

La - Fa | Fa - So
Fa - Re | Fa - Fa - La



12 September
2025

From Mürang'a To Statehouse With Perfect Nine Syllables, Perfect Song
In the waning days of harvest, as Murang'a's hills turn gold and the air carries the scent of drying maize, a date approaches that is more than a square on the calendar. La - Fa | Fa - So - □ - Fa - Re | Fa - Fa - La— Friday, September 2025 finds me at Statehouse, six days after my birthday, carrying the heritage of the Perfect Nine clans. Page 18

NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL CONFERENCE,

WHERE: TWO RIVERS MALL - NAIROBI
WHEN: 17-21ST SEPTEMBER 2025

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News>> Mudavadi Champions Africa's Economic Renaissance At Choiseul Summit in Nairobi

P. 8. In a powerful address that blended optimism with strategic clarity, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Musalia Mudavadi, opened the inaugural East Africa edition of the Choiseul Africa Summit in Nairobi with a call to action for Africa's economic transformation.



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KWS Director General Prof. Erustus Kanga

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FREE ENTRY



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NAIROBI - MT KENYA CIRCUIT ROADSHOW ROADMAP (17-18 SEPT 2025)

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KTDA Gets KSh2.6B From Collapsed Banks

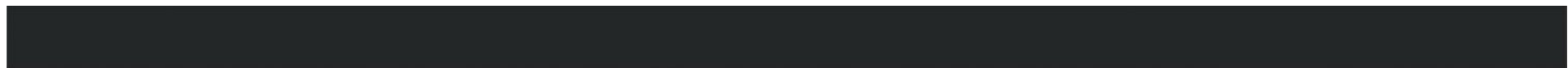
By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyatices

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

President William Ruto yesterday hosted Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) directors and top management officials where he presented a cheque of KSh2.65 billion which were deposits held by the Kenya Deposit Insurance Company under the defunct Chase and Imperial Banks.

"We have placed agriculture at the very heart of our national transformation agenda because it remains the backbone of our economy: contributing nearly half of our GDP, creating millions of jobs, driving exports, and ensuring food security," he said, adding, "through bold, deliberate and targeted reforms, we have registered 6.5 million farmers, distributed 21 million bags of subsidised fertiliser, dismantled cartels, streamlined sector management, opened up new markets, and expanded support systems."

The President noted that the impact is visible across every subsector, with tea standing out as a powerful success story. Prices have risen from an average of Sh51 to Sh64 per kilo, while export earnings have surged from Sh138 billion to Sh250 billion. With continued value addition, the modernisation of factories and branding our tea, we project that earnings will reach Sh280 billion by 2027.



Editor's Desk



The Mt. Kenya Times



The Mt Kenya Times is a Kenyan Newspaper that provides a unified view of Kenyan news, entrepreneurship, events, opinions, analysis, and a historical background to current affairs in a way that is both creative and innovative. It is published by **Exponential International Limited**, a Private Limited Liability company incorporated in Kenya to provide Communications and Media services.

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Kisumu Governor Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o has called for a radical shift in Africa's development model, insisting that the continent's economic independence will be built from the ground up through empowered counties, townships and intermediary cities. Speaking at the inaugural Africa Smart Cities and Townships Alliance (ASCA) Summit in Kisumu, Prof. Nyong'o said the time had come for local governments to take centre stage in shaping Africa's urban renaissance. He noted that devolution in Kenya had already proven the value of decentralisation, ensuring that development is locally owned and driven, lauding county assemblies as pillars of representative democracy tasked with oversight and accountability.



Construction of Othaya stadium is gaining momentum as the contractor races against time to complete it as scheduled. Yesterday, the area Member of Parliament Wambugu Wainaina alias Kirima said the KSh50 million project is on course. Other projects in the constituency like construction of markets, roads as well as water and electrification are similarly being undertaken as planned, the MP noted as he thanked president William Ruto's administration for fulfilling pledges made to his constituents.



The University of Nairobi yesterday played host to delegates from Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, South Africa and, Tanzania for the UNESCO O3 plus knowledge exchange. The University implemented O3 plus and has been used as a benchmark for innovatively initiating measures that have increased the students well-being and safety while in campus. Some of the sites that they visited were , Gender desk, Gazebos, skills centre and the wellness centre.



Dedan Kimathi Foundation, CKL Africa Ltd, Climate Worx Initiative, National Government Administrative Officers (NGAOs), National Youth Service, Kenya Forest Service and community members participated in mega tree planting exercise along Ngong River at Chokaa B area in Ruai, Nairobi on Wednesday. The exercise was among the series of tree growing activities the foundation has been conducting in effort to help regenerate Nairobi Rivers through forestation of the rivers riparian. At least 90% plus survival rate of the trees has been assured as the Climate Worx team undertakes the watering task and round the clock protection from browsing by stray livestock. The participants had a good opportunity to monitor the growth of trees planted in November 2023 whose more than 95% survival rate was a huge show of commitment by the team working in that area.

World Vision Kenya, a non-governmental organization (NGO) has concluded its programmes in Magunga Area, Homa Bay County marking a transition of the Suba South constituency community from aid dependency to self-reliance. The NGO's Board Chairperson Dr. David Githanga noted that the initiative, launched in 2008 with an investment of USD 5.2 million, directly benefitted 55,806 people across three locations and 11 sub-locations. He said over the years, the programme tackled challenges such as lack of clean water, high HIV prevalence, child abuse, and low school enrollment.

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Governor Njuki Urges Tharaka-Nithi Residents To Support President Ruto As He Commissions Kangutu Bridge

By: Alex Njeru
@themkenyentimes

Tharaka-Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki has called on county residents to rally behind President William Ruto, citing numerous development projects being implemented by the Kenya Kwanza administration.

Speaking yesterday during the commissioning of the newly constructed Kangutu Bridge linking Mariani and Karingani wards, Governor Njuki praised the national government for investing heavily in infrastructure and other key sectors in the county.

He highlighted the completion of the 30-kilometer Chuka-Kaareni road, which he initiated in 2014. The road project had stalled at Nairobi Ndogo market during retired President Uhuru Kenyatta's tenure but has now been finalized under President Ruto's leadership.

"The Kenya Kwanza government is also tarmacking other roads and constructing modern markets in Chuka, Gatunga, Ndagani and Chogoria towns, among other projects," said Governor Njuki. "We elected President Ruto to give us development, and he is surely delivering. I urge you to fully support him."

The governor noted that the Head of State is undertaking similar development initiatives across the country, a move he said will earn him widespread support for a second term in 2027.

Njuki, who also chairs the Council of Governors Health Committee, lauded the Social Health Authority scheme, encouraging Kenyans to enroll and contribute. He revealed that health workers serving on contract under the Universal Health Coverage programme will soon be absorbed on permanent terms and pending issues addressed.

Turning to agriculture, the governor assured farmers that the county



Tharaka-Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki (left) during commissioning of Kangutu Bridge. On the right is MCA Mariani ward Ms Anita Mbae and her Karingani counterpart Mr Godfrey Murithi. Photos/Alex Njeru.

will continue to provide free certified seeds despite ongoing procurement hitches caused by the controversial e-procurement system introduced by the National Treasury.

"I know there are fears that farmers may not receive the seeds this season, but I want to assure you that the programme will not be affected," he said.

The newly commissioned Kangutu Bridge is expected to significantly improve the transportation of agricultural produce. Local leaders, including Mariani MCA Anita Mbae and her Karingani counterpart Godfrey Murithi, welcomed the project, saying it would ease access to Kaanwa market and Chuka town.

Governor Njuki further disclosed that several other bridge projects are underway across the county and would be completed soon.



Tharaka-Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki

Worth Noting:

- "The Kenya Kwanza government is also tarmacking other roads and constructing modern markets in Chuka, Gatunga, Ndagani and Chogoria towns, among other projects," said Governor Njuki. "We elected President Ruto to give us development, and he is surely delivering. I urge you to fully support him."
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Mudavadi Champions Africa's Economic Renaissance At Choiseul Summit in Nairobi

By: OPCS team
 @themkenyatimes

In a powerful address that blended optimism with strategic clarity, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Musalia Mudavadi, opened the inaugural East Africa edition of the Choiseul Africa Summit in Nairobi with a call to action for Africa's economic transformation.

Speaking to an audience of regional leaders, entrepreneurs, and global partners, Mudavadi positioned Kenya not just as a host but as a catalyst for continental change. "This gathering is more than just a meeting," he said. "It is a milestone for Kenya, for East Africa, and for Africa as a whole."

The Summit's themes, ranging from digital sovereignty and food security to youth empowerment and regional integration, resonated deeply with Kenya's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA). Dr. Mudavadi emphasized that transformation cannot be achieved by gov-

ernments alone, highlighting Kenya's model of public-private partnerships as a blueprint for inclusive growth.

He also highlighted Africa's shifting global posture: "We are no longer at the margins of global affairs. We are asserting our agency, influencing norms, and building institutions that reflect our values."

Kenya's digital ecosystem was spotlighted as a symbol of African innovation, with mobile money and e-government platforms driving financial inclusion and productivity. Dr. Mudavadi urged African nations to pursue technological sovereignty by investing in secure, scalable digital infrastructure rooted in local realities.

Youth leadership took centre stage, with the Prime Cabinet Secretary praising platforms like Choiseul 100 Africa for elevating young change-makers. "Africa's future must be shaped by those who will inherit it," he said, "and we must equip them not only with skills but with platforms to lead."

As the Summit unfolded, Dr. Mudavadi's message was clear: Africa's time is now. With deliberate partner-



ships and shared purpose, the continent can chart a path toward prosperity, equity, and innovation.

"Let this Summit be remembered not only for the ideas exchanged," he said, "but for the momentum it generates toward a new era of African excellence."

PCS stressed that despite setbacks, the continent must steadily build systems of predictability to allow both

governance and enterprise to thrive. He said the Choiseul Africa Summit itself offers important lessons, particularly in youth leadership and structured succession that other institutions should emulate.

The Nairobi forum, the first of its kind in East Africa, brought together young leaders, entrepreneurs, and policymakers to explore themes of economic transformation, digitali-

zation, food security, and regional integration.

Among those present were the Chair of Choiseul Africa, Dr. Pascal Lorot; France's Ambassador to Kenya, Arnaud Suquet; the Chief Executive Officer of the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), Carole Kariuki, alongside regional stakeholders and delegates from across the continent.

Kisii Leaders Question Need For Multiple Delegations To State House

By: Rosemary Onchari
 @themkenyatimes

Some Kisii MCAs have criticized their colleagues for making repeated visits to State House, questioning the need for multiple delegations with the same proposals.

Marani MCA Dennis Ombachi and Kiogoro MCA Walter Mochache said they had already raised key projects with the President, including the Suneka Airstrip, a cancer center, and a bypass, which remain unaddressed. "We wished our colleagues well as they travelled, we hope this time the president will implement these projects," he said.

Ombachi said during the new year celebrations at Kisii state lodge, they presented similar proposals to the president adding it's not fair for the community to make several trips to statehouse to remind the president on

his promises.

"Nobody is going to ask for accountability from the governor and his visit to the statehouse but his achievements for the past five years in office," Said Ombachi.

As we speak, nothing has been done and we are here to say enough is enough and we are not going to be intimidated by anybody," said Karen Magara.

Mochache noted they are aligning to support Matiang'I and called upon Kenyans to register in large numbers as voters ahead of the 2027 general elections.

He further said those who travelled to the house on the hill betrayed the community now that Dr. Fred Matiang'I has already declared an interest in the presidency.

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Senior Citizens, PLWDs To Access Parks Free

By: MKT Reporter
@themkenyatimes

Senior citizens aged 70 and above, Persons Living With Disabilities (PLWDs), and children under five will now enjoy free entry into Kenya's national parks, game reserves, and sanctuaries under sweeping new reforms unveiled by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS).

The Wildlife Conservation and Management (Access and Conservation) (Fees) Regulations, 2025, launched in Nairobi, mark what officials described as a "decisive moment" in Kenya's conservation journey.

"These regulations are not simply about revising the fees," said KWS Director General, Prof. Erustus Kanga during the validation.

He added, "They are about rewriting the future of Kenya's conservation legacy."

The new framework, first in 18 years, is projected to nearly double annual conservation revenue from the current KSh7.98 billion to KSh16.5 billion by 2028. The additional funds will go into ranger operations, habitat restoration, visitor facilities, and community support programs.

Industry players will also benefit from the reforms. Tour guides, drivers, porters, and boat operators will enjoy free entry in recognition of their role as frontline workers in tourism.

Beyond financial reforms, the new regulations expand visitor experiences to include animal tracking, conservation activities, cultural tourism, and adventure tourism. Officials believe this will lengthen tourist stays, boost spending, and create more opportunities for youth and communities.

KWS said the funds will also prioritize upgrades of facilities such as toilets, access roads, and rest areas, bringing them up to international standards. Targeted marketing campaigns will promote both flagship and lesser-known parks to spread tourism benefits more evenly across the country.

"Wildlife conservation is not a luxury—it is a duty of justice to our land, our people, and our children," the official said, adding, "These changes are the bridge between the Kenya we are today and the Kenya we aspire to be tomorrow."

Various stakeholders lauded the reforms saying they would open up the facilities to more use and income.

Members of former freedom fighters caucus, Mau Mau War Veterans Association said they would get a chance to freely return to where they



Some Mau Mau War Veterans Association members preparing to present a petition.

waged War against the colonialists and secure the sites.

"It is good news. The old shall now be entering the parks for free. Together with their descendants, they shall visit various places and ensure they are secured for visits by the young people. With good arrangements, us and the KWS will be earning some cash from this," said the association Director General, James

Njuguna Mahuria.

During the validation event, dozens of the former freedom fighters and some of the descendants attended the ceremony.

They announced that by end of next month, they will have mapped out what they intend to do.

These include visiting caves and other hideouts in areas such as Mt Kenya, Aberdare Ranges as well

as Mt Elgon where former freedom fighters operated from.

Today, more than 2,000 of their members from Murang'a County are expected to join other leaders from the area who are visiting State House, Nairobi to meet President William Ruto where they are expected to raise the issue of their compensation.



Some of the people who attended the KWS validation forum at KICC.

Worth Noting:

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- Beyond financial reforms, the new regulations expand visitor experiences to include animal tracking, conservation activities, cultural tourism, and adventure tourism. Officials believe this will lengthen tourist stays, boost spending, and create more opportunities for youth and communities.

Youths Urged To Join TVET Courses To Boost Agriculture Productivity

By: Dennis Dibondo
 @themkenyatimes

TVET institutions across the country will develop many courses related to agriculture to help and encourage especially the youth to enrol to help transform the sector that is the backbone of Kenyans economy.

Dr. David Mwangi, the national chairman of Kenya Association of Technical Training Institutions said Kenya being a country that relies heavily on agriculture they are developing many courses in agriculture.

“Next week we are developing a curriculum on floriculture. We want Kenyans to identify gaps in the agriculture sector so that we can fill them by developing courses for instance as we were taking tea one person said there is a serious gap in tea science so what can we do to close that gap is we develop a curriculum,” Dr Mwangi said.

Dr Mwangi also the Chief Principal, Nyeri National Polytechnic, said on recognition of prior learning which is the recognition of skills acquired

informally the government has lowered the fee for Kenyans to get certification of their skills to KSh1500 on assessment outside the institution and KSh3000 on assessment inside the institution. He said previously the such courses were charged even KSh25000

“Those who have been doing such skill they can get photos of where they have been working from and testimonials and they can avail themselves and when they convince the institution then they can be accessed and they can be given a certificate,” Mwangi said.

He said as technical institutions they are embracing Duo TVET.

“When we talk about Duo TVET we are looking at Competency Based Education and Training (CBET) implementation method that we have students 50 percent in the industry and 50 percent institutions. We are trying to pitch slots and we have invited the industries so that they can give us the slots to be able to give to our institutions,” he said.

He said since September 2023 the TVET institutions started full implementation of the Competency Based

Education and Training (CBET) that is learner centered and they can train for three months.

“Within three months youths can get certificates in the areas of interest so our Kenyan youths who are not interested can stay in our institution for three years, two years or for six month they can do a course for only three months,” Mwangi said.

Mohammed Hassan, County director of TVET Meru and Isiolo counties, said that it’s unfortunate that youths are not taking agriculture seriously and are leaving it for the elderly.

“With the introduction of new courses related to agriculture and Duo TVET training to have 50 percent in the industry and 50 percent institutions I am optimistic agriculture will have better productivity better, quality products and national gaps in food adequacy will be improved,” Hassan said.

David Arama, a dairy farmer, said the Duo TVET will be beneficial as some of the students might be incorporated in their farms to help them increase productivity.

He said with technological advancement there is a need to review the cur-



Dr David Mwangi, the National Chairman of Kenya Association of Technical Institutions speaks to the media in Meru on Friday. Photo/Dennis Dibondo.

riculum and syllabus every now and then.

“For now use for irrigation we use center pivot irrigation systems and for dairy we use machines to milk cows but some have never seen such technology so there are gaps,” Arama said. Mercy Njoki from Meru Dairy Co-operative Union, a company that produces Mount Kenya Milk said the initiative will help students get expe-

rience as well as education at the same time. She said they started the initiative last year and some have been able to get permanent employment.

Jane Ngunjiri, a coffee farmer, said the initiative of farmers partnership with TVET institutions will help boost agricultural productivity.



Nyeri Governor Pledges Support To Local Agribusiness Through Climate Resilient Technology

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Nyeri Governor Mutahi Kahiga has promised to support local farmers in turning production into a leading income earner through climate resilient agricultural practices.

Speaking yesterday while opening this year's Central Kenya Agricultural Society of Kenya Show at the Kabiru-ini grounds, Kahiga said through innovative technology and sound strategies, the county can boost food production not only for local consumption but also for external markets.

He has singled out efficient utilization of available resources, prudent conservation of environment and leveraging on innovation and ICT for agriculture transformation among pillars his government is utilizing in achieving this end.

"The theme of this year's Central Kenya National Show, "Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and Trade Initiatives for Sustainable Economic Growth," is both timely and of utmost importance. It highlights the pressing need to sustainably enhance agricultural productivity and household incomes, strengthen resilience to the adverse effects of climate change, and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions," he said.

"The theme further underscores the vital role of innovation and technology in advancing climate-smart agriculture as key drivers of food security, agricultural transformation, and trade—critical pillars of our region's economic growth and development. These pillars are central to driving sustainable economic growth in Nyeri County and across the nation."

Kahiga has also pledged to continue supporting farmers in policies that will transform every sector of agriculture into a business venture and in the process make farming an attractive undertaking.

He stated that it is only through such interventions that the government can achieve its goal in fighting poverty and making the country food secure with surplus for sale.

He therefore urged farmers visiting the various stands to take advantage of the demonstrations and exhibitions on display and use the acquired knowledge in changing the way they carry out farming back at home.

"As a government, we reaffirm our commitment to supporting farmers through sound policies, targeted programs, and strategic investments aimed at improving access to quality inputs, markets, technology, and critical infrastructure. We firmly believe that investing in agriculture is an investment in the future of our region.



Nyeri Governor Dr Mutahi Kahiga greeting one of the Central Kenya ASK National Show on arrival at Kabiruini grounds yesterday. On the left is the show chairman Patrick Karinga while third right is the ASK CEO Batram Muthoka. Photos/Courtesy.



We envision agriculture not just as a livelihood, but as a catalyst for industrialization serving as a key source of raw materials for value addition, thereby spurring sustainable development and uplifting the lives of our people," he stressed.

The Governor termed the annual trade fair—which has attracted exhibitors from Agriculture, Manufacturing, Housing, Small and Medium Enterprises, Banking, Public and Private Institutions, Hospitality, and Education as an invaluable opportunity for farmers to access modern technologies, advanced farming practices, and expanded market linkages.

He therefore said the event offers

an ideal platform for agribusinesses, researchers, and policymakers to collaborate in the shared pursuit of transforming agriculture into a more productive, sustainable, and profitable undertaking.

"The County Government of Nyeri will continue to invest across all sectors while strengthening partnerships with stakeholders throughout the agricultural value chain farmers, processors, traders, and exporters alike. Together, we champion climate-smart practices that increase productivity while reducing environmental impact," he pointed out.

"At the same time, the growing threat of climate change poses a sig-

nificant challenge to the attainment of these objectives. This reality demands a paradigm shift—one that reorients development efforts to ensure resources are strategically directed toward strengthening key production sectors."

The A.S.K Central Kenya National Show was launched in 1968 at Ruring'u Stadium but was later shifted to Kabiruini Grounds in 1997.

Owing to its central location, the show was elevated to a National status in 2004 to cater for other areas like Nyandarua, Murang'a, Kiambu and Kirinyaga.

Worth Noting:

- "The theme of this year's Central Kenya National Show, "Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and Trade Initiatives for Sustainable Economic Growth," is both timely and of utmost importance. It highlights the pressing need to sustainably enhance agricultural productivity and household incomes, strengthen resilience to the adverse effects of climate change, and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions," he said.
- "The theme further underscores the vital role of innovation and technology in advancing climate-smart agriculture as key drivers of food security, agricultural transformation, and trade—critical pillars of our region's economic growth and development. These pillars are central to driving sustainable economic growth in Nyeri County and across the nation."

Waiguru Unveils Three Mega Projects In A Day, Fastracking Kirinyaga's Transformation Agenda

By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyatimes

Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru on Wednesday demonstrated her hallmark hands-on leadership, handing over sites and breaking ground for three mega projects in a single day.

In a packed itinerary that cemented her image as a leader in control of the county's transformation agenda, Waiguru presided over the site handover and ground breaking of Kiumbu and Wamumu markets in Mwea and the Sagana Affordable Housing Project in Ndia. The initiatives will directly benefit thousands of traders, families, and job seekers while anchoring the county's broader industrial and economic vision aimed at providing opportunities for improved livelihoods for county residents.

Kiumbu and Wamumu markets that will serve around 700 traders combined upon completion are designed to replace the chaotic and unhygienic open-air trading spaces that have long defined small-town commerce. Each facility will feature organized stalls, reliable utilities, and modern waste systems as well as ICT hubs with free WiFi, food courts and crèche for use by mothers with babies.

"We are groundbreaking the markets as I had promised during my campaigns. We have allocated the land, and today we are fulfilling that promise. As a county government we have constructed 18 markets while 11 additional markets have been developed in collaboration with the national government," the Governor said.

Waiguru said the two markets would directly link to the nearly complete County Aggregation and Industrial Park (CAIP) in Sagana, where farmers and traders will access value addition and processing facilities. "Once the park is operational, our people will be tapping into bigger opportunities for better incomes," she noted.

Traders and leaders hailed the projects as transformative. "Our town will change dramatically because of this market," said Tebere MCA Peter Karinga. Area residents such as Martha Wangui could not hide their joy about the county's transformation expressing her gratitude for ensuring that the health sector among others had greatly improved as far as service delivery is concerned. "Governor, we are grateful. Since you came in, we haven't lacked ambulances or health services. Now our market is also being transformed," she said.

On the other hand, the site handover for the Sagana Affordable Housing Project will pave way for the construction of 487 modern homes that will be built in Phase One of the National Affordable Housing pro-



Governor Anne Waiguru addressing one of the meetings.

gramme. The development is expected to create at least 300 direct jobs and spur business for local suppliers, artisans, and transporters.

Waiguru tied the housing project to the larger Sagana Agro-Industrial City Masterplan, which includes an Export Processing Zone and a Special Economic Zone. "This is how we position Kirinyaga as a vibrant hub for investors and opportunities," she

said.

Kariti MCA Jeremiah Makimi lauded her for recovering 252 acre land that was previously grabbed before setting it apart for the Industrial Park, noting that it had restored confidence in local development. "You have brought back hope in Kirinyaga and changed the face of our county," he said.

Kirinyaga County Assembly Lead-

er of Majority Benson Ngahu added also hailed Waiguru for her development legacy saying that she has served the county well.

Waiguru reiterated her commitment to delivering her campaign pledge by leaving behind a county where every resident flourishes.



Governor Anne Waiguru and other officials being taken through one of the projects. Photos/Courtesy.

Worth Noting:

- Kiumbu and Wamumu markets that will serve around 700 traders combined upon completion are designed to replace the chaotic and unhygienic open-air trading spaces that have long defined small-town commerce. Each facility will feature organized stalls, reliable utilities, and modern waste systems as well as ICT hubs with free WiFi, food courts and crèche for use by mothers with babies.
- "We are groundbreaking the markets as I had promised during my campaigns. We have allocated the land, and today we are fulfilling that promise. As a county government we have constructed 18 markets while 11 additional markets have been developed in collaboration with the national government," the Governor said.

CS Kagwe Seals US Deals To Open Doors For Kenyan Farmers

By: MKT Reporter
 @themtkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- The CS also encouraged American investors to consider large-scale farming and agro-processing ventures in Kenya, particularly in wheat, yellow maize and rice.
- He noted that such investments could transform Kenya from a food importer to a regional breadbasket.
- While in New York, Kagwe met with Mastercard Executive Vice President Tara Nathan to discuss ways of improving farmers' access to credit. The talks explored the creation of a centralized Agriculture Information and Resource Centre (AIRC) that would consolidate farmer data, boost transparency, and unlock tailored financial solutions.
- Kenya's agricultural colleges are also set for new partnerships after Kagwe oversaw a collaboration deal with South Carolina State University 1890 Research and Extension. The pact will support training, research and the development of resilient crop varieties.

Agriculture and Livestock Development Cabinet Secretary, Mutahi Kagwe, has struck key agreements in the United States aimed at expanding Kenya's agricultural exports and boosting access to financing for farmers.

During a trade mission, Kagwe held high-level talks with United States Africa Trade Desk (USATD) CEO Gavin Van Der Burgh, securing a commitment to place Kenyan produce on more U.S. retail shelves. The agreement also includes financial backing to help Kenyan exporters sustain the large volumes required for expanded distribution.

"This support is crucial to stabilizing supply chains and empowering our farmers and exporters to scale up," Kagwe said.

The CS also encouraged American investors to consider large-scale farming and agro-processing ventures in Kenya, particularly in wheat, yellow maize and rice.

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Agriculture and Livestock Development Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe meets with United States Africa Trade Desk (USATD) CEO Gavin Van Der Burgh.

pact will support training, research and the development of resilient crop varieties.

In addition, the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the South Carolina African American Chamber of Commerce (SCAACCC), represent-

ing over 15,000 businesses.

The agreement is expected to enhance trade and investment ties between the two regions.

Kagwe was accompanied by a strong private sector team including Tea Board of Kenya CEO Willy Mutai, his KTDA counterpart Wilson Muthaura, the tea agency chairman

Chege Kirundi, KETEPA MD John Ngatia, MACNUT Chair Jane Mangua, and leaders from Tropical Nuts and Kipchimchim Group, signaling Kenya's readiness to seize new U.S. market opportunities.



Agriculture and Livestock Development Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe meets with the Executive Vice President of Mastercard Tara Nathan at the Kenyan Consulate in New York. Discussions centered on enablin.



KTDA Inks Strategic U.S. Marketing Deal With Robert Colson & Company, USA. KTDA National Chairman Chege Kirundi (centre), Group CEO Wilson Muthaura (left) and the US firm CEO of Robert Colson during the MOU signing. Photos/Courtesy.

14 POEMS

Realizing That My Life Is For Only One Day



Thoughts overflow in my mind, but words nothing to say.
Recall my old memories with happiness gay.
Will be with my family, and wish to stay.
But in my inner mind, I always pray.

Oh God! I give my family in your hands all way.
Love and take care of them anyway.
Thank you for giving me a day more to stay.
To hand over my family in your hands today.
And fulfill my duties and Responsibilities that play.
Protect them from all negatives that fury.
As I am no more and leave them midway.
This is what I wish to convey.
And I am lucky and thankful for giving me life for one more day.

Susi Jean R

Combine Your Skill Together And Focus On One Thing



Each and everyone has a unique talent,
No one has any right to judge their potential,
Proper practice will make them noble,
One day they will be celebrated by others.

Self confidence is the key to success,
You must concentrate what you have possess,
You shouldn't afraid of any obstacles,
Be attentive on your progress.

Winning or losing is not an important,
Play your role without any hesitation,
Be focussed on your goal which is your ambition,
That will make you shine as a star!

Keep yourself away from the liars,
Who will encourage your fear, You only know your skills,
That will keep you on the top of a hill in your LIFE!

N. DEEPALAKSHMI
B.T. ASSISTANT IN ENGLISH,
GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL,
SATHUVACHARI,
VELLORE DISTRICT,
TAMIL NADU,
INDIA.

Earth Produces Nothing Worse Than Ungrateful Man



Earth Produces Nothing Worse Than Ungrateful Man.
We never satisfy an ungrateful person.

Ungrateful persons never notice the things we do for them until we stop doing them.

Focus on us
we have already done enough for the ungrateful.
Ungrateful person takes advantage on our kindness

Ungratefulness creeps in our lives and relationships.
Every greed is the root of ungratefulness.

Ungrateful person don't remember the million times we have helped them only one time we don't.

Ungrateful person to be around is someone who complains about everything and appreciate nothing.

Really it is better to forget ungrateful person on the good day.
We have to be peaceful on that day.

PATRICIA Q
GRADUATE TEACHER,
P.U. G.M.SCHOOL,
MELPATTAMPAKKAM,
CUDDALORE, DT.

Creating Something Is Difficult, Safeguard It



Creating something's a laborious task
It takes months, years, to bring it to its best.
But destroying' is very easy and simple
It leaves nothing, but ruin alone

To become a plant to a tree, is a long journey
A baby's growth, to a man is a very long period
But ending life, is easy but tragic,
That loss is so great, can't even imagine

Rome was built, over centuries
Not built in a day, but through many trials
Yet destruction is fast, like a moment wind blow
Hiroshima, Nagasaki, a lesson to us to know.

Construction takes time, it takes patience, and time

But destruction's quick, a devastating one
It takes minutes, to reduce to dust,
A creation is valuable we must accept and trust

Let's handle it with care, construction is precious and rare,
Because it is built brick by brick, with love and care.

Breaking is easy, but building is a challenging job
Let's preserve dreams, and do our best.

Let us Know the value, of what we create,
Avoid destruction, before it's too late.
Coz it takes pain, effort, and patience
To build something great, that's strong

Brinda D
CREATIVE WRITERS
GRADUATE TEACHER,
GOVT HIGH SCHOOL,
MELPATTAMPAKKAM
CUDDALORE,
Tamilnadu India

The Power Of A Teacher



A teacher's role, goes far beyond the classroom walls
Shaping minds, and touching hearts, with compassionate calls.

With every lesson, a seed is sown
A spark of curiosity, that forever will be grown.

A teacher's patience, guides us through life's plight
Helping us find, our own unique light.

Their words of encouragement, give us wings to fly
And with each challenge, we touch the morning sky.

A teacher's influence, extends far and wide,
Inspiring generations, to reach and to thrive.

So here's to our teachers, who give and give with grace
Helping us discover, our own hidden place.

R. SRIPRIYA
BT ENGLISH GHSS KOLAPAKKAM
KANCHIPURAM DISTRICT TAMILNADU INDIA

Masks and Mirrors



Looks can deceive the eye that tries to see,
The truth is lost upon the glowing screen.
Dark shades grow faint, while fairer faces shine,
And brightness rules the pictures of the day.

The filter hides the skin beneath its glow,
It paints a mask and covers what is real.
A child will smile before he learns to speak,

And pose with ease before he speaks his mind.

From early years we act before the world,
We wear new masks for people, place, and time.
Life is a stage where many roles are played,
And none can keep a single face for long.

The mirror once revealed the self as true,
But filters now have taken up its place.
They show a face more bright than flesh can be,
And bury truth beneath a shining mask.

Yet truth is stronger than the painted glow,
And inner light will last when masks are gone

V Durgadevi
BT Assistant
GHS Nesal
Tiruvannamalai District

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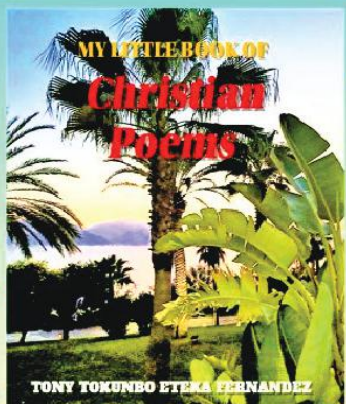
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BUSINESS

Kitui Airstrip And Roads Upgraded To Boost Access Ahead Of Mashujaa Day

By: Aoma Keziah
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- Accompanied by Kitui Governor Dr. Julius Malombe, Principal Secretary for Sports Elijah Mwangi, County leadership, and officials from the National Celebrations Committee, the CS affirmed Government's satisfaction with the construction Progress, which currently stands at 80% completion.

- "When I first visited this site, it was a greenfield show-ground. Today, we stand at a nearly completed 10,000-capacity modern stadium, a testimony of the partnership between the National and County Governments. We are on schedule to hand over this facility by 6th October in readiness for Mashujaa Day," he said

The Cabinet Secretary for Youth Affairs, Creative Economy and Sports, Salim Mvurya conducted an inspection of the Ithookwe Stadium, Kitui County, the designated venue for this year's Mashujaa Day celebrations in October.

Accompanied by Kitui Governor Dr. Julius Malombe, Principal Secretary for Sports Elijah Mwangi, County leadership, and officials from the National Celebrations Committee, the CS affirmed Government's satisfaction with the construction Progress, which currently stands at 80% completion.

"When I first visited this site, it was a greenfield showground. Today, we stand at a nearly completed 10,000-capacity modern stadium, a testimony of the partnership between the National and County Governments. We are on schedule to hand over this facility by 6th October in readiness for Mashujaa Day," he said

He further noted that the stadium's pavilion, perimeter wall, and auxiliary works are the remaining focus areas to be expedited. He reiterated

that beyond the October celebrations, Ithookwe Stadium will remain a critical piece of infrastructure for talent development, grassroots mobilization, and sports tourism in Kitui and the wider region.

In addition to the stadium, the Government is concurrently upgrading the Kitui airstrip and road networks around the facility to enhance accessibility for the celebrations and long-term county development.

Highlighting the broader national agenda, CS Mvurya underscored President William Ruto's bold directive for accelerated sports infrastructure development across Kenya.

"H.E. President William Ruto's vision for sports is bold, firm, and deliberate, anchored on the construction and upgrading of facilities to international standards. In the coming financial year, the President has directed the rollout of 30 new stadiums nationwide, with groundbreaking set for October this year. Ithookwe stands as a testament of this promise," Mvurya stated.

He further addressed concerns re-

garding the stalled construction of Wote Stadium in Makeni County. The CS explained that the original plan for a 10,000-capacity facility faced significant structural and engineering challenges arising from the site's terrain.

"For those familiar with engineering, filling up four meters across the entire site is not just expensive, it is technically impractical under the current budget framework. That is the major technical challenge we encountered with Wote," the CS stated.

As a result, the Ministry has downgraded the current site to a 5,000-seater stadium, while working with the County Government of Makeni to allocate new land where a full 10,000-capacity stadium can be constructed, similar to the ongoing project in Kitui.

"No county will be left behind. In some regions, we will establish sports academies, in others 10,000-seater or 15,000-seater stadiums, all in line with our mandate to uplift grassroots sports and provide modern, clean facilities for our young people," he

added

The Sports CS further assured the people of Kitui that after Mashujaa Day, additional work, including installation of a tartan track, compliant changing rooms, and other modern amenities, will be undertaken to ensure Ithookwe meets full sporting standards for both local leagues and international fixtures.

"This is the time for Kitui. Hosting Mashujaa Day brings enormous opportunities, but beyond the celebrations, this facility will anchor lasting socio-economic benefits and offer a platform for youth to showcase and nurture their talents," he concluded.

Government Calls On Youth To Safeguard Kenya's Cyberspace

By: KNA

@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Mugonyi emphasised the urgent need to equip young people with critical thinking skills to verify information and adopt responsible digital practices.
- "The youth are not just the future of this country; they are the present. It is not about preparing them for tomorrow, because that tomorrow is actually today. We need to empower them to make informed decisions, and that is the purpose of this forum," stated Mugonyi in a speech read on his behalf by Dr. Vincent Ngundi, Director of Cyber Security at CA.

The government has reaffirmed its commitment to building a safe and trusted digital ecosystem by empowering young people with skills to counter misinformation, disinformation and cyber threats.

Through the 2025 Cybersecurity Youth Forum hosted by the Communications Authority of Kenya (CA) and the Kenya Cybersecurity and Forensics Association (KCSFA) under the theme 'unpacking misinformation and disinformation', the government noted these persistent challenges in cyberspace that impact public opinion and threaten national security given the active youth engagement on digital platforms.

Further, the youth are viewed as not only vulnerable to misleading content, but are also uniquely positioned to combat it and they therefore should be empowered to counter cyber threats and misinformation which would foster dig-

ital literacy while promoting job creation and skills development through partnerships to strengthen national digital resilience.

CA Director General (DG) David Mugonyi stressed that the youth must be at the forefront of strengthening the country's digital resilience, as they form the majority of the population. He cited the 2019 national census noting that 75 percent of Kenyans are youth, with 67 percent aged between 18 and 35 years.

Mugonyi emphasised the urgent need to equip young people with critical thinking skills to verify information and adopt responsible digital practices.

"The youth are not just the future of this country; they are the present. It is not about preparing them for tomorrow, because that tomorrow is actually today. We need to empower them to make informed decisions, and that is the purpose of this forum," stated Mugonyi in a speech read on his behalf by Dr. Vincent Ngundi, Director of Cyber Security at CA.

However, the DG warned that false information, whether shared by mistake or deliberately created to mislead or fuel division, could cause real-world harm.

He highlighted ongoing initiatives such as the National Cybersecurity Boot Camps, Hackathons, the Universal Service Fund and the annual Cybersecurity Awareness Month, which were designed to enhance digital literacy and strengthen the country's overall cyber resilience.

"As an industry regulator, our role goes beyond enforcement. We have anchored digital trust through frameworks such as the Child Online Protection Guidelines, enforced measures like SIM card registration, and worked with social media companies to moderate harmful content," highlighted Mugonyi, stressing that these interventions were central to making Kenya's digital ecosystem inclusive and secure.

Speaking at the same event, KCSFA Chairman Keniz Agira expressed concern over the growing involvement of young people in cybercrime, pointing to the fast pace of technological change and the lag in policy response as factors creating loopholes.

"Technology is changing so fast. We moved from physical meetings to online platforms during the Covid-19 pandemic, and now we are grappling with Artificial Intelligence tools like ChatGPT. Youth are quick to adopt, but some extend curiosity beyond the limits and venture into cybercrime," he observed.

Additionally, Agira noted that sectors such as banking and education



Vincent Ngundi

were increasingly being targeted by cybercriminals, exposing vulnerabilities in institutions.

"The youth have the capacity to grasp technology faster, while institutions and the legal framework take time to catch up. That gap is where cyberattacks thrive," he observed.

The KCSFA Chairman cited recent arrests of young people linked to hacking and online fraud, warning that these incidents pointed to the urgent need for structured guidance and mentorship.

"These gaps will always be there, but we must continue building resilience and ensure that young people channel their skills towards positive innovations," he urged.

At the same time, the Executive Director of Sharp Education Centre Dr. Paul Wanjohi maintained that instilling values in learners from an early age was critical in shaping how technology was used.

He pointed out that the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) had integrated ICT learning with ethics, which would help learners appreciate the responsibility that comes with digital skills.

"Everything is going ICT. The government has invested in policies to integrate technology into the Competency-Based Curriculum. From basic education, learners are being taught values so that when they grow up, they don't misuse cyberspace for crime," explained Dr. Wanjohi.

Dr. Wanjohi further warned against the misuse of artificial intelligence in schools, citing cases where students relied on AI-generated answers for assignments but could not reproduce the same knowledge in class.

"This shows a worrying misuse of technology that undermines real skills acquisition," he reiterated.

In addition, Dr. Wanjohi urged Kenya to emulate countries such as Israel, China and the United States, where talent was tapped from schools and nurtured into positive innovations.

"Our society must raise youth who use cyberspace positively. Instead of a young person hacking into a company's account, we would rather see that talent directed towards innovations that prevent attacks. If we instill these principles early, Kenya can harness youth innovation for development," he advised.

Data Protection and Quality Assurance Officer at the Kenya Network Information Centre (KENIC) Esther Adwets underscored the importance of domain regulation in the fight against misinformation.

She reported that fraudulent websites impersonating legitimate organisations were among the biggest threats to the public.

"A recent case involved a fake domain that imitated a well-known news outlet, making people believe it was authentic," Adwets said.

"When such sites are reported, we work with regulators to suspend them immediately. This prevents further spread of false information and protects citizens from exploitation," she added.

Adwets said misinformation thrived on exploiting human emotions such as fear and bias, making people more likely to believe and share falsehoods. To counter this, she urged Kenyans to adopt a 'zero trust' approach to online content.

"We must educate ourselves and the wider public that what we see online is not always what it seems. Verification should be our first instinct. Even a familiar face or a seemingly trusted source can spread manipulated content," she counseled.

The Founder of the Nairobi AI Community, Arthur Adinda, highlighted the role of artificial intelligence as a powerful enabler of fact-checking and content filtering.

He said that AI-driven platforms could authenticate information using decades of news archives, thereby reducing the circulation of fake content.

"Artificial intelligence is the future of work and also a vital tool in addressing fake news. We now have locally relevant fact-checking platforms that allow Kenyans to focus on meaningful work while relying on automation to filter misleading content," he said. Further, Adinda explained that AI-driven fact-checking not only helped the public but also shielded institutions from reputational risks.

By automating verification processes, both individuals and organisations could reduce their vulnerability to digital propaganda, he said.

He called on Kenyan youth and professionals to embrace AI not just as a work tool but also as a civic responsibility, saying, "If we automate repetitive processes and adopt fact-checking solutions, we can safeguard our democracy and protect society from the harmful effects of fake news".

Meanwhile, the panel at the forum also acknowledged the challenge of balancing freedom of expression with the need to combat disinformation.

While censorship was deemed unsustainable, participants agreed that digital literacy, awareness campaigns, and ethical online behaviour were the most effective solutions.

The youth-focused cybersecurity dialogue sought to enhance digital literacy, promote responsible online behaviour and equip young people with skills to safeguard the country's cyberspace from emerging threats.

From Mũrang’a To Statehouse With Perfect Nine Syllables, Perfect Song



By: Gitaũ wa Kũng’ũ
@themkenyatimes

In the waning days of harvest, as Murang’a’s hills turn gold and the air carries the scent of drying maize, a date approaches that is more than a square on the calendar.

La - Fa | Fa - So - □ - Fa - Re | Fa - Fa - La— Friday, September 2025 finds me at Statehouse, six days after my birthday, carrying the heritage of the Perfect Nine clans. To most, it is simply a Friday. To me, it is a convergence — a moment where personal cycle, clan memory, and mathematical law meet.

The Gregorian reckoning calls it a triple three day: the day, month, and year all collapsing to the number three, the trinity folded upon itself. In the Chinese lunar count, the numbers fall the same way, while the Ethiopian calendar marks it as 7 Meskerem 2018 — six days into the New Year, a mirror of my own six day post birthday gap. The Yoruba week places it under Ogun and Oshosi, spirits of iron, craftsmanship, and precision. The Maya daykeepers name it 6 Ok, the loyal guide under gathering clouds. And in the Gikũyũ agricultural cycle, it is a council gate day, post harvest and pre planting, under a waning gibbous moon.

In the season when the maize is eaten and the fields wait for rain, a Friday rises, carved like a post at the gate of time. Six days after my birth day, six into the Ethiopian year, six steps into the Maya count, it gathers the wisdom of many worlds. The elders murmur three, three, three — a trinity without lean, and the alphabet sings, pausing only at the sacred P in “September.”

Even the alphabet has its say. Using my G OCTAVE mapping — treating letters as notes in a looping scale with pauses at H, P, and X — “Friday, 12 September 2025” becomes a melody. Spoken aloud, it is nine syllables, echoing the Perfect Nine clans, with a single sacred pause in “September” before the final cadence. It is a three movement chant: approach, breath, resolution.

Three moons later, another Friday will rise: 12 December 2025, Jamhuri Day, the anniversary of Kenya’s independence. Here, the numbers shift. The day still begins with three, but the sum swells to six — a doubling, a widening arch. Its melody flows without pause, stepping down Mi-Re in December’s name, brightened by a note absent in September. Where



the pillar day holds its breath to seal a covenant, the arch day exhales in a continuous arc, carrying the song of independence across the land.

Three moons later, the nation’s own heartbeat sounds. Jamhuri Day rises in the heat of December, its numbers dancing from three to six, its song flowing without pause, stepping down Mi-Re in a bright descent, an arch carrying the people’s breath unbroken.

Side by side, the two Fridays share a Perfect Nine syllable count, open with La-Fa and close with Fa-Fa-La, and carry the same dense ornamentation in the middle. Yet their spirits diverge. September is the pillar — triple three stability, a breath seal mid flow. December is the arch — 3-6 expansion, continuous movement, tonal brightness. One is still and rooted; the other sweeping and unbroken.

It is here that another symbol steps into the frame: Rũruto, the Gikũyũ name for the praying mantis — a

name that rhymes with President William Ruto’s own. In southern Africa, the mantis is a spiritual messenger; in China, it inspires a martial art known for patience, precision, and sudden, decisive action. In our own fields, it is a quiet guardian — one of nature’s most effective pest controllers. Yet like so many allies in the soil, its numbers are threatened by the indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides, alongside ladybirds, lacewings, and other natural regulators.

Between pillar and arch runs a bridge of three moons, a span where personal heritage meets national destiny. Here, the Rũruto waits — still, watchful, patient — a guardian of crops, a sign in the grass.

Its prayer is for life in all its forms, its call is for leaders to shield the small as well as the great.

As the “Praying Mantis President,” President Ruto has an opportunity to lead not only the Kenyan people but also the living web that sustains them. Protecting indigenous biodiversity, promoting organic farming, and investing in preventive care for

both people and ecosystems would honour the mantis’ lesson: act with patience, strike with precision, and guard the balance. In a time when climate change and chemical overuse threaten the very fabric of rural life, such leadership could turn Kenya into a continental model for harmony between agriculture and ecology.

These convergences — numeric, melodic, symbolic — are more than curiosities. They are a reminder that dates are not inert. They carry the weight of cycles — personal, cultural, cosmic — and can be read like manuscripts, sung like hymns, or plotted like proofs. In the space between 12 September and 12 December 2025 lies a bridge where the private and the public, the ancestral and the national, meet in harmony.

As the seasons turn from the rising of September moon to the high sun of December, the melody remains. It is the sound of a life joined to a land, of numbers that hum with meaning, of calendars that speak in chorus. And when the arch day arrives, the song that began at the pillar will carry forward — a blessing in motion, a covenant renewed, and perhaps, if we heed the Rũruto’s stillness, a pledge to protect the smallest guardians of our fields.

Worth Noting:

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Three Years On: Celebrating Impact Of The Affordable Housing Programme

By: MKT Reporter

@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Currently, there are over 195,578 housing units under development across 111 constituencies in 44 out of the 47 counties. To ensure equal chance for all Kenyans to own a home, new Affordable Housing and Institutional Housing Projects will soon be launched in Marsabit, Turkana and West Pokot counties once the implementation planning is complete.

- Since 2022, the AHP projects have provided 330,000 direct and indirect jobs where KES 11 Billion has been ringfenced for the Jua Kali and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) engaged in the Affordable Housing and Markets Programmes.

- “We are on course to achieve a goal of 2 jobs per unit – one directly onsite and one indirectly in the wider economy,” explains Mr. Charles Hinga, Principal Secretary, State Department for Housing and Urban Development.



The Mukuru social housing project in Nairobi.

As the Kenya Kwanza Government marks its 3rd anniversary since taking over the leadership mantle, the Affordable Housing Programme (AHP) remains one of the key achievements realised under the Bottom-Up Transformational Economic Agenda (BETA).

“Through this program, we have revitalized local area economies through jobs created in the communities where projects are located. These projects have also impacted supply chains in local areas in a big way – from those providing stones for building, kokoto (Ballast), sand, cement, and even food for workers while onsite,” notes Alice Wahome, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development.

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home, new Affordable Housing and Institutional Housing Projects will soon be launched in Marsabit, Turkana and West Pokot counties once the implementation planning is complete.

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“We are on course to achieve a goal of 2 jobs per unit – one directly onsite and one indirectly in the wider economy,” explains Mr. Charles Hinga, Principal Secretary, State Department for Housing and Urban Development. “We will ringfence the assembly and manufacturing of key components for our mechanical, electrical, and plumbing sectors,” he added.

The sale of the units started in November 2024 when the government announced the release of 4,888 housing units in 24 project sites across the

country.

Every Kenyan interested in purchasing a unit has a chance to do so under Pata Makao na Boma Yangu by registering on the Boma Yangu Platform www.bomayangu.go.ke. Once registered, one activates their account by paying KES 200 and starts saving towards raising a 5 percent deposit of the total cost of the housing unit.

Under the Institutional Housing for security service personnel, there are 12,709 ongoing and complete housing units. The government has also proposed the construction of institutional housing for student villages, targeting 177,686 student housing beds. The proposed projects, advertised mid this year are intended to meet the housing needs for students in public tertiary and university institutions across the country.

The Government has also embarked on efforts to develop 400 markets across the country to dignify the work environment of traders while

boosting economic recovery at the local level.

Under the National Markets Development Programme, there are 237 Economic Stimulus Program (ESP) Markets and 39 Modern Markets at various stages of implementation in 212 constituencies across the country. 21 Metropolitan Markets are expected to be delivered under the Metropolitan Development Delivery.

Through the Affordable Housing Program, the Government has revitalized local area economies through jobs created where the AHP projects are located and also in the new market sites that provide a conducive environment for all to operate in.

Regional Countries Renew Condemnation Of Israeli Doha Strike As It Vows To Pursue Hamas Leaders Everywhere

By: Xinhua
@themtkenyatimes



Jordan's King Abdullah II (C) meets with visiting Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas (2nd L) in Amman, Jordan, Sept. 10, 2025. During his meeting with Abbas on Wednesday, King Abdullah II condemned the Israeli Doha strike, rejected Israeli plans to expand control over Gaza and settlement activity in the West Bank, stressed the need for a ceasefire in Gaza and unhindered humanitarian access, and for implementing the two-state solution, according to a Royal Court statement.

Worth Noting:

- On Tuesday, Israel launched an unprecedented airstrike in the Qatari capital of Doha, targeting a building used by senior Hamas officials in what Israeli authorities described as an attempt to assassinate leaders of the group who were “directly responsible for” the attack on Oct. 7, 2023 that left about 1,200 people dead.
- Hamas said later that the strike occurred while its delegation was discussing a new ceasefire proposal presented by Washington. According to the group, the negotiating team survived, but six others were killed. On Tuesday evening, Qatar said it will adopt a “comprehensive” approach to respond to the Israeli strike and deter future attacks, noting that the country will not tolerate any violations of its sovereignty.

Regional countries have reaffirmed their condemnation of Israel’s Doha strike, and voiced their support for and solidarity with Qatar, as Israeli officials vowed to continue fighting Hamas leaders “everywhere” and targeting countries failing to act against them.

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On Wednesday, Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz said the Doha strike was part of an operation dubbed “Fire Summit” aimed at killing Hamas’s top leadership. “Israel’s

security policy is clear: Israel’s long arm will act against its enemies everywhere. There is no place for them to hide,” he said, adding that Israel will continue to pursue all Hamas members involved in the October 2023 attack. Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned that countries hosting Hamas leaders or other groups regarded by Israel as enemies could themselves become targets if they failed to act against them.

Amid the latest developments, Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), said in a meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty in Abu Dhabi that the UAE backs all measures Qatar may take to safeguard its security and safety. Respecting national sovereignty is a cornerstone of international relations, and any violation constitutes a blatant breach of international law and the UN Charter, he was quoted as saying by a statement released by the UAE Foreign Ministry, urging global actions in halting “Israeli aggressions.”

In a phone call on Wednesday between Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi and Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the two leaders voiced “full solidarity” with Qatar, and

called the Israeli strike an unacceptable encroachment on Qatar’s sovereignty. They “expressed their categorical condemnation of this assault, considering it a flagrant violation of international law and the UN Charter,” the Egyptian presidency said in a statement. The two sides also reiterated their “absolute support” for Qatar’s efforts to safeguard its security and stability, particularly in light of its joint mediation efforts with Egypt to secure a ceasefire in Gaza and end “the catastrophic humanitarian tragedy caused by the Israeli war.”

During his meeting with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in Amman on Wednesday, Jordan’s King Abdullah II condemned the Israeli Doha strike, rejected Israeli plans to expand control over Gaza and settlement activity in the West Bank, stressed the need for a ceasefire in Gaza and unhindered humanitarian access, and for implementing the two-state solution, according to a Royal Court statement.

Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi, in a phone call on Wednesday with his Qatari counterpart Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani, condemned Israel’s “terrorist aggression” against Qatar, and voiced Iran’s solidarity with and support for Qatar. Given Israel’s “ongoing genocide in Gaza,

frequent aggressions and terrorist actions against Lebanon, Syria and Yemen, criminal attack against Iran and now military aggression against Qatar,” Israel has become a “real and immediate threat” to regional and global peace and security, Araghchi said.

Condemning the “treacherous and vicious attack” in Doha, the Tunisian Foreign Ministry in a statement on Wednesday voiced full solidarity with and support for Qatar and its efforts to defend its national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and security. It is important to materialize a common vision for Arab security as an unavoidable strategic choice to confront all threats posed by Israel to regional and global peace, security and stability, it said.

Algeria’s official APS news agency reported Wednesday that Algeria has made a request together with Qatar to hold an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council on the “Israeli aggression” on Qatar. Algeria believes that Israel’s expanded attacks, including on Hamas negotiators in ceasefire talks in Qatar, prove it disregards international norms and wants no peace, APS reported, adding that Algeria urges global actions to deter Israel, end its “crimes” against Palestinians, and prevent further regional escalation.

Mudavadi Assures Kenya, World Of Free And Fair 2027 General Elections

By: OPCS Writer
@themtkenyatimes

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has assured the country and the international community that the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) will conduct free, fair and transparent elections in adherence to the Constitution and the Elections Act of 2011.

Mudavadi assured the world that the government remained firmly committed to safeguarding this democratic process.

Speaking during the Diplomatic briefing at JW Marriot hotel, Nairobi, Mudavadi said in tandem with the country's democratic credentials and adherence to the rule of law, President William Ruto witnessed the swearing-in of IEBC commissioners, and they had begun the process of putting everything in place for the next polls.

"I would like to assure you that the electoral body will conduct free, fair, and credible elections, which will be in line with the dictates of the Constitution and the Elections Act of 2011. We remain steadfast to ensure that the democratic process is adhered to," said Mudavadi.

He said that Kenya's progressive Constitution guaranteed freedom of speech, respect for human rights, and the rule of law, and the government was taking seriously concerns raised regarding recent reports of abductions.

"As a member of the Human Rights Council and host of the Sub-regional UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Nairobi, Kenya, remained steadfast in addressing these matters transparently and accountably," said Mudavadi.

He explained that it is for that reason that on 16th August 2025, President Ruto appointed a 16-member Panel of Experts comprising legal scholars and human rights advocates to oversee compensation for protest victims dating back to 2017.

"This is a testament to the President's steadfast commitment to justice, national healing, and the rule of law. As you are aware, a case challenging the establishment of the Panel of Experts is before the courts, and the government remains committed to respecting due process," he said.

In the same vein, the PCS said Parliament was also considering the Public Order (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which seeks to strengthen the framework for maintaining public order by ensuring respect for the Constitution and protecting public property from vandalism.

Equally, Mudavadi said the government continued to prioritize police professionalism and accountability to guarantee the conduct of public order operations is with full respect for human rights and the rule of law.

"I take this opportunity to reaffirm the Government's commitment to constructively engaging all stakeholders to foster peace, stability, and national cohesion for the prosperity of our country," said the PCS.

Mudavadi urged African nations to



Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi

entrench the rule of law, strengthen Mudavadi briefs diplomats on Kenya's foreign policy, economic reforms and peace efforts.

"The Government of Kenya, through the National Treasury, will be engaging with the IMF to work on a new programme on matters of the economy," Mudavadi told the diplomats.

He added that the government was also working closely with global partners to address Kenya's international financial standing.

"We continue to engage development partners and other relevant bodies to eliminate Kenya's grey listing, which is critical for our financial credibility and global competitiveness," he said.

Mudavadi appealed for support from foreign missions in promoting investment.

"Kenya seeks to attract more foreign direct investment to accelerate growth and create jobs. Our doors are open to investors who want to be part of Kenya's transformation story," he said.

Mudavadi reminded the envoys that Kenya's new Foreign Policy, launched in May through Sessional Paper No. 1 of 2025, seeks to elevate the country as a core state in the region, a premier investment destination, an exporter of peace, and a reliable partner in addressing global challenges.

"The new policy framework reflects our resolve to remain a key player in international relations, anchored on economic diplomacy, peace and security, and multilateral engagement," he said.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary addressed regional peace, particularly in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"Lasting peace in Eastern DRC requires a long-term, multifaceted strategy that integrates security, governance, economic revitalization, and social cohesion, while safeguarding human rights," he said.

He added that Kenya remains committed to peace efforts under the EAC-

SADC Initiative co-chaired by President William Ruto and Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

On Haiti, Mudavadi praised Kenyan police officers serving in the Multinational Security Support Mission, noting their clean human rights record.

"Not a single complaint of police brutality or human rights violation has been raised against our officers. This is a good score and record for the Kenya Police Service as they execute this assignment," he said.

Mudavadi emphasized Kenya's commitment to multilateralism and its stature as a diplomatic hub.

"We are committed to upgrading UN offices in Nairobi to global standards so that the city remains a key hub for diplomacy," he stated, citing the Gigiri Master Plan to modernize UNON conference facilities and Nairobi's role as host to three incoming UN agencies.

Mudavadi urged diplomats to support Kenya's candidatures for international bodies, including the International Court of Justice, INTERPOL, and the IMO Council.

"We humbly request your governments' support for these candidatures as Kenya continues to champion the strengthening of multilateralism," said Mudavadi.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary also pointed to sports diplomacy as a growing tool for integration.

"Sports diplomacy is becoming increasingly important. Our joint bid with Uganda and Tanzania for AFCON 2027 is not just about football; it is about regional integration and projecting East Africa's potential to the world," he said.

He noted Kenya's leadership in the climate agenda, recalling the Africa Climate Summit and ongoing preparations for COP-30.

"Climate change is not a distant threat; it is a present danger, and we must act collectively," said Mudavadi.

Mudavadi further affirmed Kenya's

strong belief in an effective African Union.

"The ongoing AU reforms must ensure efficiency, financial sustainability, and the principle of subsidiarity. A more effective AU is key to addressing the continent's challenges," he said.

Mudavadi said Kenya's vision is inseparable from international cooperation.

"Kenya cannot do it alone. Collaboration with our partners is critical in addressing climate change, food security, migration, and peace. We invite you to walk with us as we implement our foreign policy, pursue economic growth, and advance peace and stability," he said.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Dr. Korir Sing'oei, President William Ruto's Senior Advisor on Constitutional Affairs and Human Rights, Professor Makau Mutua, the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, and Ambassador of Eritrea, Amb. Beyene Russom, UNON Director-General Zainab Hawa Bangura, and members of the diplomatic corps.

Mudavadi stressed Kenya's readiness to remain a reliable partner and a responsible global citizen.

"Kenya stands ready to work hand in hand with all partner states, in a spirit of unity and mutual respect, to build a just, inclusive, and sustainable world for the benefit of present and future generations," he said.

Mudavadi conveyed Kenya's heartfelt condolences to the Government and People of the Republic of South Africa on the passing of Amb. Mninwa Johannes Mahlangu, South Africa's High Commissioner to the Republic of Kenya, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Federal Republic of Somalia, and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON).

Worth Noting:

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Safaricom Chapa Dimba All-Stars Extend Winning Run Against Spanish Teams



By Agencies

Safaricom Chapa Dimba All Stars team continued their winning run yesterday against Spanish sides in their second friendly matches, played at the Federación Aragonesa de Fútbol and Zaragoza Playing Grounds.

The boys' team overpowered SD Valdefierro in a one-sided 6-0 victory, with Brian Aroko and Armstrong Omondi stealing the show with a brace each, while Lokonde Mwale and Felix Manguti scored a goal each.

"Whenever I approach a game, I see it as a must-win situation because all the boys are ready to work. They came here to showcase their talent, and that's why they are playing so well. Winning is not always guaranteed, but if you play good football, you increase your chances, and

that is why we have been able to win all our matches with many goals. Today's game was really good. My boys started strongly and maintained the momentum throughout. In our first match we conceded a goal, but today we made sure we didn't concede any," said Evan Oketch, Coach All Stars, Boy's Team.

On the ladies' side, the Chapa Dimba All-Stars Girls secured a 6-4 victory over hosts Zaragoza CFF, courtesy of a hat-trick from Swaumu Masungu, a brace from Hellen Mito, and a goal from Sharon Asado.

"Today's match was much better compared to our first game, which ended in a draw. We showed great improvement, and it felt good playing against the Spanish side. This is my first time playing and winning in Spain, which I would say is

a dream come true. We tried to apply what we have been taught over the last three days, such as opening play and releasing the ball quickly. It really worked for us, and that's why we managed to beat our opponents," said Sheilla Juma, Chapa Dimba All-Stars player.

The friendly matches marked the third day of the ongoing Safaricom Chapa Dimba All-Stars elite training camp in Spain. Earlier in the day, the players visited Podoactiva, the headquarters and largest podiatry and biomechanics center in Europe, located at the Walqa Technology Park in Huesca. Podoactiva specializes in diagnosing and treating foot and gait issues using advanced technology, offering services such as biomechanical studies, custom insoles, chiropody, and foot surgery for both individuals

and professional sports teams. This exposed them to different career paths in sports, outside active football.

Just like Hellen Mito and Martha Simiyu Nafula, who were selected to join the SD Huesca Senior Ladies Team for a training session on Tuesday, Derrick Oketch and Brian Aroko have also been selected to train today with SD Huesca's senior men's team. The duo will begin with a gym session alongside the senior squad before heading to the pitch for field training in the morning.

Later in the evening, the boys' team will face off against SD Huesca C in another friendly match at the Huesca Academy Grounds.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *Chelsea were charged by the Football Association yesterday with 74 alleged breaches of rules related to payments to agents between 2009 and 2022.

Chelsea Face 74 Charges Over Alleged Breaches Of Agent Rules



Chelsea's players celebrate with the trophy after the UEFA Conference League final football match between Real Betis and Chelsea FC in Wroclaw on May 28, 2025. (Photo by Sergei GAPON / AFP)

Chelsea were charged by the Football Association yesterday with 74 alleged breaches of rules related to payments to agents between 2009 and 2022. The FA said the charges primarily relate to the period between the 2010/11 and 2015/16 seasons. The Premier League club has until September 19 to respond. Russian oligarch Roman Abramovich transformed Chelsea's fortunes after buying the west London club in 2003. He sold the Blues in May 2022 to a consortium led by American investor Todd Boehly and private equity firm Clearlake Capital. Chelsea issued a statement saying the club were "pleased to confirm that its engagement with the

FA concerning matters that were self-reported by the club is now reaching a conclusion". "The club's ownership group completed its purchase of the club on May 30, 2022," the statement said. "During a thorough due diligence process prior to completion of the purchase, the ownership group became aware of potentially incomplete financial reporting concerning historical transactions and other potential breaches of FA rules. "Immediately upon the completion of the purchase, the club self-reported these matters to all relevant regulators, including the FA." Chelsea said they had "demon-

strated unprecedented transparency" and would continue working with the FA. In July 2023, Chelsea agreed a resolution with European football's governing body to hand over 10 million euros (\$11.7 million, £8.6 million) after owning up to "incomplete financial reporting" under the Abramovich regime. UEFA said it had been "proactively" approached with the information by Chelsea's new ownership group. Abramovich was sanctioned by the British government in March 2022 following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. He was described by ministers as part of Russian President Vladimir Putin's inner circle but has de-

nied financial ties to the Kremlin. In June this year the British government threatened the former Chelsea owner with legal action over the frozen £2.5 billion generated from the sale of the club. Ministers want the funds to be directed towards humanitarian purposes in Ukraine, but the oligarch insists they be used for all victims of the conflict, including in Russia. AFP

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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



A Trailblazing Educator The Dr. Cherry June Maridable Story



By: Anila Bukhari

@themkenyatimes

Dr. Cherry June Maridable is a distinguished educator, researcher, author, and Mental Health Psychologist whose dynamic career has left an indelible mark on the global stage. With a multifaceted approach that seamlessly integrates mental health advocacy and Christian ministry, Dr. Maridable has become a beacon of inspiration for students, educators, and faith communities worldwide.

A Distinguished Career

As an international speaker and renowned theologian, Dr. Maridable has achieved global recognition for her work in empowering learners and promoting academic excellence. Currently leading campus ministries in Vietnam, she has spent nearly two decades shaping the academic landscape of Ho Chi Minh City. Her esteemed positions as University Professor at the Ho Chi Minh City University of Industry and Trade and Business, Engineering, and Research Professor at the University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City underscore her commitment to education and research.

Research and Academic Interests

Dr. Maridable's research focuses on innovative areas such as English for Specific Purposes (ESP), discourse analysis, extensive reading (ER), and technology integration in language learning. Her advocacy for extensive reading has led to the development of reading programs aimed at cultivating lifelong learning habits, literacy, and critical thinking. Her scholarly pursuits also explore the impact of artificial intelligence on educational models, showcasing her forward-thinking approach to education.

Literary Contributions

As an accomplished author, Dr. Maridable has penned several books, including "Empowering Educators," "Journey of Faith," and "Luna and the Lost Star." These works reflect her dedication to professional development, spiritual growth, and engaging storytelling, inspiring readers worldwide.



Dr. Cherry June Maridable

ers worldwide.

Impact and Legacy

Dr. Maridable's contributions to academia and industry have been widely celebrated, earning her prestigious awards for her outstanding work in research, education, engineering, and Information Technology. Her commitment to fostering academic excellence, personal growth, and spiritual development has inspired countless individuals, solidifying her legacy as a transformative

leader in education and faith.

Key Achievements

- Distinguished educator, researcher, author, and Mental Health Psychologist
- International speaker and recognized theologian
- Leader of campus ministries in Vietnam
- University Professor and Business, Engineering, and Research Professor
- Published author of several books

- Recipient of prestigious awards for research, education, and engineering

Dr. Cherry June Maridable's remarkable journey serves as a testament to the power of dedication, passion, and innovation in shaping the lives of others. Her work continues to inspire and empower individuals worldwide, leaving a lasting impact on education, faith, and personal growth.

Worth Noting:

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