



The SENATE

For the Welfare of Society and the Just government of the People

Issue No. 0014

Weekly

High number of Public Funds in counties forces watchdog committee to intervene

Auditor General says most of the funds are operating outside the main financial system, presenting significant challenges in terms of transparency and accountability



Members of CPISFC: Senator Karungo Thangwa, Senator Tabitha Mutinda and Senator Tom Ojienda follow proceedings during one of the committee's meetings. Right: Auditor General Nancy Gathungu

From November 1, 2023, and for the next five months, the County Public Investments and Special Funds Committee (CPISFC) has planned high level meetings with all the 47 Governors.

The purpose of the meeting is for the lawmakers to establish the state of Public Funds established in each County and deliberate on the challenges the funds face in their administration.

The committee, according to its chair, Senator Godfrey Osotsi, has also scheduled a meeting with the Office of the Controller of Budget (OCOB) to shed light on an issue that experts say has become an avenue of pilfering public resources in the devolved governments.

The law obligates OCOB to regulate the setting up of such County Public

Funds and oversee their general administration.

“The purpose of the meetings is to unearth issues that touch on the management and administration of each of the public fund established in all the counties,” said Senator Osotsi.

The committee made the decision based on the report by the Auditor General Nancy Gathungu which indicates that all the 47 County Governments have in the last three financial years established a total of 267 Public Funds which have collectively received over Sh30.5 billion during that period.

The County Executives have formed 209 Funds compared to 58 by the County Assemblies.

The establishment of the Public

Funds in Counties is provided for in the law, but the Auditor General says most of the Funds are operating outside the main financial system which has created inefficiency in their operations.

The inefficiencies the Auditor General cited include challenges in budgeting, cash management and reporting which can impact the overall financial health of the Fund.

Section 116 of the Public Finance Management Act mandates the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Finance to establish Public Funds in the counties but only with the approval of the County Executive Committee and the County Assembly.

For every Public Fund established, the CEC has the obligation to designate

a person to administer the fund.

The law further mandates the administrator of such a Fund to prepare accounts for the Fund for each financial year and not less than three months after the end of the financial year submit the statement to office of the Auditor General.

The most common Funds in the counties are Education Fund, Bursary Fund, County Car Loan and Mortgage Scheme, Enterprise Fund, Social Protection Fund, Emergency Fund, Assets Leasing Fund, Cooperative Development Revolving Fund, Business Stimulus Fund, Persons With Disability Fund, Youth and Women Enterprise Development Fund.

Ms Gathungu warns that the craze to establish the funds could be an excuse



Senator Godfrey Osotsi, chair CPISFC (right) and Senators Karungo Thangwa, William Kisang and Abdulrahman Miraj at a committee meeting.

by County officials to pilfer public funds through circumventing public Finance management law.

The constitution and the Public Finance Management Act requires any unspent money by a public entity at the end of the financial year to be repaid to the County Revenue Fund. The law requires all the funds by a county and its entities to be first to be remitted to the CRF.

In the brief, Ms Gathungu detailed cross cutting issues facing the management of the funds even as she regretted

that most of the funds do not have a clearly documented budgeting process.

Other issues the Auditor General flagged out include, an increased risk of fraud and corruption, no ceiling on the number of public funds a county can set up and reduced oversight and accountability.

The audit further revealed that the budgets of the Funds are seldom presented to County Assemblies or independent governance structure for approval.

“County Funds set up by County

Governments operate outside IFMIS,” observed Ms Gathungu, adding that the payments made by these funds are mostly manual.

Some of the funds are maintained manually which has resulted in audit issues such as inaccuracies in the financial statements, non-compliance with the Public Sector Accounting Standards Board requirements, unsupported expenditures and unsupported bank withdrawals.

“Operating County Funds outside the

main financial system of a public sector entities presents significant challenges in terms of transparency, accountability, efficiency and regulatory compliance,” said Ms Gathungu.

She adds that unregulated creation of County funds creates administration challenges in oversight as her office may not be aware when new funds are created. It also creates non uniformity in county operations.

“There may be need and purpose to regulate the number of funds counties can set up through an amendment to the PFM laws and regulations as well as county Governments Act

Expenditures incurred by the County Funds are captured in the OCOB quarterly reports as they are not treated as part of the expenditure for the Executive or Assembly.

Caption: Members of CPISFC led by chairman Godfrey Osotsi (right) Senator Karungo Thangwa and Senator Eddy Aketch follow proceedings during one of the committee’s meetings.

Operationalise Coroner’s law, Adhoc Committee directs Attorney General in Shakahola deaths report



Members of Adhoc Committee on Shakahola led by Chair Danson Mungatana listens to a brief from the Police Officer in charge of rescue operations, Chakama Ranch, Kilifi County, when lawmakers visited the area in May 2023.

The Adhoc Committee that investigates the killings In Shakahola Forest has directed the Attorney General Justin Muturi to urgently operationalise the National Coroners Service Act, 2017.

In its report to the House, the commit-

tee says the operationalization of the Act will assist the police in handling investigations involving bodies recovered in Shakahola Forest, scene management, exhumation of bodies, establish the procedures for investigations among others.

The Office would also put in place

measures to prevent deaths from similar causes and facilitate the participation of the coroner at inquests to advise on matters connected with reportable deaths, including matters related to public health or safety and the administration of justice.

“The Attorney General should operationalise the National Coroners Service Act, 2017 within sixty days of the adoption of this report in the Senate,” the committee recommends.

The report was tabled by Senator Mungatana on Thursday, October 19,



Adhoc Committee members and security officers at the entrance of Paul Mackenzie's home on Chakama Ranch.

2023.

The Adhoc Committee was established on Thursday, April 27, 2023, following the adoption of the motion sponsored by Majority Whip Boni Khalwale.

Senator Khalwale was forced to move after on April 25, 2023 the media reported discoveries of people buried in shallow graves in a forest in Shakahola.

The media and security agencies attributed the deaths to a religious group known as Good News International Church linked to one Paul Nthenge Mackenzie.

In the report, the Committee observed that it took the relentless efforts of the families of victims, local human rights organisations and the media to bring the matter to the attention of the country.

The National Coroner's Service Act was passed in parliament in 2017.

Even though it was assented to by President Uhuru Kenyatta, the Attorney General's office is yet to publish regulations to operationalise the Act six years later.

The Act creates a mechanism for mandatory reporting of reportable deaths and

complements police investigation with forensic medical science by establishing a Coroner's Service.

The Act expands the categories of deaths to be investigated to include cases of forced disappearance, while giving absolute control of the deceased's body to the coroner until the disposal stage.

After conducting all the forensic investigation and autopsy on every suspicious deaths, the Coroners office are required to share details on the identity of the coroner, the deceased person, where the body lies, the circumstances surrounding the deaths and measures to be taken to prevent such deaths.

Further, the Act provides that the Coroner General would be the one conducting investigations on the deaths, and be represented by a coroner at each of the 47 counties.

The Committee noted that the rescue and autopsy process in the deaths at Shakahola faced serious challenges including radicalisation and trauma visited on the rescued adults and children which has led to non-cooperation.

"DNA sequencing is a slow and very

expensive process which has limited the pace of the investigations taking into account the fact that the laboratories require additional supply of molecular grade reagents and consumables which are not locally available," notes the committee in the report.

"There is a lack of adequate equipment to enable the technical staff to expeditiously handle the DNA analysis and the operation itself is cost intensive."

The National Forensics Laboratory at the DCI Headquarters is faced with numerous challenges among them lack of reagents and inadequate funding and lack of specialised vehicles to carry samples.

Of the twelve laboratories, only eight (8) are functional. The Department of Chemistry and Biology at the Directorate of Criminal Investigations are not functional because the machines are outdated and some service contracts have expired. It is therefore not possible to conduct identification of bodies and DNA matching in the ongoing investigations into Shakahola tragedy.

The National Forensics Laboratory

requires additional funding of Sh340 million to upgrade the Biology Forensic Laboratory and another Sh117 million to upgrade Chemistry Forensic Lab.

"There is need to pursue a sustainable funding mechanism and financial autonomy for the National Forensic Laboratory, for instance through revenue-raising initiatives such as capacity building for the region," the committee observes.

The Forensic Finger Print Identification Bureau which issues police clearance certificates generates Sh1.2 billion and receives 10,000 applications for clearance per day.

However, the office has the capacity to process 4,500 applications per day. In order to upgrade the facilities, the Directorate would require additional funding of Sh2.7 billion to enable the facility to process 20,000 applications per day.

This is to determine the identities of the deceased persons, the times and dates of their deaths and the manner and cause of their deaths as well as to complement the role of forensic medical science services.

Speaker Kingi attends colourful 2023 KDF Day celebrations at Embakasi Garrison



Speaker Kingi with President Wiliam Ruto during the KDF day (left). Speaker Kingi joins President Ruto, First Lady Rachel Ruto and Defence CS Aden Duale on the dais during the KDF day at Embakasi Garrison, Nairobi.

Speaker Amason Kingi was among national leaders who attended the 2023 Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) Day celebrations at Embakasi Garrison, Nairobi.

The event was presided over by President William Ruto, who is also the Commander-In-Chief of KDF. Those who attended include First Lady Rachel Ruto, Cabinet Secretary for Defence, Aden Bare Duale, the military top brass, other national leaders, servicemen and women, their families.

The host was General Francis Ogolla, Chief of the Defence Forces, flanked by Kenya Army Commander, Lt Gen Peter Njiiru, Kenya Airforce Commander, Maj Gen John Omenda and Kenya Navy Commander, Maj Gen Jimson Mutai.

The theme of 2023 KDF Day celebrations was: One Force One Mission: Enhancing National and Regional Security. This celebration, and the previous ones, are a befitting appreciation to the men and women who have placed their lives on line to protect the country from

external aggression.

The event was steeped in elaborate military traditions and a grand display of power and splendour that underlines KDF's standing as one of Africa's top military outfits.

The President and the dignitaries were treated to colourful parades and march-past by the KDF formations and also had time to inspect the military hardware on display.

The KDF have continued to earn themselves unparalleled distinction for

their high level of professionalism and discipline which has seen them involved in international peacekeeping missions.

The President hailed KDF for its outstanding role in keeping the country safe and engaging in peacekeeping missions that have helped stabilise troubled parts of the region and Africa.

A number of officers were rewarded for their acts of bravery and valour which saw them save lives during military operations and innovativeness in the course of their duties.

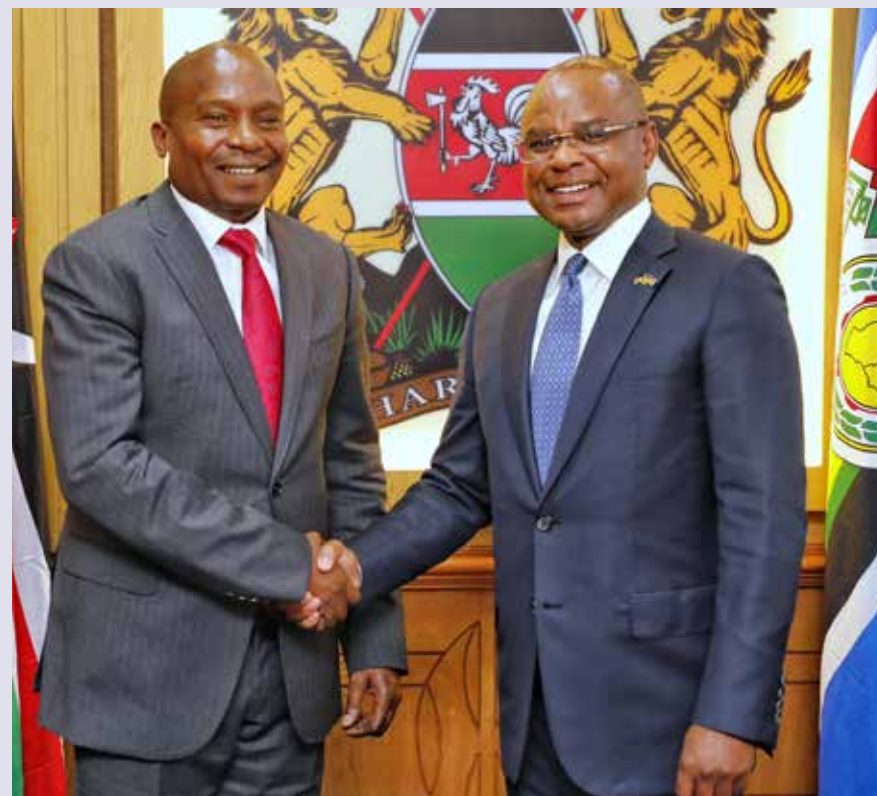
Interior CS Kindiki pays courtesy call on Speaker Kingi

Interior and National Administration CS Kithure Kindiki on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, paid a courtesy call to Speaker Amason Kingi's office where they discussed diverse issues of national interest.

The CS, who was accompanied by senior ministry officials, had earlier appeared before the Senate Plenary to respond to Members' questions on matters touching on his docket.

The two leaders appreciated the good working relations between the Senate and the Executive, which has seen Cabinet Secretaries prioritise invites to the Senate for engagements with the lawmakers during the official Question Time.

The House has set aside Wednesday mornings for members of the executive to respond to questions raised by the lawmakers.



Speaker Kingi welcomes CS Kindiki in his office (left) on the opposite picture the CS signs the visitors' book in the Speaker's office.

No repeat of 1998 terror attack, CS Kindiki tells Adhoc Committee on Compensation



CS Kindiki joins members of the Adhoc Committee for a photo session after he made his presentation.

Interior and National Administration, Prof. Kithure Kindiki, has assured the Adhoc Committee on the 1998 bomb blast that his Ministry has developed policy interventions to mitigate future terrorist attacks.

The committee had sought the Ministry's response regarding the country's current level of preparedness to combat terrorism following the 1998 US Em-

bassy Bombing where 201 Kenyans lost their lives and about 4,500 people were seriously injured.

Professor Kindiki told the Adhoc Committee that's pushing for compensation for the victims of 1998 bomb blast that his Ministry has established various specialised units whose sole mandate is to avert and combat future terrorist attacks.

He said the Government is leveraging on modern technology to ensure that no other Kenyan citizen loses their lives in a terrorist attack.

"Since the 1998 terror attack, my Ministry has established various anti-terror specialised units such as the Anti-Terrorism Police Unit, National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC), Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), and Financial

Reporting Centre (FRC) among others.

We have also improved on our border control by putting in place a technologically Advanced Passenger Information/ Passenger Name Record System to enable immigration officers to profile passengers before they commence their journeys into Kenya," said Professor Kindiki on Thursday, October 12.

The Government is collaborating with local and international multi-agency taskforces such as the Joint Terrorism Task Force which has enhanced information sharing and financial regulation, thus ensuring the safety and security of Kenyans.

The Committee, which is chaired by Senator Agnes Kavindu urged the Cabinet Secretary to continue putting in place advanced anti-terrorism measures to ensure a replica of the 1998 terrorist attack doesn't happen again on Kenyan soil.

Caption: CS Kindiki with members of the Adhoc Committee after their meetings on Thursday at Parliament Buildings.

Embrace dialogue to unlock Equalisation Funds, CRA pleads with Lawmakers

The Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA) has asked Senators to promote dialogue with stakeholders to avoid delays in the disbursement of the Equalisation Funds.

At a meeting with the Committee on Finance and Budget on the Equalisation Fund Appropriation Bill, 2023, CRA warned that the disagreements from a section of stakeholders that have led to court injunctions will hinder the operationalisation of the Fund, hindering service delivery to needy areas.

Led by Chairperson Mary Wanyonyi Chebukati, CRA asked the Committee the need to amend the schedule in the Act to include a row or an additional schedule for the recurrent expenditure for the Equalisation Fund Board Secretariat.

"This will provide clarity on how the total sum of the Equalization Fund adds up to Sh10.8 bilion," stated Ms Chebukati.

The Commission further recommended introduction of a clause in the Bill to address the question on lapse of approval given that the implementation of proj-



The Finance and Budget Committee during one of its sessions.

ects may in some cases extend beyond one financial year.

The amendment CRA is pushing is a provision making the implementation of the projects to be in force until all the projects identified for implementation under the Bill are completed.

The Committee also held a meeting with the Public Procurement Regula-

tory Authority and considered a statement concerning the status of Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) Programme.

The Public Procurement Regulatory Authority team was led by the Director General Patrick Wanjuki.

Senators assured CRA that they will endeavor to ensure issues that may hin-

der full operationalization of the Fund are fully addressed to allow funds reach intended areas as stipulated by the Constitution of Kenya

Committee Members present were Senator Ali Roba (Chairperson), Senator Tabitha Mutinda (Vice Chairperson), Senator Boni Khalwale, Senator Mohamed Faki and Senator Eddy Aketch.

NPRs are doing a good job, CS Kindiki tells House

An overwhelming majority of National Police Reservists are doing a great job in securing the communities where they have been deployed, Interior and National Administration CS Kithure Kindiki has said.

However, the Government has identified two gaps in the management of NPRs in the last one year.

The government gives the NPRs a token of Sh5,000 a month, which has been described as inadequate and we agree with that. However, because of budgetary constraints, we have not been able to review that allowance forward.

The first challenge is the supervision of NPRs and cases of misuse of firearms among the group.

In an address to the House, Professor Kindiki said the government will increase supervision of NPRs and accountability of the firearms and the ammunition and hold accountable and punish NPRs who misuse the firearms they are given because they will be spoiling the reputation of a very good asset for national security revealed that the State is making arrangements to strengthen



CS Kindiki responds to Questions raised by members during his address to the House..

the supervision and oversight of NPRs so that the local officer commanding Police Stations and other commanders of the National Police Service (NPS) can account for every firearm and ammunition that is in the hands of NPRs to avoid misuse.

“We will tackle very stringently the issue of oversight over the guns that we issue to NPRs,” said the CS.

In terms of deployment, the Government has recruited 460 NPRs in Samburu county who have already been trained and deployed since November 2022.

An additional 150 NPRs have been recruited in the county but have not been trained or deployed.

“We have realised that the recruitment of NPRs has a bearing on the security of these regions. That explains why

most parts of Samburu County have experienced some kind of stability among other reasons,” he told the House.

In Elgeyo Marakwet County, the Government has recruited a total of 153 NPRs but training could not be carried out because of budgetary constraints.

The CS said they will be trained and deploy them this financial year.

In Baringo County, the Government has recruited 200 NPRs and they have been deployed. In West Pokot County, 205 NPRs were recruited but the process is not yet complete because training and deployment has not been done.

In Turkana County, the Government has recruited 140 NPRs and they have been trained and deployed. A further request for 400 NPRs was put on hold in terms of training and deployment because of budgetary constraints.

The significance security situation in Laikipia could be attributed significantly to the presence of NPRs where the government has recruited 419 NPRs. They have been trained, kitted and deployed.

Government plans Benevolent fund for police officers



Speaker Kingi and CS Kindiki during their meeting in the Speaker's office.

The Government is working on how to establish a benevolent fund for the families of police officers who die in the line of duty.

Interior CS Kithure Kindiki told the House that some of the country's best and most sophisticated officers in terms of combating dangerous criminals are fairly young.

“They have been trained abroad; we

train them young but whenever they are unfortunately hurt by enemy fire, they leave very young families. Every second week of December every year, we commemorate the day when we respect our fallen officers,” said the CS when he appeared before the House to answer Members' questions.

Under the medical insurance scheme of the National Police Service (NPS),

an officer who dies in the line of duty is entitled to a package that includes a one-off payment equivalent to eight years of gross salary. That also includes the funeral expenses.

Part of the plan is to ensure that other than compensation for families, the government can establish a revolving fund.

“From the end of this year to early next year, we want to put up a place

where the families, the children, and the spouses of the fallen heroes can access scholarships and medical care when their loved ones lose their lives while defending the country.

“We will be making that announcement soon,” he said.

Senate Staff challenged to embrace positive health and lifestyle



Professor Geoffrey Wango speaks to Senate Staff on Mental Wellness and Cancer Awareness.

There is need for individuals to embrace a positive health and proper lifestyle as a way of addressing mental health problems

The University of Nairobi don Geoffrey Wango said human beings have to take control of their surroundings so as keep away mental challenges.

The don challenged the Senate Staff that only way of avoiding violence, both physical and psychological, is to involve themselves in activities at family, work and community levels.

Professor Wango made the comments when he addressed the Senate staff on the Mental Wellness and Cancer Awareness on Friday, October 13, 2023. The meeting was organised by the Senate

Staff Wellness Committee.

“Excessive alcohol and drug consumption have contributed a lot to mental disorders leading to depression,” said the Professor, noting that in some cases it has led to suicide appealing to participants to refrain from the substances.

Professor Wango, who is an Assistant Professor in Counselling Psychology, Department of Psychology at the University of Nairobi, further advised participants to shun financial debts.

He noted that most of the mental problems that have led to depression and deaths emanate from many debts which individuals cannot service forcing them to end their lives.

He advised the team to be self-reli-



Dr John Muiga Wamwaki took the staff talked about breast and prostate cancer.

ant, live within their means and properly plan their current and retirement lives to avoid cases of depression due to many problems emanating from financial issues.

“Self-reliance is the feeling of being able to do your own things in great ways; you develop both the ability, the will and the independence to get along with your own self and others,” explained Professor Wango.

“It is a skill that is developed and built upon with time, you must be able to do something for yourself in your life and every day.”

He encouraged the Staff to ensure they understand themselves and be bold to handle any situations that come up in

their lives.

“We need to know and understand ourselves and others to effectively cope with life issues. It is good to seek information and get informed on several aspects including improved health and nutrition,” he submitted.

During the session Dr John Muiga Wamwaki of Mater Hospital took the group through causes, symptoms, medication of breast and prostate cancer.

Dr. Wamwaki, a skilled and dedicated general surgeon at Mater hospital, appealed to the Senate Staff to go for regular screening revealing that early discovery will greatly help in managing the cancer condition.

Early screen ensures Cancer does not to kill you – Senator Nyamu



Senator Karen Nyamu

The low number of Oncologists in Kenya has derailed the war against cancer, Nominated Senator Karen Nyamu has said.

Despite the huge investments in the health sector, the Kenya Medical Practitioners’ database indicate the country has about 100 Oncologists who are expected to serve a population of 50 Million people.

In a statement to the House, the Senator stated that the high cost of cancer care and treatment has created a heavy financial burden on huge section of the Kenyan population, leaving families and communities devastated and in abject poverty after spending resources seeking treatment.

“I urge every Kenyan to be champions of the war against cancer by ensur-

ing that we get screened early enough and understand that cancer does not have to kill you,” said Senator Nyamu in a statement to commemorate the Cancer awareness month.

Globally, October is dedicated to sensitising and creating awareness to the people about Breast Cancer as well as other classes of Cancer.

It marks the start of a global campaign to increase knowledge and support for people affected by the disease.

Statistics published by the National Cancer Institute of Kenya (NCIK) in February this year show that 70 per cent of cancers are diagnosed at advanced stages.

Two-thirds of the diagnosed victims succumb to the disease. Only 23 per cent of all cancer patients in the country have access to cancer management and treatment services. On average, the country records 47,887 new cases annually with 32,587 deaths over the same period. This translates to 89 deaths every single day.

“This is quite alarming as it has put immense pressure on the few available public health facilities, leading to so much interruption of treatment and long

waiting periods of patients,” the lawmaker told the House.

The situation is further exacerbated by the low intake of the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) cover, where only about 25 per cent of eligible Kenyans have signed up.

Senator Nyamu noted that other private covers have been frustrating cancer patients and declining to pay their bills, in line with the insurance contracts and this has worsened the situation

Lack of adequate civic education, patients’ education as well as poor health behaviour has created anxiety, especially for those diagnosed with the disease, making their conditions deteriorate further.

“There is need to come up with specific legislation to address the myriad of challenges facing cancer patients in Kenya,” she said, promising to sponsor a Motion to address among other issues the financial challenges experienced by cancer patients with the view to increase allocations towards the purchase of modern cancer equipment, training more oncologists and revisiting the National Action Plan on Cancer.

Ministry of Agriculture enters agreement to distribute subsidised fertilizer



The Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture James Murango consults with Agriculture CS Mithika Linturi during the meeting.

The Ministry of Agriculture has entered into agency agreements for the supply of subsidised fertilisers to reach farmers under the government fertiliser subsidy programme.

CS Mithika Linturi made the revelation when he appeared before the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on Thursday, October 12, 2023.

A joint Committee had been formed to facilitate the distribution and in addition will advise on remedial actions to be undertaken for seamless flow of the distribution of the fertiliser.

The Committee was established in collaboration with the Council of Governors.

The Ministry has also issued guidelines to the County Governments to facilitate identification of alternative stores closer to the farmers where subsidised fertiliser can easily be accessed.

The CS had appeared before the committee to respond to several Statements sought by senators.

Nandi Senator Samson Cherarkey wanted the CS to explain what informed the decision to recommend maize importation when the National Cereals and



From Left, Senators Wahome Wamatinga, Allan Chesang and David Wakoli, follow proceedings

Produce Board (NCPB) is yet to purchase the crop being harvested by farmers.

The lawmaker argued that move was painful to farmers because of the high cost of inputs where a bag of fertiliser was selling at Sh7,000 during the planting season.

Senator Alexander Mundigi, had also wanted to know why subsidised fertiliser is only distributed to regional NCPB stores and not in the smallest devolved unit at the county level.

CS Linturi said the government was

concerned about the long distances to the NCPB depots farmers have had to endure and requested the County Governments to collaborate with NCPB to identify appropriate fertiliser selling stores proximity to the crop production areas in order to achieve last mile distribution.

“The process is going on and so far 44 selling centers have been opened in 12 counties to distribute the fertiliser,” said CS Linturi.

Agriculture Ministry and CoG strike deal on enactment of Miraa regulations



CS Linturi (third right) and Governor Lusaka (right) join members of the Committee on Delegated Legislation for a photo after the meeting involving the three sides on Miraa growing. Senator Mwenda Gataya Mofire (second right) is the Chairman of the Committee. Others are from left Senators Dan Maanzo, Betty Montett, Mohamed Faki and Danson Mungatana.

The Ministry of Agriculture and the Council of Governors (CoG) have agreed to have the Crops (Miraa) Regulations, 2023 approved as published.

The Council had rejected the Regulations arguing that in developing the rules CS Mithika Linturi neither consulted nor carried out public participation.

However, the CoG gave up its demand

after the two sides agreed that the regulations be adopted on condition that CS publishes amendments to the Regulations and incorporates the proposals by the CoG within nine (9) months after Parliament approves the Regulations.

The two sides also agreed for immediate review of the Crop Act to align it with the Constitution and emerging trends and the development of admin-



Senator Dan Maanzo (centre) escorts CS Mithika Linturi and Governor Keneth Lusaka out of the meeting.

istrative instruments to provide for the role of the County Governments in the development, promotion and regulation of the Miraa Sector.

The Regulations were developed and published by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development to promote, develop the miraa industry which continues to face challenges such as price fluctuations, lack of standardised handling of miraa and miraa products, small scale farming systems, limited value addition, undeveloped marketing systems and research among others.

The Committee on Delegated Legislation has had engagement with the CoG

who raised several issues of concern including registration and licensing of value chain actors, appointment of County Crop inspectors and sharing of revenue arising from miraa levy.

Both parties have also agreed to constitute technical committee to fast-track implementation of the resolutions within nine (9) months.

In the agreement, the CoG was represented by Bungoma Governor Kenneth Lusaka who chairs the Agriculture Committee of the CoG.

Mr Lusaka is the former Speaker of the Senate.

Avail documents related to 1997 EABL, Guinness deal, Trade Committee directs CAK



Members of the Tourism, Trade and Industrialisation Committee during a meeting with the Competition Authority of Kenya. From Left senators Okiya Omtatah, Jackson Mandago, Esther Okenyuri and Kanar ole Lenku Seki. On the right is CAK Acting CEO Adano Roba.

Dr Adano Roba, the Acting Director General of the Competition Authority of Kenya, has confirmed that Diageo PLC holds 50.03 per cent shares in the East African Breweries Limited (EABL).

The company owns the shares through subsidiary Diageo Kenya.

However, Dr Roba could not confirm or deny that the defunct Price Control and Monopolies Commission investigated the 1997 acquisition of majority shares in EABL by Guinness and the share restructuring in 2000 culminating in Diageo Kenya PLC acquiring majority shares in the Company.

Dr Roba told the Tourism, Trade and Industrialisation Committee, which is chaired by Kanar ole Lenku Seki, that the records pertaining to the merger were

destroyed in accordance with the records management processes.

“The Authority cannot ascertain how the mergers were analysed and the relevant approvals granted,” said Dr Roba, adding that the brewed alcoholic beverages market in Kenya currently has two major players, EABL through its wholly owned subsidiary KBL, and Keroche Industries.

However, Senator Lenku Seki directed the Authority to avail the documents detailing the 1997 merger to the Committee and details of production percentages of spirit products in Kenya.

KBL had a 90 per cent market share as of 2020 while its closest competitor, Keroche Industries had 2 per cent.

The rest of the players comprising of small local brewers and importers of

international brands such as Heinken, SABS Miller Bacardi, Pernod Richard and KWAL shared the remaining 8 per cent.

Dr Roba said there are significant barriers to entry in the market which cushion the incumbents from effective competition and this may lead to exploitation of consumers.

“The presence of anti-competitive conduct towards distributors is a subject that the Authority has dealt with in previous cases,” he said, pointing out the famous Competition Authority of Kenya v KBL (2014).

The matter was settled in line with Section 38 of the Competition Act in which it directed KBL and UDV to review and amend their existing distributorship agreements to remove clauses on

territorial and brand exclusivity.

KBL/UDV were reported to have adhered to all the terms of the settlement agreement as was established by subsequent compliance checks carried out by the Authority, with the last compliance check having been undertaken earlier this year.

The Authority revealed it is in the process of collecting proposals for amendment of the Competition Act to take care of the Digital Market aspect and other matters of concern. It also undertook to continue monitoring the market to ensure the dominant player does not engage in abuse of its dominance to the detriment of consumers and new entrants.

Watchdog Committee asks Athi Water to involve communities in projects implementation

A Senate watchdog Committee has questioned the manner in which the Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) selects and implements projects for County Water Utilities.

AWWDA is responsible for supporting public water utilities in three counties: Nairobi, Kiambu, and Murang'a.

At a meeting between the Committee and AWWDA, the committee demanded to know the agency identifies projects.

“We’ve received feedback suggesting that certain projects are imposed on counties without their direct involvement or consultation,” said Senator Godfrey Osotsi, who chairs the committee.

AWWDA CEO Joseph Kamau de-

fended the agency on the issue explaining that it was dedicated to a consultative approach in all its endeavours.

“AWWDA designs projects for county water utilities by ensuring close collaboration with all the water utilities under its purview. Our initiatives are rooted in thorough assessments and master plans that take into account the needs and dynamics of each region,” he explained.

He revealed that AWWDA had in 2012, crafted a Water master plan for Nairobi and its surrounding satellite towns with the support of the World Bank. This was followed by the development of the Nairobi City Distribution and Sewerage Masterplans.

He emphasised that the agency’s proj-



Senator Godfrey Osotsi, the CPISFC chair, and Senator Tabitha Mutinda.

ects draw inspiration and direction from a range of sources, including the Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Sanitation’s master plan, AWWDA’s individual mas-

ter plans, strategic plans, explicit requests from County Water Utilities, and any emergency directives that arise.

Minimise disputes in your procurement processes, Energy Committee tells KP management

The management of Kenya Power Company has defended the decision to award the tender for the supply of smart meter to Smart Meters Technology Limited.

The Managing Director Joseph Siror told the Committee on Energy that of all the companies that placed their bids, Smart Meters Technology was the best placed bidder to deliver.

“Smart Meters Technology Ltd delivery status stood at 99.9 per cent contrary to Public Procurement Authority’s assertion that the Company had failed to deliver an order of 91,000 meters awarded three years ago,” said Dr Siror when he appeared before the committee.

The Committee had invited the KP Management and the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority to deliberate on the procurement of the meters in response questions that have been raised on the award of the tender.

The PPRA has questioned the award to Smart Meters going a step further to open an inquiry into the deal.

Mr Benedict Kabugi had alleged breaches in the tender claiming that KP irregularly and unlawfully restricted the tender to local assemblers.

Dr Siror took the Committee through the chronology of the tendering process, including the case that was filed in the High Court challenging the award.

However, the application was dismissed by the High Court in a decision that upheld the decision by KP to award Smart Meters.

The Committee, which is chaired by Senator Wahome Wamatinga, raised questions on why PPRA questioned the award of the tender and the measures KP is taking to ensure that its tendering processes are not disputed in future.

The committee further wanted to know whether KP has received any payments

for Carbon Credits from companies generating power using renewable energy sources; the status of the creation of a security team whose responsibility will be to ensure that electrical infrastructure is free from vandalism; and ways in which PPRA can assist KP to put in place an indisputable, effective and efficient procuring system.

The MD informed the Committee that KP has adopted both internal and external Framework Agreements to ensure mitigation against future tender disputes.

The agreements will be in place for between two to three years as sourcing strategy.

“This is among other stop-gap measures to fast track delivery and facilitate pending connections and replacements of meters which as at April 2023 had a backlog of over 450,000,” explained the MD.

The certification of a plant whose PPA

is structured to have the carbon credits payments was completed earlier this year but they have not yet sold any Carbon Emission Reductions (CER’s) or received any CER revenues.

KP formed the Energy Police Unit (EPU) in February 2022 to augment anti-vandalism efforts on energy infrastructure. The EPU is based at the Ministry of Energy and its mandate includes Energy and Petroleum. The EPU synergizes with KPLC security teams on efforts to tame the vandalism menace through joint operation and intelligence sharing.

Mr Patrick Wanjuki, the Director General, the Public Procurement Regulations Authority, pointed out weakness in the procurement process in the Smart Meters tender and advised that the KP should endeavor to improve its performance in order to fully comply.

Land Committee to grill Governor Sakaja over Pumwani land



Members of Cultural Environmental Care Society (CECARE Society) defend their petition when they appeared before the Committee on Lands.

The Land, Environment and Natural Resources Committee has started investigating how a public piece of land in Pumwani, Nairobi, was converted to private land.

The Cultural Environmental Care Society (CECARE Society) has petitioned the Senate to investigate the matter which is located in Majengo area.

The Society argues that the community has resided in the area since the colonial era and had established both residential and commercial properties on the piece of land.

The area has a population of 29, 616

people who are majorly descendants of colonial workers from the coastal Muslim community who lived in Pangani area and later relocated to Pumwani.

A lease on the land had been granted to the Nairobi Municipal Council for a period of ninety-nine (99) years from the Governor of the then Kenyan Colony.

The lease was to lapse on January 1, 2023 and since the lapse of the lease, the Nairobi City County Government has been sub-leasing parts of the land to persons outside the community.

Mr Mohammed Sudi, who is the community’s spokesman in the petition, told



Senator John Methu, the Committee on Land chairperson, and Senators Beatrice Ogolla (left) and Agnes Kavindu follow the proceedings during the meeting with CECARE.

the committee that the leases were to the detriment of the original residents on the piece of land.

The Kenya National Commission on Human Rights had recommended that following the relocation of the community from Pangani to Pumwani, the residents ought to have been compensated in line with the delineation plans of areas in Nairobi for settlement.

“Several evictions have been witnessed in the area culminating in the discrimination of the initially allocated residents of Pumwani and has resulted in dispossession of property and land,” said

Mr Sudi.

“The irregular allocation has affected the road reserve and social amenities such as schools, clinics, memorial halls and playground in the area,” he added

The Community has pleaded with the Committee to intervene intervenes on the matter with a view to investigating the alleged irregular allotment of plots with regard to LR. NO. 209/2378/1 and make appropriate recommendations thereon.

The lawmakers have resolved to invite Governor Johnson Sakaja and the National Land Commission (NLC) to shed light on the matter.

Justice Committee debates petition on by election where vacancy occurs in Deputy President office

A Civil Society Organisation wants the constitution amended to introduce a requirement for a by-election in the event of a vacancy in the office of the Deputy President.

The Stars of Hope and Social Justice says Article 149 of the Constitution must be repealed because it shifts the power of electing a deputy President or County Deputy governor from the people to an individual, which is undemocratic and contractor to other provisions of the constitution.

In a petition presented to the Senate, The Organisation argues that the most senior Cabinet Secretary should act as the Deputy President for six months within which the substantive deputy President will be elected through a by election.

“As a democratic country we should always follow a democratic process through which we elect our leaders,” the petition reads in part.

The Petition was submitted to the House by Mr Taratisio Kawe on behalf of the CSO. Speaker Kingi directed the



Mr Taratisio Kawe, the petitioner, when he appeared before the Justice Committee. On the right is Senator Wakili Sigei, the chair of the committee.

Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights and table a report to the House

Mr Kawe appeared before the committee last week to prosecute the petition.

The committee chairman Wakili Hilay Sigei welcomed the petition and encouraged the public to debate the issue.

“There is an ongoing conversation on

this matter. As a committee, our approach will be to engage with a broad spectrum of stakeholders to refine the content of the petition. Our goal is to produce a comprehensive report for presentation in the Senate,” said Senator Sigei.

Article 148 (1) of the constitution mandates each candidate in a presidential election to nominate a person who is qualified for nomination for election as President as a candidate for deputy President.

Mr Kawe has a problem with Article 149 (1) which states that in the event of a vacancy in the office of the Deputy President, the President shall nominate a person to fill the vacancy and the National Assembly shall vote on the nomination within sixty days after receiving it.

“Article 149 (1) shifts the power of electing a deputy President from the people to an individual person and eventually an endorsement by the National Assembly, which is contradictor,” says the petition

While the situation contemplated has never occurred in the office of the Deputy President, the CSO He cites the example of Nairobi, Wajir and Kiambu where a vacancy in the office of the deputy governor has created the fears that MGO is expressing.

After the resignation of Polycarp Igathe as deputy governor, Mike Sonko picked Anne Kananu as deputy governor who eventually assumed the reigns in Nairobi after Sonko was impeached.

“The happenings in Nairobi was prove on how a lacuna in the elections laws can be dangerous with the capacity to cause havoc which must be addressed through an amendment of the law,” says.

When he appeared before the committee Mr Kawe said there is need to for a constitutional amendment to protect Kenyans from being led by unpopular and non-elected leaders purely on elective positions within the two levels of governments.

Committee orders First Choice Recruitment Agency to refund monies to jobseekers



Labour Committee chairperson Julius Murgor and senator George Mbugua with some of stakeholders who appeared before the committee over the First Choice recruitment saga.

The Committee on Labour has ordered the proprietor of First Choice Recruitment and Consultancy Agency Limited to refund the money it received from 5,000 individuals on the pretext it will help them get jobs abroad.

The committee directed that Judy Jepchirchir refunds the money through banker's cheque and the Assets Recovery Agency (ARA) to repossess the properties owned by First Choice Recruitment and Consultancy Agency Lim-

ited, Ms. Judy Jepchirchir and Ms. Faith Wariga Gichuhi, in the event that they do not refund the monies.

“The Agency should use the proceeds to refund those who had paid to be offered the jobs,” says the committee in a report tabled in the House on October 17, 2023.

The report is a product of investigations in a petition filed by Mr Kimutai Kirui and Mr Cleophas Arap Koech, representing an estimated 5,000 young people, who have complained that First

Choice Agency based in Eldoret obtained money from an estimated 5,000 youth to facilitate their placement for jobs and studies abroad, during the period before the start of the 2022 World Cup.

However, the agency failed to facilitate the said jobs and studies placement, leaving the youth and their families vulnerable and desperate, with the initial hopes of securing employment and study placement dwindling.

The two further complained that the agency had influenced the efforts of the affected youth to seek redress through the relevant agencies, such as the National Police Service and the County Commissioner, hence making it difficult.

The committee acknowledges that the victims continue to face profiling, threats, intimidation, mocking and ridicule with some facing arrests without due process or charges levelled against them. the committee directed that Ms Judy Jepchirchir and Ms Faith Wariga Gichuhi and other directors of First Choice Recruitment and Consultancy Agency Limited, be barred from registering, operating or managing any other

recruitment agency or company upon tabling of the Report.

“The bank accounts of First Choice Recruitment Agency Limited, Ms. Judy Jepchirchir and Ms. Faith Wariga Gichuhi, be frozen by the relevant authorities until the monies owed to the victims are fully recovered,” says the report.

It further wants the passports of the directors of First Choice Recruitment and Consultancy Agency Limited, be held by the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI).

The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, to cease any further operations, recruitment and placement by similar recruitment agencies that the public has raised concerns and the Ministry of Labour to enforce the existing measures and ensure agencies adhere to the laid down regulations.

“The Commission on Administrative Justice (CAJ) and Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), investigate the involvement of political leaders and business people and the conduct of State and public officers with regard to First Choice Agency.”

The Senate to conduct Governor Mwangaza impeachment trial, again

The Senate is once again being called upon to conduct the trial of Meru Governor Kawira Mwangaza who was impeached by Members of County Assembly (MCAs) on Wednesday, October 26.

This is the second time in one year the Governor will be taking the stand in the Senate to fight back attempts by the MCAs to kick her out on account of abuse of office.

Governor Mwangaza was first impeached by the MCAs in December 2022, barely two months after she had taken office.

However, the Senate spared her the blushes after investigations by the Special Committee formed by the House to investigate the particulars of the case returned a not guilty verdict.

In the report tabled in the House, the Committee, which was chaired by Senator Boni Khalwale, ruled that having investigated the matter in accordance with its mandate under Section 33(4) of the County Governments Act and standing order 80(2) of the Senate rules reported that it found that the five Charges against the Governor were not substantiated.

“The thrust of the jurisprudence in successive impeachment proceedings



Meru Governor Kawira Mwangaza

before the Senate, which the Committee upholds, has been that, it is not every aberration, even if established, that will lead to the impeachment of a Governor,” the Committee observed in its report which was tabled on December 30, 2022.

The Committee took the position that, in line with the precedents of the Senate in impeachment proceedings, in order to find that any particular of an allegation of the charges is substantiated, a determination must be made both that evidence has been adduced pointing to wrongdoing in the manner alleged in the

Charge and that the threshold for an impeachable offence has been attained.

The Committee noted that it was apparent that the relationship between the County Assembly and the County Governor was acrimonious, contemptuous and cold and which threatened to grind the County to a halt.

“It is inconceivable that in these circumstances the people of Meru County can be enjoying the benefits of devolved government that the Constitution avails. Urgent measures require to be taken to bring the protagonists to the table to find an amicable solution,” Senator Khalwale told the House.

Despite the concerns of the Special Committee, the two sides are at it again.

MCAs have laid down seven counts against the Governor and voted overwhelmingly to impeach her, accusing her of gross misconduct, misappropriation of county funds and usurpation of the law and the constitution.

She is further accused of bypassing the County Assembly on some appointments, naming a public road after her husband and failing to honour summons by the MCAs.

The Speaker of the County Assembly of Meru, through a letter dated Friday

October 27, 2023, notified Senate Speaker Amason Jeffah Kingi of the move by the MCAs.

The County Governments Act requires the Speakers of County Assembly to inform the Speaker of the Senate of the adoption of such motion within two days.

Section 33 (3) gives the Senate Speaker seven days to communicate to the House on the resolution of the County Assembly.

The Senate may appoint an 11-member Special Committee to investigate the matter or conduct the trial through the plenary.

A special committee shall investigate the matter and report to the House within 10 days on whether it finds the particulars of the allegations against the governor to have been substantiated.

The law gives the governor the right to appear and be represented before the special committee during its investigations.

If the special committee reports that the particulars of any allegation against the governor have not been substantiated, further proceedings shall not be taken in respect of that allegation.

This Week in History



“This Petition is timely as it will enable young persons to surmount the difficulties they already experience when they are looking for employment opportunities which are already scarce. They do not have title deeds and referees in order to access loans and opportunities for investment. They are already having immense difficulties on their path. Adding this difficulty by levying charges that do not make sense is something that shows that we are not sensitive, or appreciative of the fact that they need encouragement.”

Senator (Dr.) Ochillo-Ayacko contributing to the debate on the petition for clearances required by public bodies on application for jobs in Kenya on **October 24, 2018**.



“Our youth are coming out of universities and colleges with the hope of being employed and have great dreams. However, according to Robert King Merton, an American Sociologist, when you have this sort of dreams and you cannot achieve them, then they lead to deviancy.”

Senator (Dr.) Agnes Zani contributing to debate on the petition for clearances required by public bodies on application for jobs in Kenya on **October 24, 2018**.



“The LAPSET is a critical Vision 2030 project and is a significant component that includes Lamu Port, which is supposed to be 880 kilometres all the way to Ethiopia and South Sudan and a super highway of 1,710 kilometres from Lamu to Juba, Addis Ababa, a railway line and oil refinery of 2240 kilometres. Other components of the project include construction of three resort cities at Isiolo, Lamu and Lokichogio, near Turkana and construction of an airport in the resort cities and development of associated infrastructure. It is sad today, in 2018, nothing has happened.”

Senator Halakhe Abshiro contributing on the debate on the statement on the state of Isiolo International Airport on **October 24, 2018**.



“Nairobi City County contributes 60 per cent to the economy of this country. We should reduce traffic jams and have pavements for cyclists and pedestrians. For example, the distance from South C to this place is not that much and anybody can walk. However, there are no proper pavements and that is why people opt to drive. It is healthier for people to cycle or walk to work. We all know the benefits of the above two things.”

Senator Farhiya Ali contributing on the debate on the County Planning (Roads, Pavements and parking Bays) Bill (senate Bills No. 18 of 2018).

Watchdog Committee concerned about missing documents in Embu's Kyeni's Water Company



Members of CPISFC led by chairman Godfrey Osotsi (right) Senator Karungo Thangwa and Senator Eddy Aketch follow proceedings during one of the committee's meetings. Left: Embu Governor Cecily Mbarire.

Committee on County Public Investments and Special Funds (CPISFC) has voiced concerns over the challenges the Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) was subjected to while procuring the essential paperwork for auditing Kyeni Water Company.

The Committee had convened a meeting with Embu Governor Cecily Mbarire to consider concerns raised by the Auditor General has raised Company's Financial Statements for financial years 2018-2021.

The committee was concerned about

the glaring absence of vital documentation for their audits during the time-frame.

The absence of documentation led to negative opinions, including disclaimers for the company.

"The severity of the situation is apparent because the lack of documentation wasn't merely an isolated event but had persisted throughout the three years under review," said Senator Osotsi.

The committee observed that lack of the documents casts a shadow over the financial transparency and accountabili-

ty of the Kyeni Water Company.

Senator Eddy Aketch wondered whether the absence of the documents was a mere administrative oversight, corruption or intentional concealment.

The Committee directed Governor Mbarire to ensure prompt reconstruction of the financial statements for the years in contention and submit them to the Auditor General and the committee for consideration

The discrepancies in the company's financial statements represent a fraction of a more serious problem, the committee

learned. Other inconsistencies surfaced in the financial ledgers of both Kyeni and Embu Water Companies. Such disparities underline a concerning trend of inadequate record-keeping and potential expertise gaps within Embu County's water sector.

"As the residents of Embu County await clarifications and the ensuing steps from their leadership, the spotlight is squarely on Kyeni Water Company," said Senator Osotsi, adding that the 'Missing Documents Mystery' will significantly influence the path of governance and public confidence in the county.

ON THE FLOOR

Government launches award scheme for Kenya's world beating sports stars

The Government spent Sh147 million to facilitate Team Kenya's participation in the World Athletics Championship in Budapest.

Sports CS Ababu Namwamba further told the House that his Ministry has already paid allowances and cash rewards to all the athletes who participated in the championship where Kenya emerged 1st in Africa and 5th in the world.

He further clarified that the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports didn't provide uniforms to the Kenyan athletes as earlier alleged since Team Kenya is kitted by NIKE.



CS Namwamba answers Members' Questions from the floor of the House

The government spent Sh36 million on allowances for teams, Sh76 million for return air tickets to and from Budapest, Sh11 million to cater for accommodation expenses, sh466,000 as homecoming expenses and Sh21,600,000 on cash rewards.

CS Namwamba notified the House that upon assuming office, his Ministry revised the rewards scheme for the entire sports ecosystem by raising rates for both allowances and cash rewards and has since introduced the Hongera Awards to reward Kenya's sporting and creative legends.

"We have introduced a new cash

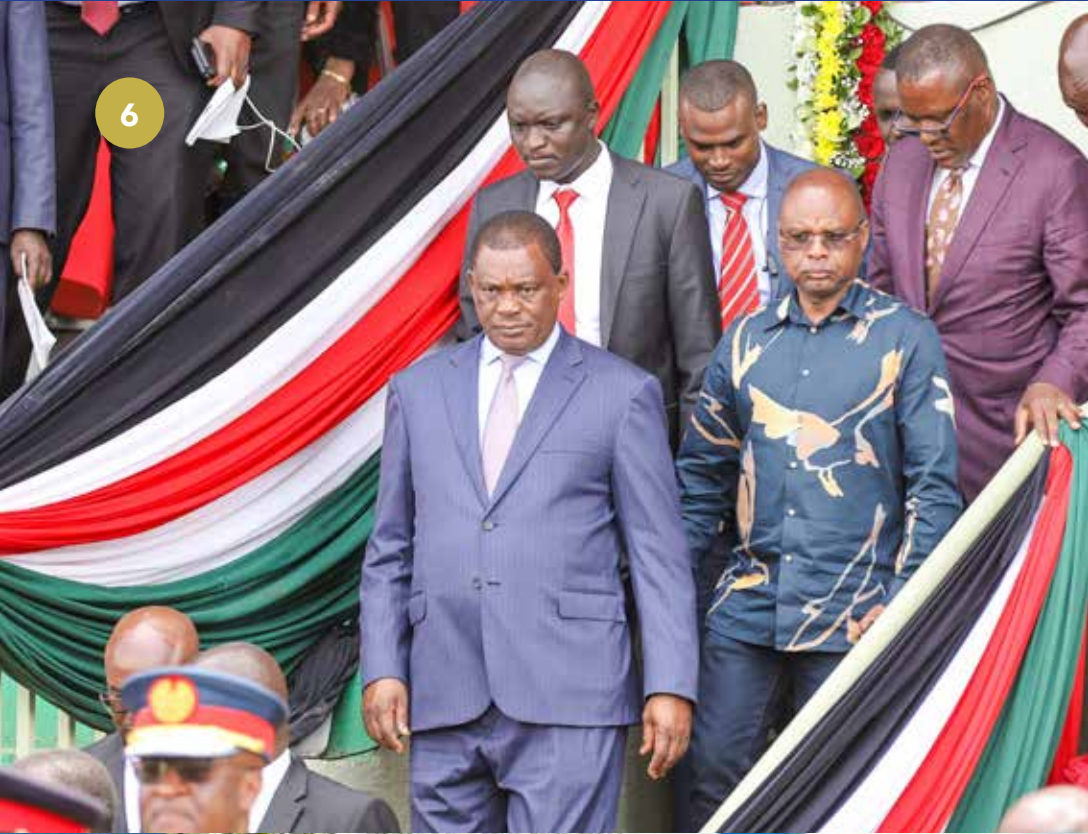
award of sh5 million for breaking a world record. We have also significantly raised rewards for medal winners to Sh3 million, Sh2 million and Sh1 million for gold, silver and bronze respectively," the CS told the House on Wednesday, October 11, 2023.

The Ministry has used Hongera Awards kitty to pay Sh25 million in cash rewards arrears going back 11 years and reward legends going back to the 1960s.

The Cabinet Secretary for Youth Affairs and Sports was making his inaugural Question Time appearance before the Senate to answer questions asked by Senators regarding his ministry.



1. Speaker Kingi receives Angolan President João Lourenço and his wife at Parliament Buildings when he laid a wreath on the Mausoleum of the late President Jomo Kenyatta.
2. The Speaker escorts President João Lourenço and his wife to Jomo Kenyatta's crypt
3. President João Lourenço and his wife receive full military honours before they laid the wreath.
4. President João Lourenço lays the wreath assisted by members of Kenya Defence Forces.
5. Speaker Kingi and other national leaders during the Mashujaa Day festivities at Kericho Green Stadium on October 20. Others who attended the fete are Chief Justice Martha Koome, National Assembly Speaker Moses Wetangula and Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi.



- 6. *Speaker Kingi in the company of Attorney General Justin Muturi and ICT CS Eliud Owalo (right) walk out of Kericho Green Stadium after Mashujaa Day celebrations.*
- 7. *The Speaker with Co-operatives Cabinet Secretary CS Simon Chelugui in Kericho County.*
- 8. *Speaker Kingi flanked by Majority Whip Boni Khalwale (right) and Senator Tom Ojienda in Kericho.*
- 9. *The Public Communications team of the Senate outside Kericho Green Stadium after Mashujaa Day celebrations.*



10. President Ruto shares a group picture with senior military Officers at Embakasi Garrison during the KDF day.
11. Speaker Kingi and Defence CS Aden Duale exchange notes flanked by First Lady Rachel Ruto and Ms Monica Juma, the President's Advisor on Security matters.
12. Interior CS KIndiki arrives in parliament to respond to questions raised by members.
13. Speaker Kingi signs a visitors' book during a visit to Governor Abdulsamad Nassir office in Mombasa
14. Pupils from Joy Gardens Primary School, Embakasi East, Nairobi during a visit to Parliamentary Buildings

Friday, October 27, was an engaging and fun-filled day for the staff during the Senate Sports Day, 2023.

Buoyed by the old adage, “all work and no play make Jack a dull boy,” the staff, led by Clerk Jeremiah Nyegenye, converged at the Ulinzi Sports Ground, Langata, for the annual Senate Sports Day.

The staff were grouped into four teams, – white, blue, gold and grey – and participated in events ranging from athletics, football, netball, badminton, darts, basketball, volleyball, Tug of War, and table tennis. It was an action-packed day that saw an incredible display of talent, determination, and sportsmanship from

all participants.

Sport is a powerful medium that has a unique capacity to bring people together. Scholars have argued that sport in corporations creates camaraderie, improves physical fitness, and promotes fun among staff.

While presiding over the opening ceremony, Mr Nyegenye, who is also the Secretary of the Parliamentary Service Commission, told the staff that a sporting day has been set aside on the Parliamentary calendar to give opportunity to members of staff know each other, fraternise, create friendship and establish workplace networks.

Such an opportunity is critical as it

makes it easier for employees to deliver on their mandates.

“I challenge each of you to have at least 20 new friends,” said the Clerk, when he presided over the opening ceremony.

“The purpose is to build a sporting spirit,” explained. “There is something about winning, about losing. There is something about accepting defeat or even acknowledging others. As we compete let’s all remember we are one.”

The Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) is divided into three services – the Senate, the National Assembly and the Joint Parliamentary Services.

The Senate was the last to have its

sporting day after the other two.

The three Services will now converge and compete for honours during the yet to be scheduled Parliamentary Sports Day.

Ms Rachel Ameso, who is a member of Parliamentary Service Commission, was among those who attended the event.

She told the staff that the Sports Day offers them the opportunity to share experiences, engage and communicate with each other.

“If there is something you need to communicate then this is the chance. Don’t go back with it to the office. You will feel refreshed.”



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1. Senate staff led by Clerk Jeremiah Nyegenye dance to a rendition of the Administration Police music during the Sports Day.
2. Mr Nyegenye awards the second runner's up medal to Benard Sika who emerged third in the Men's 100 metres
3. Rugby Icon Collins Injera was the winner in the Men's 100 metres race.
4. David Ochiel, the captain of Team Gold, picks the trophy on behalf of the team from Deputy Clerk Eunice Gichangi.
5. Linet Aseka, the runner's up in the Women's 200 metres race receives her medal from the Clerk.
6. Deputy Clerk Gichangi awards the winner's medal to Dan Lelegwe, the winner in Men's 200 metres final.



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7. Deputy Clerk Mohamed Ali awards Milkah Maina her medal after she emerged third in the 1500 Metres Walking race.
8. Deputy Clerk Mohamed Ali awards Victor Jamguy the medal after he emerged the winner in the Men's Darts competition.
9. Team Gold: The overall football winners receive their medals.
10. Director Litigation Anthony Njoroge awards Eunice Akoth of the best volley ball team.
11. Everlyn Pendo and Lilian Namunyu receive the Netball trophy on behalf of their team
12. Ken Opondi picked the winner medal in the tug of war on behalf of Team Blue
13. Benard Sika receives winners on behalf of Team Blue in the Men's 400 M x1 relays.
13. Rosebella Ngesa, the captain of Team Blue, receives the runners up trophy from Deputy Clerk, Eunice Gichangi.

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14. Brenda Wekesa won the Women Badminton title.
15. Roda Kaveza receives the trophy of the winner in the Women 100 metres final.
16. Team White, the overall winners of the tournament display their banners before the start of the games.
17. Jackson Matseshe, the winner of 1500 metres Walking race receives his trophy from Bonface Lenairoshi
18. Clerk Nyegenyne shares the cake with his Deputy, Mohamed Ali.
19. Njogu, the Captain of Team White receives the trophy from the Clerk, Mr Nyegenyne. Team White was the overall winner of the tournament.
20. Team White bring down the Ulinzi Sports Complex after they were declared the overall winners of the tournament by the Clerk, Mr Nyegenyne.
21. Senate Clerk Nyegenyne tries his football skills to the amusement of staff.

Bunge FC intensifies training ahead of EAC Inter-Parliamentary Games



Parliament's football team, Bunge Football Club, has scaled up their training sessions following the addition of Wednesday morning into the weekly workout programme.

The team previously held two weekly practice sessions every Tuesday and Thursday morning which has been increased to three because the East Africa Inter-Parliamentary games are fast approaching, the momentum is building, and the muscles need to play catch up.

The session set for Wednesday morning will be held at the Gems Cambridge School along Magadi Road in Nairobi starting at 6am.

With Nyayo stadium under renovation – for AFCON 2027 – the Tuesday and Thursday sessions have since moved to the Kenya Police DT Sacco Stadium in South C, Nairobi, courtesy of the Ministry of Interior.

Inter-Parliamentary Games are scheduled to be held in Kigali, Rwanda in Early December this year after last year's event that was held in Juba, South Sudan.

The event is usually held annually

among Parliaments of the the East Africa Community Member States, that is, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, South Sudan.

DR Congo will be making their debut at the tournament following their entry into the Community in 2022.

The scaled up coaching was recommended by the team's gaffer Mr George Sunguti, with the backing of the co-captains Hon. Otiende Amollo and Senator Aaron Cheruiyot so as to maintain high level physical fitness.

"Bunge FC has intensified training to three days a week as we eye a boot camp to galvanise the team for the regional task," said Dr Amollo.

Pleased with the attendance by his teammates, co-captain, Senator Cheruiyot said that MPs aim at fitness before the tournament.

"We are toning our bodies to be at optimum levels before representing Kenya in the EAC Inter-Parliamentary Games."



Bunge FC Co-captains Hon Otiende Amollo and (top) Senator Aaron Cheruiyot during a training session.

Wenyeji wa Changara, eneo la Bunge la Teso Kaskazini waomba Seneti kuchunguza ukiukaji kwenye Mradi wa Maji wa Changara

Wenyeji wa Changara, Kaunti Ndogo ya Teso Kaskazini, Kaunti ya Busia wamewasilisha ombi kwenye Seneti wakilitaka Bunge hilo kuuchunguza kwa kina mradi wa maji wa Changara kwenye Kaunti ya Busia.

Kwenye ombi hilo lililowasilishwa kwenye Seneti na Seneta wa Kaunti ya Busia Okiya Omtatah, wenyeji hao wanataka uchunguzi wa kina ufanywe kwenye utoaji wa zabuni ya mradi wa maji wa Changara kwa kampuni ya Berodi.

Walitaka uchunguzi ufanywe kuhusu matumizi mabaya ya fedha zilizotengwa kufanikisha mradi huo huku wakitoa wito kwa Seneti kuhakikisha wahusika waliokiuka malengo ya mradi huo wamekabiliwa kikamilifu kisheria.

Kulingana na ombi hilo, mradi huo uliofadhiliwa na Benki ya Dunia kwa kima cha shilingi milioni ishirini na nne nukta nane mwezi Juni 2019 kupitia kwa serikali ya Kitaifa bado haujakamilika licha ya ufadhili huo jambo wanalosema limechangiwa na mwelekeo duni na mbinu za hila.



Seneta Okiya Omtatah

Mradi huo unaolenga kuzinufaisha zaidi ya familia elfu tano zinazoishi katika sehemu ya Changara kwa maji safi kwenye mabomba na unyunyuziaji mashamba unatekelezwa na serikali ya Kaunti ya Busia kupitia Idara ya Kilimo na Uvuvi.

Wenyeji hao walifichua kuwepo kwa ukiukaji mkubwa wa sheria na kanuni wakisema haikufaa kwa zabuni ya mra-

di huo kutolewa kwa mkandarasi husika kwa kuwa ni jamaa wa aliyekuwa wakati huo Mwakilishi Wadi wa Nambuku Nambomboto, Kaunti Ndogo ya Samia, Kaunti ya Busia.

Aidha walifichua kuwa Kamati ya Usimamizi wa Mradi huo ilinyimwa stakabadhi muhimu ambazo zingeisaidia kufanya ukaguzi.

Kadhalika wakazi hao waliliambia Bunge la Seneti kuwa kampuni inayoendesha ujenzi wa mradi huo inafanya kazi duni wakitaja mabomba ya maji kutoundwa vizuri wakisema tayari yanavuja ilhali mradi wenyewe haujakamilika.

Kulingana nao, hali hiyo inawaweka hatarini wenyeji wakikariri kuwa huenda wakasombwa na maji endapo kuta za mradi huo zitaporomoka kutokana na ubovu wa ujenzi wazo.

Waliilaumu serikali ya Kaunti ya Busia kwa kutoushirikisha umma kwenye ujenzi wa mradi huo huku wafanyakazi wa Kaunti ya Busia wakielekezewa kidole cha lawama kwa kuipuzia Kamati ya Usimamizi wa Mradi huo.

Mkandarasi wa mradi huo anaamini-

wa kutokuwa na Mhandisi yeyote huru kwenye shughuli za ujenzi wa mradi huo wenyeji wa Changara wakifichua kuwa aliwategemea tu Wahandisi wa Idara ya Kaunti ambao kulingana nao walishawishiwa kutenda kinyume.

Walilalama kuwa licha ya kuripoti hali hiyo kwenye serikali ya Kaunti ya Busia, Mamlaka ya Umma ya Kudhibiti Utoaji wa Zabuni nchini Kenya (PPRA), Tume ya Maadili na Kupambana na Ufiasadi nchini Kenya (EACC) na Benki ya Dunia, hamna suluhu ambalo limetolewa.

Wakazi hao sasa wanaitaka Seneti kuingilia kati kuuangazia ukiukaji wa kanuni na sheria kwenye mradi huo na kushinikiza kukamilishwa kwao kwa manufaa ya jamii.

Spika Amason Kingi alilielekeza ombi hilo kwenye Kamati ya Ardhi, Mazingira na Maliasili kufungamana na kifungu cha 238 ibara ya 1 cha Kanuni za Bunge la Seneti.

Kamati hiyo kulingana na kifungu icho hicho, ibara ya 2 inapaswa kutoa majibu kwa walalamishi kupitia kwenye ripoti itakayowasilishwa kwenye Seneti.

Seneta Cherarkey ataka majibu kuhusu malimbikizi ya madeni kwenye Kaundi zote nchini Kenya



Seneta Samson Cherarkey

Seneta wa Kaunti ya Nandi Samson Cherarkey amewasilisha ombi Bungeni akitaka kauli kutoka kwenye Kamati ya Kudumu ya Fedha na Bajeti kuhusu malimbikizi ya madeni kwenye Kaunti zote nchini Kenya.

Seneta Cherarkey anaitaka Kamati hiyo kuandaa na kuwasilisha ripoti ya kina kuhusu malimbikizi ya madeni katika kila Kaunti ikionesha miaka ya kifedha ambayo malimbikizi hayo yalishuhudiwa na mikakati ambayo serikali

imeweka kufanikisha ulipaji wa madeni hayo.

Aidha Kamati hiyo inayoongozwa na Seneta wa Kaunti ya Mandera Ali Roba itahitajika kwenye ripoti yake kulifanulia Bunge la Seneti wajibu wa Msimamizi wa Bajeti katika kuharakisha ulipaji wa madeni na serikali za Kaunti.

Kadhalika Seneta Cherarkey ameitaka Kamati hiyo kuwasilisha kwenye Seneti orodha ya malimbikizi ya madeni yote yalio chini ya shilingi milioni tano

ikionesha Kaunti ambazo hazijafuata amri kuhusu ulipaji wa hima.

Kwingineko Seneta wa Kaunti ya Marsabit Mohamed Chute ametaka majibu kuhusu madai ya msamaha wa ushuru uliotolewa na Mamlaka ya Ukusanyaji Mapato nchini Kenya (KRA) kwa Shirika la Kitaifa la Biashara nchini Kenya (KNTC).

Seneta Chute ameomba Kamati ya Kudumu ya Fedha na Bajeti kwenye Seneti kubaini iwapo Mamlaka ya Ukusanyaji Mapato imetoa msamaha wa ushuru kwa KNTC na iwapo imefanya hivyo, ufafanuzi wa kina utolewe kuhusu vigezo vilivyotumika katika utoaji wa msamaha huo.

Kiongozi huyo aidha anaitaka Kamati hiyo kubaini iwapo utaratibu hitajika ulifuatwa kikamilifu iwapo msamaha huo ulitolewa ikionesha kiwango cha pesa ambazo zingekusanywa iwapo Mamlaka hiyo haingetoa msamaha wa ushuru kwa shirika hilo.

Wakati uo huo Seneta Chute amewas-

ilisha ombi kwenye Seneti akiitaka Kamati ya Biashara, Viwanda na Utalii kutoa ripoti kuhusu uzalishaji na uagizaji wa mafuta ya kupika nchini Kenya.

Anaitaka Kamati hiyo kutoa takwimu kuhusu kiwango cha mafuta ya kupika yanayozalishwa nchini Kenya kila mwaka kikilinganishwa na kiwango cha matumizi ikifichua kampuni za uzalishaji wa mafuta ya kupika nchini Kenya na bei ya wastani ya mafuta kwenye viwango vya rejareja.

Vile vile Kiongozi huyo ameitaka Kamati hiyo kufichua kiwango cha mafuta ya kupika yaliyoagizwa katika mwaka wa 2020, 2021, 2022 na 2023 ikionesha gharama ya bima ya usafirishaji kwenye bandari ya Mombasa na bei ya wastani kwenye viwango vya rejareja.

Kadhalika Seneta Chute aliomba Kamati hiyo kufafanua iwapo mikopo yoyote ilichukuliwa nchini Kenya kufanikisha uagizaji huo, ikionesha asilimia ya mikopo ambayo imelipwa kufikia sasa.



A PUBLICATION OF THE SENATE

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