



The SENATE

Safeguarding Devolution

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Weekly

Uproar over Jamhuri Park ownership

Senators express concern over the state of the Park, a strategic national infrastructure that is on the verge of being grabbed by private developers.



Senator Mohamed Sheikh



Senator Edwin Sifuna



Senator Enock Wambua.

Senators have challenged the Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources to investigate the dispute surrounding Jamhuri Park and determine its true ownership as a matter of national urgency.

The Park, located in Nairobi County, is a strategic national infrastructure that has for decades hosted premier international and national commercial events, including the annual Agricultural Society of Kenya Nairobi International Trade Fair.

The lawmakers say it remains one of the drivers of Nairobi, as well as, the national economy.

During debate in the House, the Senators want the Committee to address and sort the ownership issue with finality arguing that it has been contested for quite a while and that the matter has been allowed to permeate for long.

“This is one matter that requires the very urgent attention of the Committee

to address and sort with finality,” said Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot during debate in the House.

He was responding to the Statement sought by Senator Edwin Sifuna demanding explanation on the ownership status of the Park. The Senator has expressed fear the land is on the verge of being grabbed.

In light of the growing trend of unlawful encroachment and land grabbing targeting public spaces, Senator Sifuna wants the ownership of the Park to be ascertained and secured. He wants the Committee, which is chaired by Senator Mohamed Faki, to explain the current ownership status of the Park, obtain copies of the relevant ownership documents that demonstrate the respective stakes of the Nairobi City County Government and the national Government or any other interested parties and submit the same to the House.

He also wants the Committee to address the measures put in place to secure the Park and similar public spaces from unlawful encroachment and land grabbing.

“We are being told that Jamhuri Park is still under contestation. If we do not sort this out, with increasing pressure on the value of land, this may be a recipe for a civil war. If such matters are not attended to, then people may decide to sort themselves out, which might not be a particularly good incident,” observed Senator Cheruiyot.

He said the Committee should go further and tell the nation the status of registration of public institutions, particularly schools, both primary, secondary and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions across the country.

“This is because that is an area also that has been manipulated and many people do not follow to ensure that the

ownership is settled.”

Senator Enock Wambua urged the Committee should move with speed, ensure the land is secured and its title, is in safe hands, adding that there is need for the country to respect the dignity and the sanctity of public property.

“If there is a place where there is a rot in this country on matters land, it is the Kenya Railways. Everybody who wants to grab any piece of land, they rush to the Kenya Railways. Senator Faki and your committee, you have your job cut out. There is need to secure public land in this country. The Kenya Railways has pieces of land across the country, along the colonial rail line. A lot of that land has already been grabbed and gone into private ownership. This committee needs to move with speed and secure that public land, including land for dams across every county.”

Senator Mohamed Chute said the Committee should summon all the individuals linked to the land, either

those who claim ownership or are doing construction works on such pieces of land.

“The Committee should follow up on the ownership of this land, ask hard questions and stop any plans to develop the land. Where necessary they put encumbrances on all the land owned by Kenya Railways,” he said.

Noting that the Park is a public asset,

Senator Ledama ole Kina revealed there is a secret deal happening to lease the Park to some Chinese companies and challenged the Committee to move expeditiously and unearth the rot that underpins the secret land lease deal.

“Someone somewhere is attempting to lease Jamhuri Park to make money. I remind everyone that it is all vanity. At some point, you will go somewhere

and own whatever you want to own. However, one day, you will just leave it all on earth. Can we allow generations to enjoy what our forefathers left behind? People have encroached into the Nairobi and Ngong forest. In fact, we are all now choking with pollution, because what had been set aside to absorb all that pollution, is now luxury five-star hotels being built. Come on! Enough!”

Senator Sheikh Abbas regretted that some Kenyans have developed a high affinity for land grabbing, noting that most of Kenya’s land is going to individuals. “I do not know where we are heading to because how will this country produce food?” he asked, adding: “The Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) is almost gone, the Railways is also going and almost all research stations are now being grabbed.”

Senators say SUPKEM has lost focus, demand reforms



Senator Hamida Kibwana



Senator Mohamed Faki



Senator Mohamed Chute

The House has called for urgent reforms in the Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM) following widespread complains of the organisation’s handling of the annual Hajj pilgrimage.

Senator Hamida Kibwana raised the alarm through a statement in which she sought the intervention of the Committee on Labour and Social Welfare, warning the ongoing wrangles within SUPKEM were damaging its credibility.

Over the past months, Muslim leaders have called for elections to reconstitute SUPKEM’s leadership, accusing it of poor planning and mishandling of pilgrims.

“This issue has escalated into public demonstrations. It now threatens an institution that for decades has been a pillar of cohesion and interfaith dialogue,” she told the House, even as she requested the committee to investigate whether

the Registrar of Societies had initiated inquiries into the alleged mismanagement of funds, particularly those related to Hajj facilitation.

She also sought clarity on the number of pilgrims SUPKEM had facilitated since 2020 and the challenges they faced.

Senator Mohamed Faki supported the call, saying many Kenyan pilgrims had endured indignity during the 2024 Hajj season due to poor organisation. “Our people suffered because of SUPKEM’s inefficiency. They slept on the floor while pilgrims from other countries had proper accommodation,” he said, adding that some Kenyans lacked transport between the holy sites of Mecca, Mina and Arafat.

“Even pilgrims from Tanzania had better facilities,” he lamented, adding that “the time has come for the government to rethink Hajj management”.

Senator Faki, who previously visited Saudi Arabia on official duty, revealed that Kenya’s ambassador had confirmed receiving numerous complaints. “SUPKEM operates in secrecy. Its leaders use government channels but provide little accountability,” he told the House.

Senator Mohamed Chute accused the current SUPKEM leadership of mixing religion with politics and engaging in questionable land deals. “They have become brokers. Instead of protecting mosque land, they want to demolish them to build housing projects,” he said, alleging that SUPKEM officials had lobbied top government leaders to approve demolition of a mosque in Huruma for an affordable housing scheme.

“How do you destroy a mosque to build flats? They have lost their way.”

He called on the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission to investigate SUPKEM’s financial dealings. “If possible,

EACC should audit their accounts. The council must return to its spiritual mission, not politics,” he said.

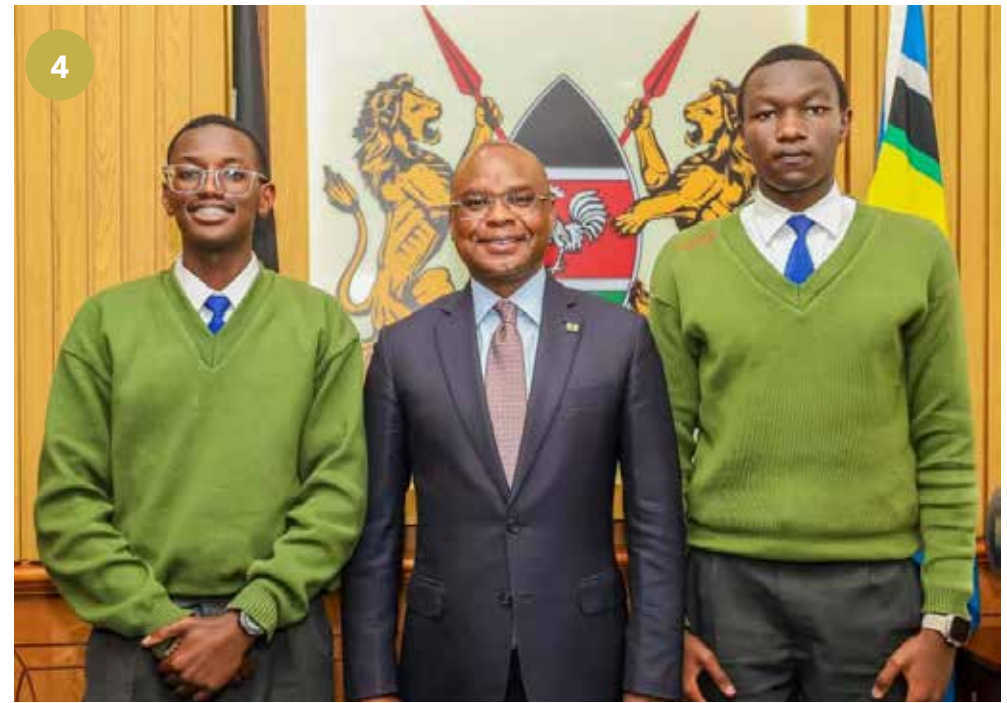
Senator Abass Mohamed said Hajj was one of Islam’s five pillars and must be treated with utmost seriousness.

“In other countries, governments protect their citizens on pilgrimage. In Kenya, SUPKEM has turned it into a private business,” he said.

He urged the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to intervene and ensure future pilgrimages are coordinated through transparent national structures.

“Our people are suffering spiritually and financially,” he warned.

The senators urged the Labour Committee to recommend reforms to restore accountability and transparency in faith-based organisations.



1. Speaker Amason Kingi with students from Starehe who were part of the Voluntary Service Scheme. The programme serves as a fundamental pillar of Parliament's mandate to foster a deeper understanding of democratic governance.
2. Speaker Amason Kingi speaks to the 18 students who have been in Parliament for a two-week attachment under the VSS.
3. Speaker Kingi and students from Kianda School who have completed the VSS programme in Parliament.
4. The Speaker and some of the beneficiaries of the VSS programme from Alliance High School. The Speaker is a former student of the School.
5. Speaker Kingi hands a gift hamper to Mr So Byung-hoon, member of the 22nd National Assembly, Republic of Korea who led a delegation of the MPs from the South Asian County in their visit to Parliament.
6. Speaker Kingi poses for a picture with a delegation of South Korean Members of Parliament who had paid courtesy call at his office last week. The Speaker was joined by Senator Abdul Haji (second right) and Senator Tabitha Mutinda.

Committee inquires into ECDEs, TVETs status in Nairobi



Senator Betty Montet, chair, Education Committee, during the meeting with Governor Johnson Sakaja.



Governor Sakaja explains a point to the Committee.



Senator Agnes Muthama and Senator James Murango during the meeting.

As part of the ongoing national assessment of Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) and Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) implementation across all the 47 counties, the Committee on Education hosted Governor John Sakaja to deliberate on the current status of the institutions within Nairobi County.

Governor Sakaja informed the Committee that the County currently operates 230 public and 839 private ECDE centres, with plans underway to expand access through the construction of additional classrooms. He further stressed that ECDEs are in fact domiciled at primary schools.

Out of the public centres, 200 are integrated within primary schools, while 30 are stand-alone facilities. The cost of constructing a standard ECDE centre varies between Sh11 million and Sh18 million, including classrooms, an administration block, and a kitchen.

Each year, the County allocates Sh100 million in capitation to support pre-primary education, maintaining a 100 per cent transition rate from ECDE to primary school. All pre-primary teachers are employed by the County Government under permanent and pensionable terms, with a teacher-pupil ratio of 1:33, targeted to reduce to 1:25 through future recruitment.

“We are focusing on building more classrooms in Nairobi to improve learning environments,” the Governor said, adding that recent fiscal challenges had temporarily affected bursary disbursements.

The Committee commended the County’s robust school feeding programme, which currently benefits 316,000 learners daily across 230 public schools.

Through 17 central kitchens, the County produces approximately 15,000 meals per day, with each pre-primary child contributing Sh5 per meal. The

initiative has led to a 27 per cent increase in ECDE enrollment.

“The school feeding programme has transformed attendance and nutrition levels in our ECDEs,” noted Senator John Kinyua, who praised the Governor’s efforts.

Governor Sakaja said the aim is to feed every child in a public school. “We’re also seeking support to expand the kitchens and reach more learners, especially in informal settlements.”

Senator Edwin Sifuna, raised concerns over inadequate ECDE infrastructure in certain wards, such as Roysambu, and the need for adequate play areas, toilets, and trained teachers.

“Given Nairobi’s population density, ideally each ward should have at least two ECDE centres,” he stated.

Senator Catherine Mumma emphasised the need for a clear policy framework for ECDE implementation in informal settlements.

“You cannot effectively implement this function without a guiding policy. Nairobi must move with urgency to develop one to ensure equitable access for all children,” she urged.

Committee members also called for the County to improve data on children out of school and to prioritize inclusive education for learners with special needs.

The Committee further engaged the Governor on the status of Vocational Training Centres, with Nairobi currently hosting only 12 operational VTCs offering courses in plumbing, mechanics, engineering and others.

Governor Sakaja stated that his administration plans to expand and equip more VTCs, supported by a Sh71 million capitation. The County also partners with organisations such as World Vision, Girl Child Partners, and SHOFCO to strengthen skills training and provide start-up kits for graduates.

“We intend to fast-track the VTC policy and align our training to modern industry needs,” the Governor said.

Senator Margaret Kamar, the Committee Vice-Chairperson, urged the County to “make deliberate campaigns to educate the public on the value of VTCs and expand enrollment to empower the youth.”

Senator Betty Montet, the chair of the Committee, appreciated the Governor’s openness and commitment to collaboration.

“This has been a productive and informative session. We are glad to see the Nairobi County Government taking deliberate steps to safeguard the future of our young learners,” she said. “Let the money follow the function — so that every child, from ECDE to TVET, receives the quality education they deserve.”

Finance Committee to scrutinise extent of external debt



Senator Boni Khalwale makes a point during a sitting of the Committee on Finance and Budget which was chaired by Senator Tabitha Mutinda (right). Senator Mariam Omar listens.

A committee of the Senate has resolved to scrutinise the latest government borrowing.

The Committee on Finance and Budget, in a session chaired by Senator Tabitha Mutinda, the vice chair, resolved to invite the National Treasury and the Controller of Budget to shed light on the matter even as it faulted the two government entities over their failure to disclose the true cost of external debt.

This was after it was informed that the new loans attract a commitment fee and front-end fee, which will increase the amount of interest and hidden charges that Kenyans will pay for the loan tenfold.

The commitment fee is a fee charged because the lender has kept the money available, representing an opportunity foregone to lend it to someone else.

The Front-End Fee, described as a facilitation fee, on the other hand, covers the cost of the intermediaries—the legal and negotiation services—used to

secure the loan facility on behalf of the government.

The Committee noted that the commitment fee is the immediate financial risk for the two loans signed in June and August 2025, which have not yet been disbursed.

The Committee also examined the status of the new loans, totaling a principal of Sh95.53 billion. Approximately Sh73.79 billion had been disbursed by the end of August 2025, largely accounted for by two fully disbursed loans: the International Sovereign Bond of Sh64.62 billion and a Sh9.17 billion loan.

For loans yet to be drawn down, the Committee stressed the urgent need for timely and efficient utilisation, highlighting the importance of drawing down funds within the grace period, such as five years and 4.8 years for the first two loans, to avoid interest payments and unnecessary commitment fees.

The most critical debate centered on the Sh64.62 billion Sovereign Bond, which was secured to support the national budget. Senators expressed frustration over the lack of transparency regarding the funds' final destination, stressing that Kenyans, being the ultimate payers of the loan, ought to know where their money is going.

“Why was the sovereign bond secured with a five-year grace period if it was meant to stabilise an immediate budget deficit? This seems to suggest that the Treasury mandarins were obscuring the true use of the money,” Senator Khalwale wondered.

The Parliamentary Budget Office clarified that budget support funds are deposited into the Consolidated Fund alongside tax revenue, making it impossible to earmark the specific ministries or departments that receive the borrowed billions. The money is mixed and disbursed to cover various

government expenditures.

The Committee's analysis of the new loans revealed significant gaps in reporting, leading to a strong push for greater accountability. The analysis suggested that the total cost of the Sh95.5 billion in loans could rise to 140 billion due to interest and charges.

In addition, key information required by law was absent, including conditions precedent for each loan, a detailed amortization schedule for future repayments, and the designated implementing agency and beneficiary county for each loan.

“The Controller of Budget holds the critical evidence—the bank statement—to confirm the deposit and subsequent disbursement of the billions. We are the only ones who can stop them from stealing, we know they are doing,” Senator Mutinda, directed.

Committee wants Kulalu Electrification project completed



Senator Danson Mungatana during the Committee on Energy tour of the Galana Kulalu Food Security Electrification Project (GKFSCEP) in Kilifi County.



An official from the Galana Kulalu Food Security Electrification Project (GKFSCEP) explains the operations to members of the Committee on Energy led by the chair, Senator Oburu Oginga, third right. Others in the picture are from right, Senator Beatrice Ogola, Senator James Lomenen and Senator Edwin Sifuna, second left.

Senator Oburu Oginga, the chair of the Committee on Energy, has challenged the national Government to complete the construction works of the Galana Kulalu project in time so that the people of Kilifi County can be connected to the national grid.

The Senator made the call when the Committee made an inspection tour of the critical infrastructure project.

The project began with a bold vision, the Galana Kulalu Food Security Electrification Project (GKFSCEP), a partnership between the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum (MoE&P) and

the Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation (REREC).

The mission was to replace the old diesel-powered system with clean, stable electricity, and to give life to Kenya's dream of food security through sustainable energy.

Estimated at Sh2.98 billion, the project was designed not just to power pumps, but to power hope.

Senator Beatrice Ogolla said, "Corporate Social Responsibility should be included in each project that the Government undertakes from macro to micro to benefit the local communities."

Senator Sifuna said that the local communities should be the first beneficiaries of mega projects because from Marsabit to Menengai to Kipeto, the local communities complain of not benefitting from the projects.

The plan took shape through four key components: A 220/66 kV substation at Weru Ranch — the beating heart of the system, A 27 km 66 kV line linking Weru Ranch to Shakahola, another 27 km 66 kV line connecting Shakahola to the sprawling Galana Kulalu Farm and finally, a 66/33 kV substation and metering station right at the farm — the

symbol of completion.

By September 2025, the first shipments of substation equipment would arrive. Engineers would descend on the plains, their blueprints becoming reality, their power lines stretching like veins across the land.

Senator Danson Mungatana said, "The Government must deliver on the Galana Kulalu project for food security of this county and country as large."

Senator James Lomenen said that energy is an enabler of development as observed by powering the irrigation scheme in Kilifi County.

Mfangano residents want state-owned ferry services



Senator Peris Tobiko (left), Senator Mohamed Chute (second right) and Senator Enock Wambua (right) enjoy a boat ride on Lake Victoria, during the Committee on Transport tour of Mfangano Island.



Members of the public give their views on the ferry services when the Committee on Transport toured Mfangano Island.



Members of the Committee on Transport pose for a picture with members of public after an engagement between the two sides on Mfangano Island.

Residents of Mfangano Island in Homa Bay County have challenged the Senate to ensure they are provided with a government-owned ferry to serve the route between Mbita and Mfangano.

In a Petition filed before the House, the residents say high transport costs and unreliable private services have crippled the island's economy.

The Committee on Transport visited the Island to assess the issues raised in the Petition.

Currently, the route is operated by

a private firm, Mbita Ferry Services, which charges Sh250 for a one-way trip.

Residents say the fare is too high and the service irregular, making it difficult to transport goods and access essential services on the mainland.

Mfangano Development Association Chairperson says the island cannot progress without affordable and reliable ferry transport.

"We need a government-run ferry like the Likoni Ferry, which operates free of charge and runs 24 hours a day," the Association says in its memorandum.

The committee was informed that Sh800 million had been allocated in the previous financial year for the construction of a ferry at the Kisumu Shipyard.

Senator Peris Tobiko urged the government to allocate an additional Sh300 million in the next budget to ease transport challenges for the residents on the Island.

However, locals expressed concern that the proposed ferry route—covering Kisumu, Kendu Bay, Homa Bay, Mbita, Sena, and Muhuru Bay—would not directly benefit Mfangano Island.

They argued that such a route would

take too long, calling instead for short, frequent trips between Mbita and the island.

Senator Eddy Oketch, the chair of the Committee, said the ferry service between Mbita and Mfangano Island is "long overdue," while Senator Enock Wambua added that residents deserve fairness and inclusion in national transport projects.

"Mfangano residents deserve justice. The ferry is their lifeline—their only connection to the mainland," Senator Wambua observed.

Health Committee unhappy with state of health in three counties

As part of its oversight mandate, the Committee on Health, led by Senator Mariam Omar, conducted an inspection tour of Level Five and Level Four hospitals in Kitui, Makueni and Machakos counties.

The purpose of the tour was to assess the status of healthcare service delivery, infrastructure, and resource utilisation in public health facilities.

During the visits, the Committee observed that many health workers have remained in the same job group for over twelve years without promotion, a situation that has negatively impacted on the staff morale and consequently, patient care.

The lawmakers also noted significant delays in the processing of Social Health Authority (SHA) reimbursements and claims, a challenge that continues to strain service delivery across the counties.

Further, the Committee identified critical equipment gaps, including a missing mammogram machine at Kitui County Referral Hospital and several non-functional X-ray machines in other facilities.

In addition, water shortages and inadequate bed capacity were reported in some hospitals.

“We can do better, I’m very disappointed to see six patients sharing one bed, three infants and their mothers. This should not happen in this era,” said Senator Tabitha Mutinda, expressing concern over the dire situation.

The legislators also flagged poor record-keeping systems, urging health facilities to adopt stable and modern digital systems.

“Facilities should use reliable and secure digital systems. These are not only essential for revenue collection and tracking but also for protecting patient data,” emphasised Senator Mariam Omar.

Despite the challenges, the Committee encouraged healthcare workers to remain dedicated and optimistic.

“We are here to partner with you and remind you that we can still make Kenya great by fulfilling the true purpose of devolution,” remarked Senator Wafula Wakoli.



Senator David Wakoli and Senator Tabitha Mutinda during the Committee on Health tour of Machakos Level 4 Hospital on inspection tour.



Members of the Health Committee at the Makueni Level 4 Hospital. They were joined by Senator Dan Maanzo.



Senator Joseph Githuku talks to patients at Makueni Level 4 Hospital.

Govt to digitise OBs, install CCTV systems in police stations



Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen

Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen faced tough questioning over a string of politically linked violence in Kakamega County and other parts of Western Kenya.

However, CS Murkomen said his ministry had made progress in containing sporadic insecurity but admitted that political intolerance and criminal infiltration into the boda boda sector remained major challenges.

The Cabinet Secretary was responding to a question by Senator Boni Khalwale on the status of investigations into several violent incidents, including an assault on Mumias East MP Peter Salasya at a church function, chaos during the burial of the late Senator Godliver Omondi and clashes involving Governor Fernandes Barasa and Woman Representative Elsie Muhanda.

The CS told Senators that while police had opened inquiries into all the incidents, some cases had stalled due to non-cooperation by complainants. “Hon Salasya was attacked by a rival group but despite invitations from investigators, he has never recorded a statement. Without the complainant’s cooperation, the case

remains pending,” he told the House.

Police had also investigated the scuffle between supporters of Governor Barasa and Hon Muhanda in Eregi, confirming that one person was injured but declined to pursue the case. “The injured party refused to provide a statement and we cannot compel victims to testify,” he said.

One suspect had been charged in court over violence in Matungu during the burial of Chief Agostino Odongo while three others were still being pursued. “We have forwarded the file to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for further action,” he said.

Intelligence had linked some violent incidents to local politicians who financed gangs, but the CS declined to name them, citing active investigations.

“Key financiers have been identified and we will prosecute them once evidence meets the legal threshold,” he said.

He condemned the rise of politically motivated violence at funerals, rallies and fundraisers, warning that law enforcement would no longer tolerate hoodliganism disguised as political mobilisation.

Governor Barasa was behind several attacks.

“The financier hires school buses, ferries goons to functions and secures their release after arrest,” Senator Khalwale claimed, accusing the government of shielding a “powerful criminal”.

CS Murkomen dismissed the claims as political, saying: “Take the Senator’s remarks with a pinch of salt. He is also vying for the same governor’s seat.”

The CS said the government was implementing reforms to modernise policing, digitise occurrence books and install CCTV systems in police stations to enhance transparency.

He also cited ongoing efforts to register boda boda riders under SACCOs to restore order in the transport sector.

He noted that his ministry’s Jukwaa la Usalama initiative has seen him tour all 47 counties to engage communities on security challenges, enabling him and his team to gain information about the country’s security.

“We discovered that criminals have infiltrated boda boda groups, especially in Western and Nyanza. We are working with NTSA and county governments to clean up the sector,” he said.

He added that law enforcement agencies were under instruction to act firmly against politically motivated crime, saying: “We will not allow a few individuals to turn public gatherings into battlegrounds. The safety of citizens is paramount.”



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Security Committee pledges justice in Brian Odhiambo case



Senator Fatuma Dullo, chair Security Committee, consults Senator Tom Ojienda, the vice chair, during the meeting in Nakuru County.



The meeting between the Security Committee and Nakuru County Security team.



Senator Tabitha Keroche.

The Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations has reaffirmed its commitment to uncovering the truth behind the disappearance of Mr Brian Odhiambo and ensuring the safety of communities around Lake Nakuru.

The Committee gave the assurance after carrying out an extensive fact-finding mission in Nakuru County to follow up on Mr Odhiambo's disappearance while in the custody of Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) officers, nearly two

years now. The Senators held consultations with security agencies, KWS officials, human rights defenders and the County Government to assess progress in investigations and determine the steps taken so far.

Six KWS officers have since been interdicted over the incident and charged in court over the disappearance. Thirteen witnesses have already testified and the final witness is scheduled to give evidence on Monday, November 10.

Besides the investigation, the Com-

mittee also expressed concern over reports that fish from Lake Nakuru may be unsafe for human consumption. Environmental experts briefed the Senators that pollution from industrial waste had contaminated the lake, making its fish potentially hazardous to public health. Despite this, the contaminated fish continues to reach local and regional markets, exposing consumers to significant risk.

Senator Dullo stressed that the Committee remains determined to protect

vulnerable communities, noting that economic hardships often drive people to consume unsafe food out of necessity.

Senator Tom Ojienda assured the family of Mr Odhiambo that the Committee will pursue justice and accountability. Senator Tabitha Keroche commended the Committee's unwavering commitment and pledged continued cooperation to safeguard the interests of Nakuru residents.

This week in History – October 6, 2016.

House debates the County Outdoor Advertising Control Bill, 2018.



Majority Leader Samuel Poghiso

Moving the Bill, Majority Leader Samuel Poghiso urged the House to pass the Bill arguing that Outdoor advertising is a very important aspect of communication. The principal objective of the Bill is to ensure that outdoor advertising respects amenity and does not prejudice public safety, road safety and that the display of outdoor advertisements contributes positively to the appearance of a well-cared for and attractive environment. The Bill defined advertisement, amenity, arena, County Executive Committee Member, hoarding, which is the structure that is used to surround the buildings and licensee, who is the person seeking to carry out outdoor advertising business. It also defined something called sponsorship marketing plan. He said all the definitions help to say that advertising is about site but it is sometimes about the actual display. "We get news through outdoor advertisement but we also advertise businesses. These billboards come in all sizes, shapes and forms," he said. Some of the billboards are electronic while others are analogue but one thing about outdoor advertising is that it involves space which must be taken care of. He told the House that who takes care of that space will be answered by some of the proposals in the Bill. Who decides the distances and how far from the highways and roads should they be, in which order should they come and who gets the license? The biggest struggle is who gets the license. The competition in this sector is very high. He said counties were not involved yet they are the ones that bear the brunt of outdoor advertising. "It is the counties that should be getting resources from the outdoor advertising which are within their counties. Some counties, which have highways going through them, will have to involve KeNHA," he said, adding that some of the counties do not have roads while some of them have rural roads hence the decisions will purely be made by those counties. "The CEC has the authority, therefore, to prepare the necessary licenses for them to be in tandem with the licenses everywhere. We have to standardise those licences."



Senator Alice Milgo said:

"This Bill is important in the sense that it will provide a legal framework for regulating outdoors advertisement in counties. The Bill will go a long way in bringing sanity in terms of advertisement because, currently, there is a lot of confusion. There are people who control how advertisements are done. In that case, it is survival of the fittest for goods or services one wants to be advertised. This Bill is quite in order because it indicates what is exempted from advertisements such as those that are ordinarily for providing direction to properties for sale or lease. This Bill will go a long way in bringing sanity in terms of advertisement because, currently, there is a lot of confusion. There are people who control how advertisements are done. In that case, it is survival of the fittest for goods or services one wants to be advertised. This Bill is quite in order because it indicates what is exempted from advertisements such as those that are ordinarily for providing direction to properties for sale or lease. In addition to that, there are advertisements of road signs, those of enclosed buildings or institutions and the ones related to sporting arena and cultural areas. For such, individuals will be exempted from making applications."



Senator Ochilo Ayacko said:

"Advertisement has a potential to give counties revenue like it has done in most counties. There is need to ensure that it is vibrant and that the various salient and competing interests are attended to without hurting the industry and creating a situation that would lead to cacophony or unhealthy competition among the industry players, so that there is order in this particular sector. What has not been captured in this Bill and is likely to be abused is the denial of competition from advertising. It is also possible that if it is for political purpose that may open business to some entity that is not liked, the right to licence may be abused. Therefore, it will be important to ensure that there is a process equivalent to fair administration of justice so that a particular licensing authority like the office of the County Executive Committee (CEC) Member, that is mentioned here, does not abuse the process of licence and deny a different group an opportunity to benefit from the right to access the licence. It is my sincere prayer that the process of regulating is enhanced by having an establishment or a Committee that integrates the wisdom of industry players. If we have a regulatory agency, for instance, a public body which is largely executive and governmental, it may be staffed by people whose orientation is cohesive and might decline licences. However, if we have a regulatory framework where the regulatory agency or body has input of professionals from that sector, its opinion when it comes to issuance of licence will be balanced because players who have interest of the sector at heart are part of it."



Senator Hargura Godhana said:

"This law will go a long way in creating a working relationship so that state agencies managing roads ensure that there is always safety on the roads. When roads are constructed, normally we have what we call side distances where when one is moving from one section to another, there is a minimum distance you have to see ahead of you. If the advertisement boards are not regulated, they will obstruct that vision. That is why the state authorities are coming in. It is good that it has been indicated that the licensee has to clear with the relevant authority. They should have stated the state agency in charge of a particular road type. That way, we will make sure that the law is applicable even when we come up with changes in the road sector. In the case of other surveillance equipment, you have to clear with the police to make sure that you do not obstruct any of the surveillance equipment on the roads. There is need to regulate advertisement because we have seen proliferation of signs on the roads. You will always find "X" marks on them showing that they were not properly licensed. To avoid that, we have to give clear guidelines on how to get licences. Sometimes those officers are not aware of the process but if we have a clear law, then we will easily avoid the mushrooming of advertisement and billboards on our roads. It will be a good source of revenue for the counties. However, as the Bill is, it is not something that counties can initiate. It will depend on the interests of the advertisers and those interested to advertise in a particular area."

CS Mutua hardpressed to explain layoffs in sugar industry

Labour and Social Protection Cabinet Secretary Alfred Mutua has defended the government's decision to discharge over 1,000 workers from State-owned sugar industries in Western Kenya.

CS Mutua told the House that the layoffs were conducted lawfully and compassionately.

Senators, however, accused the government of abandoning thousands of breadwinners at a time when the sugar belt is reeling from economic distress.

The CS Mutua revealed that 1,743 workers from Chemelil, Muhoroni and Miwani sugar companies were affected by the restructuring, which he described as part of a national strategy to revive the ailing sugar sector.

"This was not retrenchment for its own sake. It was a painful but necessary reform to resuscitate factories that had been looted to death by cartels," CS Mutua told the House in response to a question from Senator Tom Ojienda

He revealed that the government had already paid Sh1.8 billion in salary arrears and would release another Sh3.8 billion by June 2026. "No worker will



be left unpaid. This government honours the sweat of its people," he assured.

Senators were far from convinced with Senator Boni Khalwale charging that the Cabinet's failure to conduct a socio-economic impact assessment had condemned entire families to poverty.

"You cannot revive industries by de-

stroying the lives of those who built them," he said. Senator Edwin Sifuna accused the CS of hiding behind bureaucracy, saying: "You sit in Cabinet and you cannot tell us to question another ministry. You all bear collective responsibility."

CS Mutua maintained that the process followed the law and was grounded in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on May 7, 2025 between the government and the Kenya Union of Sugar Plantation and Allied Workers.

Under the MoU, lessees were required to retain all staff for 12 months before identifying positions for permanent retention. "There is no mass firing. Investors are required to retain staff for a year. Only non-performing or redundant roles will be released with full benefits paid," the CS said.

He said the Ministry of Agriculture was settling all salary arrears, pension contributions and statutory deductions accrued before the handover. Senator Danson Mungatana pressed for proof saying big figures are not justice and demanded to know the number of workers who have been paid.

The CS said partial payments had al-

ready begun and that a Transition Committee was monitoring all claims under the Ministry's conciliation framework. Senator Beatrice Ogola raised concerns about workers released before retirement age.

"The workers are not being sent home empty-handed. They are being paid in advance for the time they would have served," the CS in response.

Senator Samson Cherarkey protested that Chemelil's workers from his county were excluded from the payout. "Our people deserve fairness," he said even as the CS assured no region had been left out.

Senator Enock Wambua demanded clarity on who between the government and lessees was responsible for paying gratuities.

CS Mutua confirmed the payments were "strictly a government obligation" and further outlined plans to re-train displaced workers through NITA and TVET institutions to equip them for new opportunities.

"We are not discarding experience. We are transforming it into new skills for the new economy," he said.

House split over proposal to increase PSC intern stipend

Should the government increase the stipends paid to interns working under the Public Service Commission (PSC)? This is a question that emerged and split members over the need to support struggling youth and the risk of expanding an already ballooning public wage bill.

This during the debate on the Motion sponsored by Senator Samson Cherarkey, who wants the Guidelines on Management of the Public Service Internship Programme (2019) reviewed to enhance the stipends and promote innovation among interns.

Senator Cherarkey argued that the current payment of between Sh15,000 and Sh30,000 per month is too low to sustain young graduates in cities like Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu where the cost of living is high. "The internship programme has given our young people experience, exposure and employability. However, the stipend offered is too little to meet basic needs," he told the House, adding that the House should help cushion the interns and reward innovation.

The Motion further urged the Cabinet Secretary for Public Service and Human Capital Development to review the



Samson Cherarkey

guidelines in consultation with the PSC to make the programme more effective and equitable.

However, Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot warned that the proposal could have serious budgetary implications. "We are currently spending close to Sh90 billion every month on paying public workers, including teachers, doctors and MPs," he told the House.

"That figure amounts to about 40 per cent of the country's total revenue. The question we must ask is whether that is

sustainable," he added, even as he urged senators to have a candid conversation about the country's wage bill instead of making emotionally appealing but fiscally risky decisions. "The economy has no emotion. You must prioritise what you can afford," he said.

Senator Edwin Sifuna supported the Motion but cautioned that increasing stipends without additional funding might reduce the number of internship slots. "If we enhance stipends without increasing budgetary allocation, fewer

young people will benefit," he said.

Senator Wahome Wamatinga backed the Motion but said Kenya must reform its education system to align with technical and industrial needs.

"We need a dual system that combines training and work experience. Countries like Germany have succeeded by letting students learn and produce simultaneously," he said.

Senator Enock Wambua described unemployment as the greatest threat to stability, saying: "When thousands of idle youth turn up at political rallies in midweek, it shows how dire the situation is. We must create opportunities before hopelessness consumes our country."

Senator Abass Mohamed urged the government to promote self-employment. "We must reorient our youth towards production. Agriculture remains an untapped sector where they can create wealth and feed the nation," he said.

Senator Daniel Maanzo called for completion of stalled infrastructure such as the Thwake Dam and Konza Technopolis to attract investment and employment.

"We can train our youth for digital and creative jobs if we have the infrastructure," he said.

Call for cooperation to resolve health workforce crisis in counties



Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale responds to members' concerns on the floor of the House as Speaker Amason Kingi and the Parliamentary technical staff follow the proceedings.

The national and county governments could face off over the re-hiring of the more than 7,000 medics who served the country during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale lifted the lid about the potential tension between the two levels when he issued a firm ultimatum over the fate of 7,414 COVID-19 health workers whose absorption into county service has stalled despite the intervention by the national government.

CS Duale told the Senate during Question Time that he would rehire the medics into national referral hospitals if governors continued to frustrate their employment.

He accused county bosses of “turning their backs on national heroes who risked their lives to save Kenyans at the height of the pandemic”.

“We cannot abandon those who stood on the frontline when Kenya was under attack,” CS Duale declared and warned: “If governors won’t employ them, I will.”

The affected workers include doctors, nurses, clinical officers and laboratory

technologists who were recruited during the COVID-19 emergency to reinforce the public health system.

Despite their proven service, some of the workers are still on short-term contracts and others have been sent home altogether.

“These are people who sacrificed everything — their comfort, their families, their lives — for this country,” he told senators and noted that it was morally wrong to discard them.

CS Duale told the House that President William Ruto had directed the Ministry of Health to ensure no health worker who served during the pandemic was left unemployed.

He said the government had already resolved other long-standing issues in the health sector, including the posting of medical interns and the review of Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs).

“We are fixing every human resource challenge in the health sector. The only outstanding one is the absorption of the COVID-19 medics and we will not hesitate to act if counties fail,” said CS

Duale.

According to the CS, the national government is ready to absorb all 7,414 medics into referral hospitals and teaching facilities that are struggling with staff shortages.

He explained that funds to pay their salaries and allowances were already provided for under the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) framework.

The CS accused some governors of using employment as a political tool, warning that health service delivery could collapse if the matter is not resolved.

Senator Jackson Mandago, who chairs the Health Committee, praised CS Duale’s firm stand and urged the Senate to summon governors who had refused to employ the medics.

“Counties cannot claim to be understaffed while refusing to hire people who have already proved themselves,” said Senator Mandago, adding that his committee will table a report holding governors accountable for ignoring the plight of healthcare workers.

Senator Samson Cherarkey said the issue had exposed the weaknesses of devolution in the management of critical public services.

“We devolved healthcare, not irresponsibility. Some governors have turned hospitals into political trophies while workers suffer,” he said.

Senator Cherarkey urged the Senate to push for legislation compelling counties to absorb all national health personnel assigned during emergencies.

Senator Boni Khalwale accused governors of “betraying the spirit of devolution” by frustrating frontline workers and misusing resources meant for healthcare.

“You cannot preach UHC while refusing to employ the very people who will deliver it. This is hypocrisy of the highest order,” said Senator Khalwale.

Senator Shakila Abdalla said the Senate must stand with the medics and ensure their welfare is safeguarded against county-level politics.

“These are not just workers. They are survivors of war. The government must protect them from exploitation,” said Senator Abdalla.

Senators faulted governors for what they termed “systemic mismanagement” of human resources in county hospitals, citing poor planning and delayed payrolls.

CS Duale said his ministry had engaged the Council of Governors several times, but most county leaders remained non-committal.

“We have talked and written to them but they keep giving excuses,” he said and added: “Meanwhile, our hospitals remain understaffed and patients are suffering.”

“We have vacancies in Kenyatta National Hospital, Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital and other specialised centres. We will take them in immediately,” CS Duale told the House.

Senators called for a bipartisan approach to the issue, urging the national and county governments to cooperate in resolving the health workforce crisis.

Senator Mandago said the Senate would monitor implementation to ensure the medics are not “abandoned in bureaucracy”.

“We will not let this matter die in files. If governors don’t act, we will summon them,” said Senator Mandago as CS Duale appealed to the county leaders to “do the right thing” before the national government intervenes.

Senate races to clear 90 Bills before year-end



Speaker Amason Kingi consults his deputy, Senator Kathuri Murungi.

The Senate has resumed its final sittings of the session under intense pressure to complete its legislative agenda.

The fourth session's calendar ends on December 5, 2025 and Speaker Amason Kingi and Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot have rallied members to fast-track more than 90 pending Bills before then.

"This is the last stretch of the Fourth Session. We must conclude all critical

business before we adjourn for the holidays. The people expect productivity, not excuses," said Speaker Kingi in his communication to the House.

The Speaker said the House had only nine sittings left before breaking on December 5, 2025.

"That means precision, punctuality and purpose," he emphasised as the Majority Leader echoed the call.

There are over 50 Bills in Second Reading and 40 more at the Committee stage, and Senator Cheruiyot urged the House to sit longer, debate less and deliver more.

He challenged Senators to avoid absenteeism and unnecessary delays during voting.

"If you're scheduled to vote, be here on time. This House must set the pace for efficiency," he said.

The resumption followed a two-week recess during which the Senate held sittings in Busia County under the Senate Mashinani Programme, visiting

the One Stop Border Post and other projects within Busia County.

Speaker Kingi lauded the Busia session as a success, saying: "We saw first-hand the challenges at Busia and Malaba border posts. We must follow up on our resolutions to transform those border economies."

He also praised the Kenya Women Senators Association (KEWOSA) for its outreach in Busia.

"Their CSR initiatives shed light on gender-based violence and teenage pregnancies. That's what devolution looks like on the ground," the Speaker said.

He reminded Senators of the heavy symbolic weight of this session following Raila Odinga's death.

"Let us redouble our efforts to honour the ideals he stood for — justice, equality and devolution," Speaker Kingi urged.

STATEMENTS

House concern over county wage bills, devolution mismanagement



Senator Oburu Oginga



Senator Veronica Maina



Senator Ledama ole Kina



Senator Samson Cherarkey



Senator Aaron Cheruiyot.

The ballooning county wage bills, bloated payrolls and the perversion of devolution into employment bureaus has triggered debate in the House.

The debate, triggered by Senator Oburu Odinga's statement on the sacking of 580 Siaya health workers, quickly turned into a heated national conversation on fiscal discipline, equity and accountability.

Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot led the charge, warning that some counties are consuming up to 60 per cent of their allocations on salaries.

"Finance is about prudence, not politics. When 4,000 people in a county of a

million residents consume a third of all devolved funds, that is not development. It is a disaster," he said.

He urged the House to legislate strict sanctions against counties breaching the Public Finance Management Act ceilings.

"If a governor bursts the ceiling, funds should be frozen. Devolution must serve people, not payrolls," said Senator Cheruiyot.

Senator Ledama Olekina backed him but stressed that underfunding of counties was partly to blame.

"We cannot demand quality services without giving counties adequate funds. Let's reduce the Ministry of Health's

bloated budget and channel more to the counties," he said.

Senator Moses Kajwang' noted that devolution had been "reduced to accounting gymnastics".

"We focus on how much we send to counties, not the quality of service delivered. That is not what Raila Odinga envisioned."

Senator Oburu Oginga said counties must balance between job creation and service delivery.

"We cannot turn our counties into welfare offices. But equally, we must protect workers from exploitation," said Senator Oginga.

Senator Veronica Maina decried mis-

management in health and education, saying: "Governors are painting hospitals and calling it service delivery. Meanwhile, staff are unpaid and mothers die giving birth."

Senator Cherarkey accused some governors of sleeping on the job and running counties like campaign outfits, noting that: "Even roads to their own homes are impassable."

"We need governors who manage, not complain," said Cherarkey while Senator Kajwang observed that: "The dream of devolution is being strangled by wage bills and corruption. It's time we rescued it."

House to probe sacking of 580 Siaya health workers



Senator Ledama ole Kina



Senator Godfrey Osotsi



Senator Moses Kajwang

The House has expressed concern after it was revealed that the Siaya County Public Service Board had revoked the employment of 580 health workers, citing irregular hiring.

The revelation was made by Senator Oburu Oginga in a statement to the House.

The Senators termed the decision cruel and unlawful.

Senator Oburu had told the House that although the County Board had advertised only 120 positions in December 2024, it inexplicably issued over 700 appointment letters.

“These workers served diligently from January 2025 yet they have gone without pay for nine months,” he said.

“Now 580 of them have been declared irregularly employed and removed from the payroll. This is unacceptable,” he added.

He demanded that the Committee on Labour and Social Welfare investigate the matter and compel the county to compensate the affected staff.

“Under the labour laws, anyone who works for more than three months continuously is deemed a permanent employee,” Senator Oburu argued and added: “You cannot use young professionals for nine months and discard them like waste.”

The revelation triggered outrage across the chamber with Senator Godfrey Osotsi saying the case “mirrors a wider rot” in counties where health workers are routinely victimised.

“This is not just Siaya’s problem. In Vihiga too, health workers have suffered. Governors must be held to account for mistreating medical staff,” said Senator Osotsi.

Senator Veronica Maina called the

dismissals “a national embarrassment”.

She said: “Hospitals are being painted to look functional while health workers go unpaid. Counties must prioritise healthcare personnel. Without them, there is no healthcare.”

Senator Stewart Madzayo said it is a pity that the staff were irregularly dismissed and termed the move as “mis-treatment”.

Senator Samson Cherarkey blamed “incompetent governors and unconstitutional road agencies” for failures in both health and infrastructure, saying: “Our counties are turning into employment bureaus and cash pits.”

Senator Moses Kajwang’ linked the Siaya debacle to what he termed a warped understanding of devolution.

“We think devolution is about sending money and paying salaries. It is about service delivery. Health, education and

agriculture are devolved functions that must work.”

Senator Ledama Olekina warned that youth unemployment and poor health staffing are a ticking time bomb.

He asked: “Why do we push our youth to study medicine and nursing if we cannot employ them after graduation?”

Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot said the Senate must develop a framework to regulate county recruitment to stop abuse.

“Public finance is about prudence, not politics. Counties that burst their wage ceilings must face sanctions,” he said.

The House directed the Committee on Labour to table its report within 14 days.

WELLNESS

Wellness Committee spreading Christmas hope and joy to KNH young warriors

The spirit of giving is expected to shine brightly once again as the Senate Staff Wellness Committee launches its 2025 Christmas Charity Initiative with focus on minors battling cancer.

This year, the Committee has chosen to stand in solidarity with the Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH) Pediatric Oncology Centre. The humanitarian plan is focusing on bringing warmth, comfort and festive joy to children bravely fighting cancer.

“These children embody resilience, courage and hope. They remind us what true strength looks like,” Dr Brenda Ogembo, the Chair Committee, said when she announced the launch of the Initiative.

With a fundraising target of Sh600,000, the Committee is rallying Senate staff to unite behind the cause.

Dr Ogembo said each voluntary contribution of Sh1,000 represents

a powerful step towards easing the burdens of young patients and their families.

The initiative points to the Senate’s unwavering commitment to compassion and community service beyond the halls of Parliament.

The plan is premised on the belief that wellness extends beyond the workplace as it is about uplifting others and nurturing humanity.

In addition to cash donations, the Committee is welcoming gently used toys in what Dr Ogembo said would brighten the children’s hospital experience.

Willing members of staff have been rallied to make their cash donations through Paybill number 400200 with the Business Number being 881147.

For in-kind contributions, staff are encouraged to drop off toys by November 28, 2025 at Bunge Tower, First Floor, next to Committee Room 5.



Parliamentary Staff express their excitement at the peak of Ngong Hills, Kajiado County. They had had gone hiking as part of their physical wellness initiative.

Mohamed Ibrahim has been tasked to coordinate the collection drive and ensure every gift reaches its intended recipient.

The Committee believes that even the smallest act of kindness can create ripples of hope during the Christmas

season.

Dr Ogembo noted that the initiative driving goal is keen on giving, connecting and to reminding the ailing children that they are seen, loved and celebrated.

Embrace wellness, Parliament staff told



From left, Senate Clerk Jeremiah Nyegenye, who is also the Secretary to the Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC), National Assembly Clerk Samuel Njoroge, Ms Rachel Ameso, PSC Commissioner, and Mr Clement Nyandiere, the Director General, Parliamentary Joint Services, cut the cake at the end of PSC Sports Day.

Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) staff have been encouraged to prioritise physical fitness and mental well-being as a key driver of workplace excellence and service delivery.

Speaking during the launch of the Parliamentary Sports event at the Ulinzi Sports Complex, Clerk of the Senate Jeremiah Nyegenye, who is also the Secretary to the Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC), emphasised the value of wellness and team spirit in boosting performance across the institution.

“We want to entrench a culture of physical and mental wellness among Par-

liamentary staff,” Mr Nyegenye said, noting that a healthy workforce is essential to productivity and professionalism.

He explained that the two-day sports initiative was designed to build solidarity while reinforcing collaboration within the Parliamentary Service, saying its purpose is “to build unity, nurture teamwork and foster collaboration for excellent results.”

Mr Nyegenye commended the Parliamentary Service Commission, chaired by National Assembly Speaker Moses Wetang’ula, for supporting the event and praised the Bunge Sports Committee and management for their role in or-



Senate Deputy Clerk Mohamed Ali (right) competes against Mr Clement Nyandiere in the Men’s Walking Race category.

ganising the games.

He urged staff to maintain sportsmanship and use the event to strengthen institutional bonds, remarking, “A family that plays together stays together.”

Clerk of the National Assembly Samuel Njoroge, echoed the sentiments, celebrating the spirited turnout and noting that the games offered an opportunity for staff to interact beyond formal work settings.

“It is exciting to see all Parliamentary staff here, regardless of the Service. We have put aside our titles and positions to compete in a healthy and friendly manner,” he said, adding that the unity seen on the field should be reflected in daily

duties. “Sport is the only activity in the world that unites people,” he emphasised.

Director General of Parliamentary Joint Services Clement Nyandiere, also encouraged staff to fully participate and enjoy the event in a spirited and respectful atmosphere.

The tournament featured football, volleyball, netball, basketball, badminton, table tennis, darts, athletics, tug of war, pool, swimming, scrabble and chess.

Staff competed in four teams namely White and Black led by Mr Nyegenye, Red under Mr Njoroge and Gold captained by Mr Nyandiere.

Team spirit displayed at Parliamentary Sports event

Parliamentary staff wrapped up their Sports event in an atmosphere of friendship, colour and competition, marking a memorable milestone for Parliament’s wellness and teamwork agenda.

For two days, staff from Parliament transformed the Ulinzi Sports Complex in Lang’ata into a vibrant sporting arena. Four colour-coded teams, Red, Black, White and Gold battled it out across an impressive lineup of disciplines, from athletics and football to chess, darts and scrabble.

The event was more than just a contest of strength and strategy. It became a celebration of teamwork, discipline and institutional pride, showcasing Parliament’s commitment to nurturing a healthy and motivated workforce.

Team Black shone brightest, emerging overall winners after

dominating in gold medal on the table. Led by Clerk of the Senate Jeremiah Nyegenye, the team brought together officers from the Legislative Services, Security, Finance and Engineering directorates of the Parliamentary Service Commission.

The win, participants said, underscored the teamwork culture that drives parliamentary operations behind the scenes.

Team Red, steered by Clerk of the National Assembly Mr. Samuel Njoroge, clinched second position, having demonstrated resilience and consistency across events. Team White secured third place, with its members drawn from services such as Hansard, Audio, Hospitality and the Parliamentary Service Commission Secretariat.

Team Gold earned the coveted ‘Most Disciplined Team’ award. Guided by Parliamentary Joint



Clerk of the Senate Jeremiah Nyegenye, the captain of Team Black, lifts the trophy as the team celebrates after it emerged the overall winners of the 2025 Parliamentary Sports Day.

Services Director General Clement Nyandiere, the team embodied the values of fairness and teamwork, core principles of the public service.

Indoor enthusiasts showcased mental dexterity in chess, scrabble and table tennis, while outdoor competitions such as tug-of-war and volleyball drew loud cheers from colleagues. The cheers, laughter

and sporting spirit throughout the complex painted a picture of a united institution embracing work life balance.

As the awards gala closed the event in style, staff expressed hope that the Sports Day would become an annual tradition, a platform not only for physical fitness but also for strengthening bonds across Parliamentary offices.

Seneta Hamida ataka watoto walindwe dhidi ya ngono

Seneta Maalum Hamida Kibwana ametoa wito wa kulindwa kikamilifu kwa watoto nchini Kenya.

Akiwasilisha hoja zake kwenye Bunge kuhusu ongezeko la usafirishaji haramu wa watoto kwa ajili ya ngono na unyanyasaji wa kijinsia katika eneo la Maai Mahiu, Kaunti ya Nakuru na mapungufu yaliyoripotiwa katika utoaji wa huduma muhimu za uuguzi kwa watoto wachanga kote nchini Kenya, Seneta Kibwana ameitaka Kamati ya Usalama wa Kitaifa, Ulinzi na Masuala ya Kigeni na Kamati ya Afya kuwajibika na kutoa taarifa zaidi.

Kwenye ombi lake lililoelekezwa katika Kamati ya Usalama wa Kitaifa, Ulinzi na Masuala ya Kigeni, Seneta Kibwana ameitaka Kamati hiyo kufanya uchunguzi na kuchukua hatua za dharura dhidi ya mitandao ya kihalifu inayotumika katika eneo hilo.

“Uwepo wa mtandao uliopangwa wa usafirishaji wa watoto kwa ajili ya ngono unaofanya kazi waziwazi huko Maai Mahiu umefichuliwa hivi karibuni. Ni eneo muhimu la usafirishaji katika eneo la Bonde la Ufa,



Seneta Hamida Kibwana

lililoko kando ya ukanda wa kaskazini, limekuwa kitovu cha biashara na unyanyasaji wa watoto kwa ngono, baadhi yao wakiwa na umri mdogo wa miaka 13,” alisema Seneta Hamida.

Kwa mujibu wa Seneta huyo, kuna baadhi ya wanawake ambao huwadanganya waathiriwa kuwa

watawalinda na kuwapea ajira kisha huwalazimisha kushiriki ngono bila kinga na kwa masharti magumu kila siku. Licha ya uzito wa uhalifu huo, kumekuwepo na hatua chache za kisheria dhidi ya washukiwa.

Aliongeza kuwa hali ya kukubaliwa kwa unyanyasaji wa watoto katika eneo la Maai Mahiu imekuwa janga la kitaifa linalohitaji hatua za dharura na kijasiri kutoka kwa Bunge.

Seneta huyo ameitaka Kamati hiyo itoe maelezo kuhusu kiwango cha usafirishaji wa watoto kwa ajili ya ngono katika Maai Mahiu na miji mingine na utambuzi wa wahusika, waliokamatwa na waliowasilishwa mahakamani kando na taarifa kuhusu hatua zilizochukuliwa na polisi kukabiliana na uhalifu huo.

Kiongozi huyo pia ameisihi Kamati hiyo inayoongozwa na Seneta wa Kaunti Fatuma Dullo kuthibitisha iwapo Kitengo cha Kupambana na Usafirishaji Haramu wa Binadamu na Ulinzi wa Watoto ndani ya Huduma ya Polisi ya Kitaifa kina uwezo wa kushughulikia kesi kama hizo na kueleza kuhusu mfumo wa kitaifa wa ulinzi, uokoaji na urekebishaji wa waathiriwa, pamoja na ulinzi wa

mashahidi. Aidha, aliitaka serikali ichukue hatua za dharura katika mageuzi ya sera, sheria na utawala ili kuimarisha utekelezaji wa sheria na kuhakikisha kwamba maafisa wa umma wanaohusika kwa njia ya rushwa au uzembe wanawajibishwa.

Kuhusu mapungufu yaliyoripotiwa katika utoaji wa huduma muhimu za uuguzi kwa watoto wachanga kote nchini Kenya, Seneta Hamida ameitaka Kamati ya Kudumu ya Afya itoe ufafanuzi zaidi.

“Afisi yangu imepokea taarifa kutoka kwa kina mama wanaodai kuwa huduma muhimu za uuguzi kama kuanzisha unyonyeshaji mapema, kufuatilia dalili muhimu za mwili, kuzuia maambukizi, utunzaji wa joto la mwili, utoaji wa chanjo na elimu ya afya hazitolewi kwa usawa katika vituo vya afya vya umma na binafsi,” alisema Seneta Kibwana.

Seneta huyo alionya kuwa changamoto hizo zinaweza kuwaweka watoto wachanga katika hatari kubwa na hata huenda yakasababisha vifo.

Amri kwa Kampuni za bima kulipa fidia polisi waliojeruhiwa kazini

Kamati ya Usalama wa Kitaifa, Ulinzi na Mahusiano ya Kigeni imetoa amri kwa kampuni za bima zilizopewa kandarasi ya kuwapa polisi bima ya afya na ajali, kulipa mara moja fidia kwa maafisa waliojeruhiwa wakiwa kazini.

Akitangaza uamuzi wa Kamati hiyo kwenye mkutano uliowaleta pamoja waakilishi wa kampuni hizo na waathiriwa, Seneta Fatuma Dullo, ambaye ni mwenyekiti wa kamati hiyo, aliuamrisha muungano wa kampuni za bima kutoa malipo yote yaliyothibitishwa na Idara ya Usalama wa Kikazi na Huduma za Afya.

“Tunawaamuru mlipie madai hayo na ni lazima. Hili si ombi, ni amri. Na lazima itekelezwe kabla ya kikao kijacho. Tumewapa siku kumi na nne kutuletea orodha mpya ya malipo yaliyofanyika,” alisema Seneta Dullo.

Maseneta wanachama wa Kamati hiyo walielezea masikitiko yao kuhusu kampuni za bima kuendelea kuwanyanyasa na kuchelewesha malipo kwa maafisa wanaohudumia taifa kwa uaminifu na kwa kujitolea.

“Mishahara ya maafisa hawa ni midogo. Wanajeruhiwa kazini, halafu wanasubiri zaidi ya miaka mitano kupata fidia.



Bwana Sylvester Nzioka



Kikao cha Kamati ya Usalama na waakilishi wa kampuni za Bima



Seneta Fatuma Dullo, Mwenyekiti, Kamati ya Usalama

Tunapaswa kuwa na utu na kuwasaidia kujiondoa kwenye changamoto wanazokabiliana nazo,” aliongeza Seneta Dullo.

Kamati pia iliahidi kupendekeza marekebisha katika sheria ili kuanzisha mifumo thabiti ya utekelezaji itakayozilazimisha kampuni za bima kutimiza wajibu wazo wa kulipa fidia. Maseneta aidha, walipendekeza serikali kuzifungia kampuni zinazoshindwa kulipa au zinazochelewesha fidia.

Ingawa muungano wa kampuni hizo, uliowakilishwa na Sylvester Nzioka, uliripoti kuwa jumla ya shilingi 1,075,821,764 zilikuwa zimelipwa ku-

fikia Oktoba 2025, Maseneta walizilau- mu kampuni hizo kwa ucheleweshaji usio wa lazima ambao umesababisha mateso makubwa kwa maafisa waliojeruhiwa.

Idara ya Usalama wa Kikazi na Huduma za Afya iliarifu Kamati kuwa imepokea taarifa 2,114 za ajali kutoka Huduma ya Polisi ya Taifa, ikiwemo Kikosi cha Polisi wa Kenya (1,512), Polisi wa Utawala (494) na Idara ya Upelelezi wa Makosa ya Jinai (108).

Kwa mujibu wa idara hiyo, taarifa zote zimechakatwa kwa kuzingatia taratibu za Sheria ya Fidia kwa Majeraha Kazini na matokeo yake kupelekwa

kwenye idara husika ili kuwezesha malipo ya fidia.

Dakta Musa Nyandusi, aliyeiwakilisha idara hiyo, alitaja changamoto kadhaa zinazokwamisha malipo ya fidia kwa wakati, zikiwemo udhaifu wa mifumo ya utekelezaji, gharama kubwa na mchakato mrefu wa madai, kesi zinazoendelea mahakamani kwa muda mrefu, ucheleweshaji wa kutambua magonjwa yanayohusiana na kazi na ukosefu wa hazina maalum ya fidia kwa maafisa wa polisi.

Waliowasilisha malalamiko, John Amana, Peter Wang’ombe na Quinto Okumu, waliomba Kamati iingilie kati ili kuhakikisha fidia yao inatolewa kwa hima.

Devolution Committee hosts delegation of Namibia MPs

The Senate last week hosted a high-level parliamentary delegation from the Namibian Parliament for a benchmarking session which focused on Kenya's experience with its devolved system of governance.

The visit facilitated a robust discussion between the Kenyan Senators and Namibian Members of Parliament (MPs) drawn from the Namibian Parliamentary Committee on Urban, Rural Development and Land Reforms on the constitutional and operational complexities of transferring power and resources to sub-national units.

In a session held at Parliament Buildings on Tuesday, November 4, the Members of the Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations took the delegation through a comprehensive presentation on the legislative role of the Kenyan Senate, specifically on its mandate.

Senators highlighted that the committee's core function is to consider all matters related to devolution and the crucial interlinkages between the national and county governments, as established by the Constitution and the Intergovernmental Relations Act.

The Kenyan legislators were candid about the teething problems encountered since the system's implementation, pointing to challenges such as delays in transferring functions, insufficient budgetary allocation to the 47 counties, and occasional disputes arising between county executives and county assemblies.

Senator Catherine Mumma, the Vice Chairperson of the Committee, emphasised the constant tension between resource allocation and accountability at the grassroots level, posing a critical question that local leaders often face.

"We ask critical questions when allocating resources. For instance, if we are allocating resources to a governor of a county, we ask: We have been giving you this amount of money, and you have not been collecting garbage. So, if we give you more, what are you going to do with it?" the legislator posed.

The Committee stressed that such accountability mechanisms, including the public's electoral power, are essential checks on the devolved units. "Remember you're an elected governor in our devolved governance structure. So if you give hefty levies, you may not get the vote in the next election. It is a balancing act that these county chiefs must consider

when discharging their mandate," Senator Karungo Thang'wa submitted.

The discussions also touched on inter-county economic barriers. The Kenyan delegation cited a persistent challenge where goods traversing the country are subjected to multiple county levies, noting that "there's that conversation on passing through three counties. If every county is taking some levies and some tolls, that makes the goods very expensive." This, the Senators explained, necessitates closer collaboration among counties to ensure greater trade efficiency.

The forum also addressed the contentious but widely popular National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF). The Kenyan side clarified the fund's legal standing, informing the Namibian delegation that it is a mechanism aimed at enabling equitable sharing of development resources at the constituency level.

"The courts have ruled on this matter. They say there is nothing wrong with sharing development funds by constituency. In fact, they have stated that development funds are a tool of enabling an equitable share of developments," Senator Mumma clarified before quickly noting that the court's challenge was not with the fund itself, but with the specific role assigned to Members of Parliament in its implementation.

Comparatively, the Namibian delegation, led by their Chairperson Elifas Dingara, offered insights into their regional and local government structures, which feature decentralisation policies and appointed regional governors. They praised Kenya's governance structure and the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, terming it a progressive work of art that the "land of open spaces" nation is trying to emulate.

"In Namibia, we are trying to devolve services closer to the people. Although we have managed to do some things, we are not doing very well. That is the reason why we chose to visit Kenya because you are one of the leading countries in Africa on matters of devolution," Hon Dingara explained.

The Kenyan Senators suggested that Namibia could potentially draw lessons from Kenya's framework, particularly in how it manages traditional authorities and institutionalises structured engagement between its two levels of government.



1. Senator Catherine Mumma, vice chair, Committee on Devolution and other members of the Committee pose for a picture with a delegation from Namibian Parliament which was on a benchmarking tour in Kenya.
2. Senator Mumma welcomes the team of lawmakers from Namibia to Senate. She is flanked by Senator Karungo Thang'wa.
3. Senator Abbas Sheikh, the chair, Committee on Devolution, presides over the meeting between legislators from Namibia and Kenyan Senators.

House calls for global collaboration on social justice and inclusive development

Senators are calling for stronger global collaboration on social justice, inclusive development and democratic governance. This comes after the 150th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) that was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

The report of the delegation, tabled by Senator Catherine Mumma, is pegged on Kenya's growing profile on the world parliamentary stage and the crucial lessons drawn from global deliberations on the theme "Parliamentary Action for Social Development and Justice".

Senator Mumma, who moved the motion for adoption of the report, told the House that the Assembly focused on reducing poverty, promoting decent work, ensuring fair economic participation and strengthening institutions that uphold social contracts.

She said the forum recognised the role of Parliaments in tackling inequality and protecting vulnerable groups.

"The debate in Tashkent gave us a chance to reflect on what Parliaments can do to invest more in people. It called for public institutions to empower citizens and ensure that everyone participates in economic decision-making."

Senator Mumma, who was part of the field visit to Uzbekistan's health sector, said the team was impressed by the country's community-based health delivery models.

She noted that they saw strong partnerships between government and citizens

to achieve safe and healthy communities.

The meeting also resolved to transform the IPU's Health Advisory Committee into a fully-fledged Health Committee.

Senator Mumma was elected as one of the inaugural members of the global body.

She acknowledged the contribution of the entire Kenyan delegation, comprising of lawmakers from both the Senate and National Assembly alongside senior parliamentary staff.

Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot, who seconded the motion, commended the team for its timeliness, noting that in the past, some delegations had delayed tabling reports for years.

"This meeting took place just three months ago and the report is already before us. That is the spirit of accountability we want," he said.

He urged all legislators who attend international forums to apply lessons locally.

"When taxpayers fund your participation in these forums, you owe them the duty to learn and bring that knowledge home," he said, adding that such engagements strengthen Kenya's institutional memory and global credibility.

Senator Boni Khalwale praised the delegation but urged the IPU to address growing threats to democracy across Africa.

The IPU, he said, must find courage to speak to African leaders who manipulate



Senator Dan Maanzo

elections, jail opponents and run their countries as personal fiefdoms.

He lamented that the African Union had become "a club of presidents congratulating each other" while citizens suffered.

He warned that continued silence over electoral injustices and political repression in parts of the continent was fueling unrest, cross-border tension and economic decline.

"Our Parliament should amend its Standing Orders to debate such continental crises," he said, adding that Kenya must protect its citizens abroad from harassment in unstable states.

Senator Dan Maanzo echoed Senator Khalwale's concerns, saying the IPU pro-



Senator Catherine Mumma

vides a vital platform for sharing political experiences that could prevent conflict.

He cited lessons from Tanzania, Sudan and Uganda, where political intolerance had cost lives and property. "When politics destabilise a nation, it is the ordinary people who suffer," he said.

Senator Maanzo reflected on Kenya's democratic journey, lauding the late Raila Odinga for championing reforms that birthed a more inclusive Constitution.

"His commitment to peace after disputed elections kept this nation together. Other African nations can learn from Kenya's example of moving on after political contests," he said.

STATEMENTS

Demand for justice for Lake Turkana fishermen killings

The lawmakers have called for urgent investigations into reports that fishermen in Lake Turkana are being harassed and, in some cases, killed by Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) officers during anti-poaching operations.

The matter was brought to the attention of the House by Senator James Lomenen who said that innocent fishermen had become victims of excessive force and poor communication from the wildlife agency.

The Senator expressed deep concern that local communities relying on fishing for their livelihood were being targeted under unclear enforcement operations, adding that incidents of killings and arrests had occurred within unmarked "restricted" zones, exposing residents to danger without any prior sensitisation.

"Fishermen operating along Lake Turkana have been subjected to harassment and, in some cases, fatal encounters at the hands of KWS officers," the Senator lamented in a Statement on the



Senator James Lomenen

floor of the House. "These actions have occurred without public sensitisation or clear demarcation of the said zones, leaving communities vulnerable."

He warned that the situation had not only endangered lives but disrupted a vital economic activity that sustains hundreds of families across northern

Kenya.

The Senator's statement painted a grim picture of enforcement measures gone wrong, urging the Senate to step in to protect citizens from abuse by state officers.

Senator Lomenen demanded that the Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations investigate the number of fishermen who have been arrested or killed by KWS since 2020, the justification for the killings and the disciplinary actions — if any — taken against culpable officers.

He asked the committee to determine whether the KWS actions were lawful and if administrative reviews had been conducted to examine the conduct of the officers involved.

"If such reviews were done, this House must be informed of the findings and outcomes," he said.

The Senator further lamented that enforcement of wildlife protection had been carried out without proper community involvement. "There has been

no public awareness or sensitisation on restricted zones within Lake Turkana. Fishermen simply go about their work unaware they are crossing invisible lines only to face harassment or death," he said.

Other Senators supported the call, saying the issue represented a problem of poor coordination between wildlife agencies and local communities living near conservation areas.

They said the Senate must hold the executive accountable for excessive force used by enforcement officers.

Senator Lomenen argued that KWS should focus on community sensitisation, boundary marking and dialogue with local leaders instead of military-style operations.

"We cannot allow our people to be victims of their own government agencies," he insisted.

He further noted that the economic survival of many families depended on fishing and the continued violence risked fuelling resentment and unrest.



1. Learners from Nyabikaye Adventist Primary School, Migori County, follow proceedings in the Senate Chamber during their study tour in Parliament.
2. Senator Hamida Kibwana meets Tyden Juan Mugambi and his mother Betty Mutisya in Parliament. TJ is a 2-year-old genius.
3. Speaker Kingi bids farewell to Ms Esther Ntikoisa during her retirement party. Ms Ntikoisa took an early retirement from the Parliamentary Service Commission.
4. Speaker Kingi, Clerk of the Senate Jeremiah Nyegenye and Ms Ntikoisa during the retirement party.
5. Senator George Mbugua (standing right) joins other lawmakers during a friendly darts tournament between Mombasa County Government and Parliament at the KPA Makupa grounds, Mombasa County.
6. Senator Mbugua throws away his darts during the game involving parliamentarians and Mombasa County Governments.



1. *The Deputy Clerk Eunice Gichangi poses for a photo with Team Red's ladies netball team after collecting their medals.*
2. *Director for Sergeant-at-Arms (Senate) Samson Sorobit presents a trophy to Team Gold's Netball Team.*
3. *The Clerk of the Senate Jeremiah Nyegenye and the Deputy Clerk Eunice Gichangi dance away with Team Black Men's Football Team after it secured the overall win.*
4. *Mr Nyegenye congratulates one of the Team Gold's players during the award ceremony. Looking on are Clerk National Assembly Samuel Njoroge (right), Commissioner Rachel Ameso (second right), Director General Clement Nyandiere (left).*
5. *The Senate Deputy Clerk Mohamed Ali (far left) presents Team Red's Women Tug of War Team their medals. The Clerk of the National Assembly (second right) joins in.*



1. Commissioner Rachel Ameso appreciates applause from participants during the Parliamentary Staff Sports Day at Ulinzi Sports Complex. National Assembly's Deputy Speaker Gladys Sholei (right) and Clerk Samuel Njoroge look on.
2. Senate Deputy Clerk Mohamed Ali presents medals to winners during the Parliamentary Staff Sports Day.
3. A Parliamentary officer shoots the ball during a Women's Netball game between Team Red and Team White.
4. Director General Clement Nyandiere joins Team Gold to celebrate after winning the Men's 800 metres race.
5. National Assembly's Clerk Samuel Njoroge joins Team Red to celebrate their win against Team Gold in the Men's Football game.
6. A Team Gold supporter urges on his team members during the Men's Tug of War.



1. A member of Team Red encourages her colleagues during the men's Tug of War against Team White.
2. Team Black participates in Men's Tug of War.
3. A Member of Team White during a men's tug of war game.
4. Commissioner Rachel Ameso (center with red jacket) and Director General Clement Nyandiere (far right) joins Team Gold for an isukuti dance after winning a football match.
5. Participants sweat it out during in the walking race.
6. National Asembly Deputy Speaker Gladys Shollei (center) and the National Assembly Clerk Samuel Njoroge (second left) participate in the 800 metres race.



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1. Clerk of the Senate Mr Jeremiah Nyegenye, Senate Deputy Clerk Eunice Gichangi (second right), National Assembly Deputy Clerk Sarah Kioko (third right), Senate's Director of Committees Mrs (second left) and Director Sergeant-at-Arms Majr Sorobit (far right) walk around Ulinzi Sports Complex before the start of the games.
2. The Senate Deputy Clerk Eunice Gichangi (right), National Assembly's Deputy Clerk Sarah Kioko (centre), and Senate's Director of Social and Economic Committees Mary Chesire (left) during the Women's 100M race.
3. Participants sweat it out in the Women walking race contest.
4. Team Red and Team White battle it out in the Women Walking race.
5. Women Participants from all the teams sweat it out for the Scrabble championship title.
6. Professor Nyokabi Kamau, the Executive Director, slugs it out in the Women's Walking Race.



1. The contestants in the Men's Walking Race compete.
2. Participants of the Men's 800 Metres race jump off the starter's blocks at the start of the race.
3. A Team Gold participant during the Women Chess tournament.
4. A Team White participant takes a Member of Team Red during the Men Chess tournament.
5. A Team Black player cues the ball during the Pool tournament.
6. Mr Nyegenye looks on after serving the ball during a table tennis match.



1. Mr Nyegenye in action in a table tennis match during the Parliamentary Staff Sports Day.
2. A Member of Team Red's girls takes time to throw darts as Team white opponents look on
3. Team Black men's darts team takes aim.
4. Rosebella Malanto of Team Red's darts team participates takes aim.
5. Action from the men's football match between Team Gold and Team Red.
6. A Member of Team Gold encourages teammates in the women's tug of war.



1. Team Red's women tug of war team in action urged on by their supporter.
2. Team Black's tug of war team.
3. Team white ladies' tug of war team.
4. Action from the football match between Team Gold and Team Red.
5. Team White tug of war women team try out their before the start of the game.
6. Team Red and Team Gold women football match.



1. Team Gold Women's football before their match against Team Black.
2. Team Gold Women's Pool Team poses for a photo before a game.
3. Team Black Women's football Team before their action.
4. A team Black's Men's Relay races in action
5. Commissioner Rachel Ameso and the Clerk of the Senate Jeremiah Nyegenye join Team Black's celebrations.
6. Action from the Women's volleyball match.
7. Team Gold Womens Volleyball Team celebrates after beating Team White.

Senator Chesang ties the knot with long time partner



Senator Chesang and Senator Aaron Cheruiyot.



Senator Esther Okenyuri (left), Senator Hamida Kibwana (right) and Senator Tabitha Mutinda at Senator Allan Chesang wedding in Kitale.



Senator Allan Chesang is joined by Senator Consolata Wakwabubi (left), Senator Samson Cherarkey, Senator Veronica Maina and Senator Tabitha Mutinda at the event.

Senator Allan Chesang formally marked the next chapter of his relationship with long-time partner Chanelle Kittony through a beautiful traditional ceremony held on Saturday, July 12, 2025, in Trans-Nzoia County.

The event was not just a personal milestone, but a display of cultural pride, status, and family legacy. Chanelle, who works as the County Executive Commit-

tee Member for Public Works, Roads, Energy and Infrastructure in Trans-Nzoia County, hails from a high-profile family—daughter of businessman Kiprono Kittony and granddaughter of veteran politician Zipporah Kittony.

The ceremony theme blended brown and beige tones, with the couple coordinating elegantly: Chanelle in a form-fitting beige dress, the Senator in a stylish

brown ensemble with beige accents and a chic hat. Attendance included Kenya's political and business elite.

The mood was celebratory, as social media buzzed with congratulatory messages and images of the couple beaming together.

Beyond the pageantry, the ceremony symbolised more than just a union between two people: it brought together

two influential families and underscored the couple's public roles, drawing attention to their working relationship in the county and their shared journey ahead. With the blessing of families and peers, Senator Allan Chesang and Chanelle Kittony stepped confidently into their next chapter—one rooted in tradition, prominence, and partnership.

18 Students complete VSS programme



Clerk of Senate Jeremiah Nyegenye with students from Starehe Boys' Centre at the end of the VSS programme.



Mr Nyegenye and Students from Alliance High School.



Mr Nyegenye with the cohorts who participated in the 2025 VSS programme.

In a powerful demonstration of its commitment to civic education and democratic participation, the Senate has concluded another successful cycle of its Voluntary Service Scheme (VSS) which ended on Friday. This time round, the programme welcomed 18 promising students from Alliance High School, Starehe Boys' Centre and Kianda School for a two-week attachment in which they

learnt various aspects of the legislative process.

Nine of the students were deployed to the Senate, and another nine to the National Assembly, affording them a unique opportunity to observe and engage with the constitutional functions of Parliament. The VSS serves as a fundamental pillar of the institution's mandate to foster a deeper understand-

ing of democratic governance. The programme is strategically designed to immerse secondary school students in the bicameral Parliament, allowing them to support various functions while acquiring a comprehensive understanding of how national policy is crafted and implemented. Over the two transformative weeks, the students gained a first-hand view of Kenya's legislative process.

Their time was spent rotating through various directorates, which provided a holistic perspective on the complexity of parliamentary work and the dedication of the staff who facilitated. One of the most profound learning experiences was witnessing the work of the committees of the House.



1. Clerk of the Senate Jeremiah Nyegenye, who is also the Secretary to PSC, gifts a learner from Kianda School with a copy of the Senate Standing Orders at the end of the two-week voluntary service in Parliament.
2. A learner from Alliance High School also received a copy of the Senate Standing Orders from the Clerk, Mr Nyegenye.
3. Mr Nyegenye hands a learner from Starehe Boys' Centre a copy of the Senate Standing Orders.
4. The Clerk with the three learners from Kianda School who were part of the VSS programme.



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