, Rangnick has done little to jolt United out of their malaise since replacing the sacked Ole Gunnar Solskjaer in November.

"In the end I'm not happy with the results, especially in the last four or five weeks. In general we have lacked consistency," Rangnick said.

"It's obvious quite a few players will leave and there is a need for top quality players."

"Other clubs only needed two or three transfer windows to challenge. I strongly believe that if everyone works together we can bring Man Utd back to where we need to be."

Rangnick was in charge of his last home game as United interim manager before the recently-hired Erik ten Hag arrives from Ajax to start his rebuilding job next season. **-AFP**

BRIEFLY



Murray sees off Thiem in Madrid, Halep surges on

MADRID: Andy Murray has urged Dominic Thiem to "keep going" in his comeback from injury after Murray defeated the Austrian 6-3, 6-4 in the Madrid Open first round to claim his first win on a clay court in five years. Thiem returned from a 10-month wrist injury lay-off four weeks ago and has yet to taste victory in any of the four matches he has contested so far. Former world No.1 Murray, who has spent several seasons dealing with hip problems and recovering from surgeries, gave Thiem some words of encouragement at the end of their clash at the Caja Magica. "I hope you feel better soon. I'm glad to see you back." **-AFP**

Veteran Mueller extends Bayern Munich contract

BERLIN: Thomas Mueller has extended his contract with Bayern Munich until 2024, it was announced on Tuesday, with the Germany international set to spend his entire professional career at the Bundesliga champions, who he joined as a 10-year-old. "The journey we have taken together since I joined the youth team in 2000 has been a fantastic success story so far," said Mueller, 32, who won a record 11th league title with the Bavarians this season. "So let's continue it together," added the 2014 World Cup winner, who has made 112 appearances for Germany since his international debut in 2010. Mueller as well as top-scorer Robert Lewandowski. **-Xinhua**



Salernitana continue miracle Serie A escape act with Atalanta draw

BERGAMO: Salernitana maintained their bold bid for Serie A survival on Monday with a 1-1 draw at Atalanta which pulled them closer to safety. Mario Pasalic's 88th-minute leveller denied Salernitana a fourth straight win after Ederson had poked the away side ahead just before the half hour but the draw moved them to within two points of Cagliari, who sit just outside the relegation zone. Davide Nicola's team host Cagliari this coming Sunday after playing their game in hand with bottom side Venezia on Thursday. **-AFP**

Phoenix Suns eclipse Doncic heroics, Heat scorch Sixers



Maxi Kleber (right) of the Dallas Mavericks plays defence on Deandre Ayton of the Phoenix Suns during Game 1 of the 2022 NBA Playoffs Western Conference Semifinals on May 2, 2022 in Phoenix, Arizona. **-AFP**

■ Miami, Tuesday
@PeopleDailyKe

Deandre Ayton scored 25 points as top seeds Phoenix overpowered Luka Doncic and the Dallas Mavericks on Monday while Miami exploited the absence of Joel Embiid

to rout Philadelphia in the NBA playoffs.

Doncic led the scoring with a game-high 45 points but it was not enough to stop Phoenix claiming a wire-to-wire 121-114 victory in the best-of-seven Western Conference semi-final series opener.

Ayton shot 12-of-20 from the field for Phoenix while Devin Booker added offensive thrust with 23 points, nine rebounds and eight assists.

Chris Paul chipped in with 19 points and Cameron Johnson added 17 from the bench as six Suns players posted double-digit points totals.

Phoenix had sprinted out of the blocks to lead by 10 at the end of the first quarter and surged into a 69-56 lead at the interval.

They led by as much as 21 points in the final quarter before a furious late onslaught led by Doncic saw Dallas get to within five points in the closing seconds.

The Mavs rally ultimately fell short, however, leaving Phoenix 1-0 up ahead of game two on Wednesday.

Tyler Herro scored 25 points from the bench as the Miami Heat swept aside the depleted Philadelphia 76ers 106-92 in their Eastern Conference series opener. **-AFP**



Get set for Uhuru Classic

All preparations are complete for the inaugural Nairobi City Marathon to be run on the new Expressway on Sunday, President Kenyatta to flag off athletes who will battle for Sh6.9m winner's prize

by Amos Abunga
@PeopleDailyKe

Nairobi police traffic department has released an elaborate road closure diversions ahead of the inaugural Uhuru Classic Nairobi City Marathon as preparations for the race planned for Sunday moved a notch higher.

The affected roads are sections of Mombasa road, Uhuru Highway, Upper Hill and Forest road while within the CBD, Kenyatta Avenue, Muindi Mbingu and sections of Haile Selassie and University Way will also be closed.

Motorists from Mombasa road heading towards the CBD and Westlands have been advised to use the Southern Bypass or Likoni, Enterprise and Lusaka roads to avoid inconveniences on Uhuru Highway. Traffic to and out of the city will be diverted to alternative roads between 4am and 2pm.

International standards

Athletics Kenya (AK) president Jackson Tuwei said the course has been certified to international standards so any record broken will be internationally recognised.

The start and finish line for the marathon will be at Nyayo Stadium with the 42km run winding through the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, Central Business District, ABC Place in Westlands and will see the competitors cover 33km on the Nairobi Expressway and 9km on the rest of the normal city roads.

Tuwei said the full marathon race will start at the Nyayo Na-



tional Stadium from where athletes will snake through the Nairobi Expressway all the way to the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport turn-off.

The competitors will then exit the Nairobi Expressway and branch off to Haile Selassie Avenue towards the Cooperative House Roundabout before turning left to Moi Avenue.

They will then drop to City Hall Way around Kencom House, onto Taifa Road and then onto Harambee Avenue, Uhuru Highway and back to City Hall Way before they head to Kimathi Street.

The competitors will then turn left to Kenyatta Avenue, branch onto Koinange Street then turn left to Monrovia Street through Muindi Mbingu Street and back to Kenyatta Avenue.

They will then head to Moi Avenue, and run all the way to University Way roundabout, and back to University Way before hitting the Globe Cinema Roundabout onto Kipande road and Museum Hill roundabout.

Prize money

They will then return to the Nairobi Expressway and run all the way to ABC Place at the junction of James Guchuru road, where they will turn and head to the finish at the Nyayo



National Stadium.

The half marathon competitors will avoid the city centre by staying on the Nairobi Expressway. They will make turns at Ole Sereni Hotel, and at the ABC Westlands then head back to the finish at the Nyayo National Stadium.

The 10km racers will make turns at Capital Centre and Museum Hill, and turn back to the Nyayo National Stadium.

The organisers have set aside \$389,500 (about Sh44.8 million) as prize money for the Uhuru Classic out of which \$370,000 (Sh42.55m) will cater for prize money in men's and women's marathon races.

The men's and women's winner will each take home \$60,000 (Sh6.9m) in prize money with the second placed athletes in each of the categories pocketing \$35,000 (Sh4.02m).

Several sections of the Nairobi City Marathon race course which will see athletes compete for a winner's prize of Sh6.9 million on the new Expressway that is set to be opened to the public after the marathon. PD/ DAVID NDOLLO



Bernabeu ready for fireworks



Real Madrid hope title momentum can boost Man City comeback bid

Madrid, Wednesday

@PeopleSports11

As Real Madrid celebrated their La Liga title win, Carlo Ancelotti was already trying to direct momentum towards Wednesday's Champions League semi-final second leg against Manchester City.

Madrid had beaten Espanyol 4-0 on Saturday and the players were celebrating at Plaza Cibeles after an open-top bus had wound its way through the city to the statue where players and fans always toast their biggest trophies.

"And now to Wednesday, yes we can!" Ancelotti shouted at the adoring crowd, who chanted back "si, se puede!", "yes we can!"

Many had wondered whether celebrations were appropriate or sensible, given how they were sandwiched between the two mammoth games against City, especially after Pep Guardiola's side left Madrid needing to pull off another rescue act following the Spanish champions' 4-3 defeat in the first leg.

Beyond concerns about recovery or fatigue, there were suggestions that dwelling on a 35th Spanish league title might reduce, even subconsciously, some of the

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
2021-2022

Semi-final 2nd leg

Wednesday
May 4 at 19:00 GMT
Santiago Bernabeu Stadium, Madrid
1st leg score: 3-4



REAL MADRID		IN C1 THIS YEAR		MANCHESTER CITY	
CARLO ANCELOTTI (ITA) Coach		7 WINS 0 DRAWS 4 LOSSES		PEP GUARDIOLA (ESP) Coach	
SHOTS	on target			on target	SHOTS
163	63			59	178
GOALS	conceded	Passing accuracy (%)		conceded	GOALS
25	13	88.1	90.6	13	28

LAST 5 SEASONS
(2017-2018) Winners ◀ Best performance ▶ Finalists (2020-2021)

Source: UEFA Champions League 2021/22

AFP

need- and desperation to chase a 14th European Cup.

But Ancelotti was in no doubt that celebrations, with all the positivity and energy attached, would help, not hinder, Madrid's pursuit of another Champions League final.

"A celebration is good for the mental side of things," Ancelotti said. "We are professionals. Tonight we all celebrate together. Tomorrow we train and Wednesday we have another important match. If during the celebrations someone cuts their foot or a leg, okay, but that won't happen."

Madrid performed a similar routine before their sensational comeback against Paris Saint-Germain in the last 16. After thrashing Real Sociedad at the Santiago Bernabeu the Saturday before the return leg, Real Madrid's players walked back onto the pitch long after the final whistle, to applaud and absorb the chants of the fans, who were urging the team to believe a comeback was possible.

Manchester City, though, are a different proposition to PSG, a more complete, astute and resolute team, who will be less vulnerable to the aura of Real Madrid in Europe and the gusts of momentum that seem to sweep through the Santiago Bernabeu on biggest European nights.-AFP

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MEGA JACKPOT
KSHS **206,921,595**

LAST WEEK'S MEGA JACKPOT BONUSES

14 CORRECT PREDICTIONS KSHS. **254,259** EACH
13 CORRECT PREDICTIONS KSHS. **31,089** EACH

12 CORRECT PREDICTIONS
KSHS. **6,745** EACH

WINNING COMBO: 2,2,2,2,2,2,1,2,1,1,X,2,2,X,X,1



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MEGA JACKPOT

DATE	TIME	GAME	1	X	2
1. 07/05/2022	17:00	Burnley vs Aston Villa	2.89	3.24	2.44
2. 07/05/2022	17:00	Brentford vs Southampton	2.23	3.43	3.08
3. 07/05/2022	19:00	Sassuolo vs Udinese	2.26	3.62	2.88
4. 07/05/2022	19:30	Hertha BSC vs Mainz	2.53	3.38	2.63
5. 07/05/2022	19:30	Brighton vs Manchester Utd	2.63	3.27	2.64
6. 07/05/2022	20:00	Amiens vs Paris FC	2.92	3.17	2.52
7. 07/05/2022	20:00	SL Benfica vs FC Porto	2.74	3.49	2.41
8. 07/05/2022	21:00	PEC Zwolle vs Utrecht	2.88	3.42	2.35
9. 08/05/2022	14:30	Holstein Kiel vs Nurnberg	2.64	3.34	2.59
10. 08/05/2022	16:00	Leicester vs Everton	2.34	3.24	3.04
11. 08/05/2022	16:00	Reims vs Lens	2.98	3.23	2.35
12. 08/05/2022	16:00	Venezia vs Bologna	2.93	3.33	2.36
13. 08/05/2022	17:15	Villarreal vs Sevilla FC	2.30	3.27	3.08
14. 08/05/2022	17:45	Feyenoord vs PSV Eindhoven	2.73	3.57	2.39
15. 08/05/2022	19:00	Salernitana vs Cagliari	2.41	3.29	2.89
16. 08/05/2022	19:30	Espanyol vs Osasuna	2.62	3.17	2.72
17. 08/05/2022	22:00	Atletico Madrid vs Real Madrid	2.39	3.33	2.89

WEDNESDAY 4TH MAY 2022

TIME	GAME ID	GAME	1	X	2
18:00	5475	Chippa Utd vs Cape Town City	3.98	2.98	2.09
18:30	4245	Bouake FC vs ASEC Mimosas	7.69	3.75	1.41
19:00	1324	FC Krasnodar vs Lokomotiv Moscow	2.41	3.35	2.85
19:00	3578	Alshoulla vs Al Qadisiyah	2.92	2.77	2.49
19:00	5170	FC Midtjylland vs Vejle BK	1.39	4.56	7.73
19:10	1031	Persepolis FC vs Peykan FC	1.36	4.34	9.48
19:15	3992	AL Ain vs AL Khlood	2.28	2.78	3.26
19:30	5427	Ferencváros TC vs Zalaegerszegi TE	1.36	4.90	8.00
20:00	5782	Slovakia vs Sparta Prague	2.83	3.18	2.48
20:30	1037	Maritzburg Utd vs Real Kings	3.19	2.89	2.47
20:30	5897	AL Sahel SC vs AL Jeel	2.04	2.97	3.59
21:00	2341	ND Gorica vs NK Dob	1.34	4.40	7.65
21:45	4836	Queens Park vs Dunfermline	3.33	3.08	2.27
22:00	2436	Real Madrid vs Manchester City	3.00	3.71	2.18

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