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Committee on Sports and Culture wants three Agencies in Ministry allocated funds

The Departmental Committee on Sports and Culture raised concern after three critical agencies in the Ministry of Gender, Culture, Arts and Heritage were not allocated money in the 2024/25 budget.

The Committee chaired by Hon. Dan Wanyama (Webuye West) noted with concern that the Kenya Copyright Board, Kenya National Library Services and Kenya Cultural Centre were allocated zero budget by the National Treasury.

"Starving the three Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies (SAGAs) of money will not only have adverse impact on implementation of their programmes but also deter them from honouring

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BUNGE Weekly

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Busy recess as Members transact key business that shapes 2024/25 National Budget



First sitting of the Mediation Committee on Division of Revenue Bill, 2024 held at Mini Chamber, County Hall on Thursday, May 23, 2024

Although the National Assembly proceeded for the long recess on Thursday, May 2, 2023, Members have largely been involved in transacting business set to define the 2024/2025 Budget..

The Budget and Appropriations Committee commenced the exercise of scrutinizing the reports of Departmental Committees on Supplementary Budget II for the Financial Year 2023/2024 as well as considering Budget Estimates for various MDAs for the 2024/2025 Financial Year.

During the exercise, Chairperson, Hon. Ndindi Nyoro (Kiharu), noted that the Government was working with a lean budget which had been reduced by Kshs.270 billion, from the initial Kshs.4.1 trillion contained in the 2024 Budget Policy Statement (PBS).

In their submissions, several Committee Chairpersons made a case for enhanced allocations for both recurrent and development expenditure, to enable full implementation of different projects that are currently underfunded.

They further proposed reallocation of funds from different Ministries and State Departments under their purview, based on the scope of the Programmes.

On the other hand, the Mediation Committee

appointed to consider the Division of Revenue Bill, 2024, commenced sittings on Thursday, May 23, 2024. The Committee is expected to break the deadlock occasioned by the National Assembly's rejection of the Senate amendments to the Bill.

During the meeting, Hon. Nyoro was unanimously elected as the Committee's Chairperson representing the National Assembly, while Deputy Speaker Senate, Sen. Murungi Kathuri (Meru) was elected as the Co-Chairperson.

The Division of Revenue Bill was passed in the National Assembly in March 2024 and subsequently referred to the Senate for consideration. It was read in the Senate for the First Time on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, and approved with amendments on Thursday, May 2, 2024.

The Senate's amendments had proposed an equitable share allocation of Kshs.415.952 billion for Financial Year 2024/25, compared to the National Assembly's proposal of Kshs.391.117 billion.

After the Bill was referred back to the National Assembly for Consideration, it was rejected, prompting the formation of an 18-Member Mediation

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MPs seek action after floods ravage several parts of the country

Two Members of Parliament are seeking action from Government agencies following flooding that has affected various parts of the country as a result of the ongoing heavy rains.

Tana River County MP, Hon. Amina Dika, who requested for a Statement from the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Blue Economy, Water and Irrigation, wants the Government to consider harvesting storm water in the County.

The MP in her request noted that the county is characterized by its arid and semi-arid conditions, which often lead to either flooding during heavy rainfall or droughts during the dry season.

Hon. Dika highlighted the need to harvest storm water for future agricultural use, noting that the move would bolster food security.

“Given the extreme weather cycles in this region, it is imperative to implement initiatives for the harvesting of storm water. This will help residents utilize the water for agricultural purposes year-round, thus bolstering food security and mitigating the perennial issue of flooding in the



Tana River County MP, Hon. Amina Dika (in yellow) at a past event. She wants the Ministry of Water and Irrigation to consider harvesting storm water in the county for future use

downstream areas”, she explained.

In his response the Committee Chairperson is expected to explain the strategies the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation have put in place to harness water from heavy rains for long-term drought mitigation.

In addition, he will also be expected to highlight the measures put in place to mitigate the effects of overflowing dams that contribute to flooding within Tana River County.

On her part, Member for West Pokot County, Hon. Rael Kasiwai wants the Ministry of Roads and Transport to urgently undertake the rehabilitation of Kapenguria- Lodwar road which has been rendered impassable by the recent floods, particularly around Lous Market.



West Pokot County MP, Hon. Rael Kasiwai during a past event in the county. She is seeking urgent rehabilitation of the Kapenguria-Lodwar Road

According to the Member, with the road which serves the northern corridor connecting to the Republic of South-Sudan rendered impassable, residents have been unable to access essential services such as healthcare and education. Trade and commerce has also been affected.

“This disruption has resulted in closure of trade and commerce centres within the area, negatively affecting the economy of the region”, she noted.

The Statement will be brought by the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure.

National Assembly is open to collaboration with counterparts, says Deputy Clerk

Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly, Mrs. Serah Kioko has said the National Assembly is keen on fostering collaboration with other legislative bodies across the region and continent to facilitate the sharing of experiences and knowledge on matters of mutual interest.

Mrs. Kioko made these remarks on Monday, May 13, 2024 during a meeting with a delegation from the Zambian Parliamentary Committee on Planning and Budgeting that was led by the Chairperson, Hon Fred Chibulo Chaatila.

She added that it is through collaboration and knowledge exchange that the House can enhance the capacity of its Members and staff.

The Deputy Clerk also pointed out that the Parliament of Kenya has had a long standing friendship with the National Assembly of Zambia and that the two institutions have many things in common especially as members of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA).

“Through collaboration and exchange of knowledge, we can collectively strengthen our institutions. I also strongly believe that through benchmarking visits such as this one, we can foster regional integration and contribute to the sustainable development of our countries,” she said.

Hon Chaatila while briefing the Deputy Clerk said that the Committee is one of the general-purpose committees in the National Assembly of Zambia and that it is responsible for the oversight of the implementation of the national budget.

The delegation was in the Country for benchmarking. During the week-long engagement, it engaged various Committees of the National Assembly and the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) in addition to a number of public finance institutions.



Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly, Mrs. Serah Kioko making her remarks when she met a delegation of the Zambian Parliamentary Committee on Planning and Budgeting led by the Chairperson, Hon Fred Chibulo Chaatila

Speaker hosts Pakistan High Commissioner, discuss matters of mutual interest



Speaker of the National Assembly, Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula (right) posing for a photo with Pakistan's High Commissioner to Kenya, H.E Ibrar Husnain Khan (left), who paid him a courtesy call at his office in the Main Parliament Building on Wednesday, May 22, 2024

Speaker of the National Assembly, Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula hosted Pakistan's High Commissioner to Kenya, H.E Ibrar Husnain Khan, who paid him a courtesy call at his office in the Main Parliament Building on Wednesday, May 22, 2024.

According to the Speaker, the meeting marked a significant moment in the diplomatic relations between Kenya and Pakistan.

The two deliberated on a number of issues of mutual interest to Kenya and Pakistan which included enhanced Parliamentary engagements between the two.

In addition, they explored avenues to strengthen cooperation not only between Kenya and Pakistan but also within the broader East African region.

"Pakistan has been a longstanding trading partner of Kenya, with our Kenyan tea being a major export to your country," said Hon. (Dr.) Wetang'ula.

He added that more farm products from Kenyan farmers can find readily available markets in Pakistan.

"Today's discussions reaffirmed our commitment to enhancing this relationship further, ensuring that both nations continue to benefit from our trade and diplomatic ties," he said.

H.E. Khan noted that Kenya is a strategic partner for Pakistan in Africa as a result there is a need to have shared goals for both countries so as to promote economic growth, cultural exchange, and regional stability.

The two agreed to continue working closely to explore new opportunities for collaboration, particularly in trade, investment, and education.

The meeting concluded with both leaders expressing optimism about the future of Kenya-Pakistan relations.

As Kenya continues to position itself as a key player in the East African region and as the gateway to East Africa, such engagements play an important role in fostering international partnerships and driving economic development.

Speaker asks ICPAK members to engage Committee on proposed tax measures



Speaker of the National Assembly, Rt. (Hon.) Moses Wetang'ula delivering his speech when he officially opened the 41st ICPAK seminar

Speaker of the National Assembly, Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula has asked members of Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya (ICPAK) to engage the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning on the proposed tax measures in the Finance Bill, 2024.

Speaking when he officially opened the 41st Annual Seminar of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya (ICPAK) themed "Accountancy Profession's Contribution to National Growth and Development", on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, Hon. Wetang'ula told members of the accounting body to guide national economic policies by conducting robust research in financial matters.

He also asked accountants to take the lead in advising the Committee on the effects of each of those proposed tax laws as part of the body's direct contribution to national growth and development.

Speaker Wetang'ula called on the professional accounting body to spearhead reforms on enhancing public resource utilization for efficiency in public service.

"This Seminar comes at a time when the nation is experiencing various economic challenges which require concerted efforts towards developing innovative solutions", noted the Speaker.

In addition, he underscored ICPAK's role in advising on financial accountability and shaping sound economic policies, particularly regarding tax laws and public debt management.

Referencing Article 201 of the Constitution, which underscores principles of public finance such as openness, accountability, and prudent use of resources, Speaker Wetang'ula stressed that accountants are crucial in ensuring these principles are upheld, in managing high public debt, inflation, and a weakening currency hence stabilizing the economy.

Acknowledging that the accounting profession is the engine that propels the country towards responsible financial management, the Speaker asked accountants to ensure that every institution works towards a trajectory that follows the principles of public finance while emphasizing the role of the professional in contributing to national growth and development.

He underscored the importance of the collaboration between the National Assembly, ICPAK, and other stakeholders to drive Kenya's economic development, with a collective goal of elevating the country to new economic heights through responsible financial management and governance.



Committee on Blue Economy, Water and Irrigation raises concern over budget cuts to SAGAS

The Departmental Committee on Blue Economy, Water and Irrigation chaired by Hon. Kangogo Bowen (Marakwet East), has raised concerns over serious budget cuts in the allocations to Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies (SAGAs) under the State Department for Blue Economy and Fisheries.

The Principal Secretary of the State Department, Ms. Betsy Njagi, appeared before the Committee on Monday, May 20, 2024 to brief Members on the budget estimates for the Financial Year 2024/25 and the Financial Year 2023/24 Supplementary II Estimates.

During the engagement, Members noted that although the FY 2023/24 Supplementary II Estimates did not propose any changes to the overall recurrent expenditure for the State Department, there was an internal adjustment of Kshs.9 million, being 100 percent reduction from the Kenya Fisheries Advisory Council (KFAC) and a re-allocated to State Department headquarters.

On the other hand, FY 2023/24 Supplementary II Estimates proposes to decrease the development expenditure of the department by Kshs.1.45 billion which will in turn affect projects like Aqua Business Development Projects under the headquarters which has a reduction of Kshs.500million equivalent to 19 percent and Kenya Marine Fisheries and Socio-Economic Development Project (KEMSFED) which has a reduction of Kshs.653 million equivalent to 18 percent.

"How is this KFAC going to survive without any budget allocations? Are you planning to disband it? How are the KEMSFED staffs going to operate without medical insurance," Hon. Bowen asked.

In response, the PS told the Committee that they were not consulted before the cuts were made and were equally surprised. He however told Members that he has written a letter to the PS Treasury asking him to



Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Blue Economy, Water and Irrigation, Hon. Kangogo Bowen (Marakwet East) chairing the meeting with the PS, Department for Blue Economy and Fisheries, Ms. Betsy Njagi on Monday, May 20, 2024 at Main Parliament Building

address the matter.

"We were equally surprised by the cuts and they were done without us being consulted. I have, however, written to the PS for the Treasury asking him to address the issue of budget cuts in relation to the staff medical scheme," Ms. Njagi said.

For the FY 2024/25 the State Department has been allocated Kshs.2.32 billion for recurrent expenditure which will be funded from Appropriations-in-Aid (AIA) of Kshs.70 million and GoK Exchequer funding of Kshs.2. 25 billion. This is a decrease of Kshs.504.7 million as compared to the expenditure estimates for FY 2023/24, and is as a result of a reduction in GoK Exchequer funding.

Committee on Defence visits KDF installations in Nakuru County

The Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations led by Hon. Fred Ikana on Thursday, May 23, 2024 conducted inspection visits to various Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) installations in Nakuru County.

The delegation which inspected the KDF Food Processing Factory, Kenyatta Barracks and Gilgil Barracks commended the factory for supplying dehydrated vegetables to KDF personnel, other security agencies, Delamare, private individuals, and friendly countries.

The lawmakers encouraged the factory to explore renewable energy options like hydropower and solar power for more affordable and efficient operations. However, they noted with concern that there was encroachment on

land belonging to Kenyatta and Gilgil barracks.

In addition, the Committee visited the National Defence University-Kenya (NDU-K), Lanet Regional Hospital, and the Lanet Military Airstrip in Lanet.

Established in 2015, NDU- K boasts 24 academic programmes, a student body of over 1,116 drawn from 15 African and Asian countries.

Members were told that the university plans to expand its programs, enhance its workforce, and forge wider partnerships.

At Lanet Regional Hospital which was established in October 2022 to serve KDF personnel, their dependents, and provide medical support during operations, Members were satisfied with the progress made and future plans to extend services to civilians on a fee-for-service basis. They commended the hospital's recent deployment of medical personnel to assist during the Mai Mahiu floods.

Finally, the Members inspected the Lanet Military Airstrip whose construction financed by the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure has stalled. While acknowledging its potential benefits, they urged the Kenya Airport Authority (KAA) which manages the facility to expedite construction.



A section of Members of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations engaging Chief of Defence Forces, Gen. Charles Kahariri (left) during the Committee's inspection visit of Lanet Regional Hospital. From right to left; Lagdera MP, Hon. Abdikadir Hussein, Baringo Central MP, Hon. Joshua Kandie and Shinyalu MP, Hon. Fred Ikana



Budget and Appropriations Committee concludes public hearings on Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure



The Budget and Appropriations Committee concluded public hearings on Estimates and Revenue Expenditure for the Financial Year 2024/25 and the Medium Term.

The exercise which took place between Wednesday, May 15 and Saturday, May 18, 2024 was undertaken in 20 counties across the country.

In Mombasa County, the Committee heard that there needs to be more rehabilitation centers to cater for the rising cases of drug and substance abuse victims, youth hubs to enable youth to learn basic self-empowerment skills, construction of hospitals for children with special needs, better lighting in the shorelines and standby emergency response on needs basis.

Residents of Kericho County called for the enhancement of the road infrastructure which is vital for transporting tea, borehole installations to alleviate water scarcity, bridges and gabions in flood-prone areas, expansion of the Technical Training Institute to accommodate more students, completion of Kericho Airport, construction of a referral hospital, and the relocation of the Kericho prison to facilitate town expansion.

Kakamega residents asked for additional budgetary allocations towards the development of infrastructure across the 12 constituencies in the county, provision of electricity connectivity, road, health and school infrastructure, water, and the revival of Mumias Sugar Factory.

Kisumu residents drawn from the seven sub-counties said their top priority is

the construction of the multi-billion-shilling Soin-Koru multipurpose dam, River Nyando.

“Construction and completion of Soin-Koru multipurpose dam will resolve almost 90 percent of the problems we face during the rainy seasons such as floods that displace people, destroy our homes and critical infrastructure in the constituencies of Muhoroni, Nyando, Nyakach, and partly Kisumu East,” said Bishop James Mbara, a resident of Muhoroni constituency.

In Isiolo County, residents called for resolution of issues of boundary and community land registration.

Residents also urged the Lawmakers to help solve the persistent water shortage, set up irrigation schemes, increase funding for the secondary schools in the area, build a rehabilitation center, establish network connectivity, develop employment programmes for the youth and provide proper facilitation for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).

In Nyamira, Members were urged to construct an ultra-modern sports complex to help combat the prevalent issue of substance abuse which has been detrimental to the community, upgrade the Nyamira Level 4 Hospital to a level six facility and allocate funds for tarmacking of roads.

Taita Taveta County residents called for more budgetary allocation for the education sector to be used in recruitment of teachers, promotion of interns and introduction of school feeding programmes in public schools.

In Vihiga County, residents called for monetary allocations towards development of roads, improvement of health facilities,

A resident of Mombasa County makes her submissions during the public participation exercise conducted by the Budget and Appropriations Committee, on May 15, 2024. Following is Hon. (Dr.) Makali Mulu (left) and Hon. Mathias Robi

electricity connection, education sector, agriculture and social protection.

Youth in Narok County sought increased funding for the government internship program, construction of more sports centers, establishment of rehabilitation centers and an increase in the National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF) kitty to support more needy students.

Kilifi residents requested for construction of a Huduma Centre for easy access to services, restoration of the cashew nut industry in Kilifi North Constituency, establishment of coconut processing industries in each constituency to address the unemployment menace among the youth, and construction of a multi-purpose social hall.

In Nairobi, residents said there is the need to allocate funds for the repair of roads damaged by recent floods. A number of residents also decried poor garbage collection services and stressed the need for reforms in healthcare funding as well as speedy disbursement of National Government Affirmative Action Fund and the National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF).

The Committee also conducted public participation in, Machakos, Kiambu, Murang'a, Baringo, Nakuru, Meru, Mandera, Homabay, and Turkana counties.



Committee on Finance considers developing regulatory framework as it concludes inquiry

The Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning has concluded an inquiry into operations of asset financing entities. The inquiry was a result of a Statement on exploitative lending practices to Boda Boda operators in the country sought by Hon Joseph Munyoro, (Kigumo)

According to the Vice Chairperson of the Committee, Hon. Benjamin Langat (Ainamoi) the Committee is considering developing a regulatory framework to harmonize the operations of these entities as well as cushion Kenyans from exploitation.

Hon. Langat said this during a meeting with the executives of digital lenders, Mogo Auto Limited and their counterparts, M-Kopa.

He pointed out that all the asset lenders who had appeared before the Committee during its probe on the matter, had no legal framework guiding their operations.

While underscoring the need to protect the operators and other customers seeking credit facilities from such entities, Hon. Langat

observed that many players had exploited the ignorance and helplessness of the operators, to make a kill from the unsuspecting clients.

“This Committee has noted with concern that there is no regulatory framework guiding the operations of asset lenders. It is unfortunate that while those licensed by the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) to operate under the DCP Regulations are charging interests at 20 percent, those operating under no regulations charge to the upwards of 100 per cent or more. We need to harmonize the operations of all these firms”, Hon. Langat stated.

During the meeting with Mogo, Committee Members Hon. Munyoro, Hon. David Mboni (Kitui Rural) and Hon. (Dr.) John Ariko (Turkana South) faulted the company for charging their customers exorbitant interests after it emerged that the interest rate for new motorcycle financing for most customers ranges from one per cent to two per cent per week.

The Company Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Mr. Domas Mineikis, however, attributed the high rate to the risk-based pricing

methodology the company uses to determine the rates for each individual customer.



Vice-Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning, Hon. Benjamin Langat (Ainamoi) during the meeting with the executives of digital lenders, Mogo Auto Limited and their counterparts, M-Kopa

Committee on Health asks Treasury to allocate resources for indigent patients care

The Departmental Committee on Health has asked the National Treasury to allocate resources in the upcoming and subsequent financial year budgets to compensate referral and specialized hospitals for providing care to indigent patients.

The Members argued that the facilities despite waving medical bills for thousands of patients are never compensated by the National Treasury.

Led by Chairperson, Hon. (Dr.) Robert Pukose (Endebess), Members pointed out that these institutions cannot be allowed to languish in huge debts due to waiving bills for patients who were either unable to pay for their own expenses or whose bills were waived for their kin.

“I urge the National Treasury to examine the budget to identify funds to support these institutions. They cannot continue waiving bills for patients while languishing in huge debts. These patients have received food and medication provided by the institutions. We must find a way to compensate them,” said Hon. (Dr.) Pukose.

He made these remarks during a meeting on Monday, May 20, 2023 to review the 2024/25 Financial Year Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure

and the 2023/24 Financial Year Supplementary Estimates II for the Ministry of Health.

According to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH), Dr. Evanson Kamuri despite being owed large amounts of money in debts, the hospital continues to provide care for indigent patients.

“We are finding alternative methods to manage the facility’s finances while continuing to provide essential services,” Dr. Kamuri said.

In addition, he told Members that until effective mechanisms for managing indigent patients are established, referral facilities will continue to face challenges.

He also pointed out that unlike private hospitals, public facilities like KNH must provide services to all Kenyans regardless of their financial situation.

“We cannot deny services to Kenyans who come to KNH, and similarly, we cannot adjust services to cost because most Kenyans cannot afford them at full price,” he said.

He pleaded with MPs to allocate resources to KNH, Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH), Kenyatta University Teaching, Referral & Research Hospital (KUTRRH) and National Spinal Injury Referral Hospital so as to bridge that gap for indigent patients.



Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Health, Hon. (Dr.) Robert Pukose following a presentation during the meeting with Ministry of Health officials to consider the 2024/25 Financial Year Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure and the 2023/24 Financial Year Supplementary Estimates II for the Ministry

Committee on Housing engages Ministry officials on appropriation of Housing Levy



Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Housing, Urban Planning and Public Works MP, Hon. Johana Ngeno chairing a meeting with officials of the Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development on the Appropriation of Housing Levy

The Departmental Committee on Housing, Urban Planning and Public Works questioned officials from the Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development regarding the appropriation of the Housing Levy, its administration and the role of implementing agencies.

During a meeting held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, Chairperson of the Committee, Hon. Johana Ngeno (Emurua Dikirr) told the Principal Secretary, State Department for Housing, Mr. Charles Hinga to direct the Board to draft budgetary proposals and a five year plan for approval.

“Instruct the Board to sit down and come up with a five-year plan

for approval to unlock most of the activities under its mandate,” said Hon. Ngeno.

In her presentation Cabinet Secretary (CS), Hon. Alice Wahome told the Committee that since the Housing Act was enacted recently, the Ministry is still awaiting the finalization of the Regulations before operationalizing the Affordable Housing Fund.

Members raised concerns regarding the budget cuts to the State Department for Public Works which has suffered a reduction of Kshs.85.55 million in the Supplementary II for FY 2023/24 and a decrease of Kshs.1 billion in the Budget Estimates for FY 2024/25 in comparison to FY 2023/24. They urged the CS to balance the funding of the two State Departments.

Members also sought answers for collapsing buildings in the country with Vice Chairperson, Hon. Rindikiri Mugambi (Buuri) asking the CS to issue a statement on the same.

“You owe Kenyans a clear explanation on collapsing buildings. You also need to tell the public what the Ministry is doing to address the menace,” said Hon. Rindikiri.

According to CS Wahome, the collapsing buildings are a result of acute shortage of technical staff.

“With the onset of devolution a number of staff from the Ministry were absorbed by county governments, coupled with natural attrition this has led to acute shortage of technical staff, creating room for unqualified persons thus compromising on the quality of building structures,” she said.

Principal Secretary for Public Works, Mr. Joel Arumonyang who is the Project Manager for the Housing Project, appealed to the Committee for support on capacity building to enable the realization of the housing agenda.

Committee on Tourism perturbed by delays in payments for KICC contractors

The Departmental Committee on Tourism and Wildlife is concerned about delayed payment of money owed to the 14 contractors who renovated the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC) last year, ahead of the international Climate Change Summit that brought together Heads of State and other delegates.

During a meeting with representatives of the contractor, the Committee chaired by Hon. Kareke Mbiuki noted that the delay in payments was unjustified.

“We are concerned that despite the contractors delivering their work before the international Summit they have not been paid all their dues,” said Hon. Mbiuki.

The contractors were led by Ms. Mercy Meria who told Members that they were subcontracted by a Chinese national identified as Mr. Wu Yi to do the facelift of the iconic building.

“We were only paid 17 percent of what was due to us by the Chinese



Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Tourism and Wildlife, Hon. Kareke Mbiuki seeking clarification on the status of payment for contractors who renovated KICC

company,” Ms. Meria said.

The contractors thanked the Committee for agreeing to give them an ear on the matter following their petition but noted that the delay in payment had subjected them to untold suffering.

“We have sleepless nights because auctioneers keep knocking on our doors,” said Mr Mohammed Munyanya, one of the contractors.

Kuresoi MP, Hon. Alfred Mutai said the Committee will not allow the said company to use its financial muscles to frustrate the local contractors.

“The work the local contractors have done can be seen. I wonder why some people somewhere are holding onto their money,” Hon. Mutai said.

Ijara MP, Hon. Ali Abdi agreed with the contractors saying they had

grievances which the Committee will address with the seriousness it deserves.

The Committee said it will invite the Cabinet Secretary (CS), Ministry of Defense Hon. Aden Duale and the managers of the company to shed light on the matter.



CLIQUE & CLICKS

A section of Members of the Public Investment Committee on Commercial Affairs and Energy taking a break from a meeting to examine the audited accounts for Kenya Pipeline Corporation (KPC). From left to right: Chairperson, Hon. David Pkosing, Hon. Sarah Korere, Hon. Marianne Kitany and Hon. Paul Kahindi. Partly hidden at the back is Hon. Ronald Karauri



Alego Usonga MP, Hon. Samuel Atandi (right, holding a microphone) receiving a written memorandum from a resident of Machakos County during the Budget and Appropriations Committee public hearings on Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Financial Year 2024/25 and the Medium Term on Wednesday, May 15, 2024



Members of the Budget and Appropriations Committee sub-committee led, by Embakasi East MP, Hon. Babu Owino (centre) and Dagoretti South MP, Hon. John Kiarie (right), heading for the Budget and Appropriations Committee public hearings on Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Financial Year 2024/25 and the Medium Term on Friday, May 17, 2024 in Nairobi



Chairperson, Budget and Appropriations Committee, Hon. Ndindi Nyoro (left) with a section of Committee Members during a meeting to receive Departmental Committee Chairs' submissions on their Supplementary II Estimates for Financial Year 2023/24 and Budget Estimates for the Financial Year 2024/25. From right to left; Hon. Naisula Lesuuda (Samburu West), Hon. Njuguna Wanjiku (Kiambaa) and Hon. Japheth Nyakundi (Kitutu Chache North)

Kibwezi West MP launches boda boda training in constituency

Kibwezi West MP, Hon. Mwengi Mutuse has launched the first phase of a comprehensive training program aimed at empowering over 600 youths from six wards in Kibwezi West Constituency who ride boda boda.

According to Hon. Mutuse, the training will focus on safe motorcycle riding, traffic rules, personal hygiene, customer care, and other crucial topics.

“Our goal is to address the challenges facing the sector by providing the youth with licenses, discipline drills, and knowledge on motorcycle riding and safety, among other related issues,” he said.

He explained that the training program is designed to counteract exploitative practices by some dealers who engage in motorcycle financing schemes that leave youths paying over three times the cost of a motorcycle.

In the Constituency, approximately 2,000 people work directly in the boda boda sector, with an average daily earning of Kshs.1, 000, translating to over Kshs.2 million in daily cash circulation.

“We must therefore mainstream this sector into the formal economy. We must provide support to make this sector less risky and more rewarding for those involved,” Hon. Mutuse emphasized



Kibwezi West MP, Hon. Mwengi Mutuse (front left) attending the launch of the first phase of a comprehensive training program aimed at empowering over 600 boda boda riders from six wards in Kibwezi West

Machakos County MP donates funds to support two women groups

Machakos County MP, Hon. Joyce Kamene has donated Kshs.800, 000 to two Women Groups to boost their economic activities.

Hon. Kamene donated two cheques of Kshs.400, 000 each from the National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF) to the Good Neighbours people with disabilities group from Matungulu and Talented Women Group in Kangundo.

The legislator congratulated the two women groups for doing a commendable job in the area. “These groups are doing a commendable job in candle making and tree nurseries. However, they have been facing financial challenges and made a request for assistance which I have delivered to them today,” she said.



Machakos County MP, Hon. Joyce Kamene (right) pose for a photo with some members of Talented Women Group after she issued them with a cheque worth Kshs.400,000 from NGAAF

Soy MP distributes seedlings for agribusiness empowerment



Soy MP, Hon. David Kiplagat (right) giving Hass avocados seedling to a farmer during the event in which he distributed 43,000 seedlings to farmers

Soy MP, Hon. David Kiplagat presided over the distribution of 43,000 seedlings, including Hass avocados, coffee, mangoes, macadamia, and Kenya seed beans, to more than 5,000 farmers across the constituency.

According to Hon. Kiplagat, this initiative is part of his empowerment agenda. The seedlings aim to improve food security, boost forest cover, and provide better income for farmers in the area.

“We are committed to empowering our people through agribusiness and diversification programs,” he said. He further explained that this initiative complements the ongoing construction of the Bakule Aggregation Center, which will enable farmers to access various agricultural services more easily.

Webuye East MP commissions Skip Poultry Centre Project

Webuye East MP, Hon. Martin Pepela last week commissioned Skip Poultry Center Project in Mikuva Area, Mihuu Ward.

In his remarks during the event, Hon. Pepela said he is embarking on a mission to ensure value addition and to ensure farmers across the constituency receive fair returns on their farm outputs through partnerships and networking.

Hon. Pepela commended the Director of the Institution, Dr. Margaret Makelo, for her noble idea, which according to the MP, will not only provide employment but also serve as a learning center for poultry keeping and farm feed production. He urged youth and women's groups to take advantage of the project to make a living.



Webuye East MP, Hon. Martin Pepela (second left) following an explanation by one of the employees of Skip Poultry Centre Limited during the commissioning

Quotes of The Week



“We are dealing with a deficit to GDP ratio of 2.9 per cent, which is the right trajectory for our economy. It is already giving the right signals to our markets. That is why we see the cost of borrowing domestically and externally coming down. Therefore, it is in the interest of this House and our country that as we consider the Budget Estimates for the next financial year, of which the Division of Revenue is a component, we should have this fact in mind. It is proper that we know that the Estimates we will consider are inelastic. We are dealing with a closed envelope. If we were to consider a figure that is higher than the Kshs.391 billion contained in the BPS, certain votes and expenditure lines must give way for the difference. It is important for this House to know some of the options on the table, if we have to increase the shareable revenue to the counties from Kshs.391 billion. The first proposal would be to slash the Road Maintenance Levy Fund (RMLF) that goes to the counties by Kshs.10 billion. That is why the Budget and Appropriations Committee rejected the amendment by the Senate. The second consideration for us to bridge the gap of Kshs.24 billion would be to slash the NG-CDF proposed allocation by Ksh10 billion. If, in the wisdom of this House, we agree with the Senate, then we will have no choice but to slash the said amounts to go to the shareable revenue to counties,”

Hon. Ndindi Nyoro (Kiharu) moving a Motion on consideration of Senate amendments to the Division of Revenue Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 14 of 2024), on Monday, May 13, 2024



“I rise to second the rejection of the proposed amendment to the National Assembly Bill No.14 of 2024 by the Senate. As already alluded to by the Chairman, the discussion is about the variance. The National Assembly proposed Ksh391 billion while the Senate is proposing Ksh415 billion. The issue is that the Ksh10 billion difference must come from somewhere. Some votes must give way and Members have already heard the proposals on the table, that this money may have to come from the RMLF or probably from the NG-CDF. The money must come from somewhere if we are to top up this amount to the figure that is being proposed by the Senate. We all understand the state of the economy. We are operating within boundaries that are set by the BPS. So, we cannot accept this proposal. Our advice as the Budget and Appropriations Committee is that we reject the proposed amendments,”

Hon. Mary Emaase (Teso South) seconding a Motion on consideration of Senate amendments to the Division of Revenue Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 14 of 2024), on Monday, May 13, 2024



“We know that the counties deal with very critical functions that go to the heart of the common people at the grassroots. They are in charge of agriculture, health, water, social services, rural roads and all those other functions that are critical. What happened in this country in the past that we must deal with and confront? It is a fact that we devolved these functions without doing proper costing. The end result is that counties were given functions which they are unable to perform and without the requisite funds to manage them. It is a historic duty of this House to right these wrongs. The only way to do it is to be reasonable or sensible and address these issues objectively. My layman mind tells me that even the Kshs.415 billion that the Senators are proposing is still way below what county governments need. In the fullness of time, we might find that the county governments require much more money. I am proposing that after this current budget cycle we agree as a House to perhaps constitute a special Committee to look at all this issue of functions and their costing. Unless we do that, we shall continue to starve the counties of the monies that they need to perform the functions that they have been accorded. Therefore, this is brainer, and I want to plead with my colleagues to support this Motion and note the amendments as proposed by the Senate,”

Hon. Opiyo Wandayi (Ugunja) contributing on a Motion on consideration of Senate amendments to the Division of Revenue Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 14 of 2024), on Monday, May 13, 2024



“Let us be honest to ourselves and to Kenyans. Some of the counties you see in this country have seen Ksh1 billion for the first time in their lives after devolution. We shall, as a House, not be used to kill devolution. We must stand up because that is the only way to save devolution. As you are aware, the Senate has only asked for an increment. They never said we remove money from the NG-CDF or the Fuel Levy. There are devolved functions that are being held here in Nairobi like health and agriculture. Why are you keeping the money in Nairobi? Why do you not send the money to the counties? That is why we have people eating fertiliser money in this country. Why can you not send the money to the counties? If Osoyo might want to know what I am saying, it is that we must send more money to the counties. If you want to deal with corruption at the counties, deal with it. Jail governors; jail chief officers and all kinds of people. But you cannot deny the people of Kenya who live in the counties money in the pretext of corruption. There is more corruption in the national Government than in the counties, but nobody speaks about it,”

Hon. Junet Mohamed (Suna East) contributing on a Motion on consideration of Senate amendments to the Division of Revenue Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 14 of 2024), on Monday, May 13, 2024

Busy recess as Members transact key business that shapes 2024/25 National Budget (Continued)

► FROM PAGE 1

Committee with nine Members from each House to negotiate a new version of the Bill that is acceptable to both Houses.

As the Committee sought to balance the demands, Hon. Nyoro reminded Members to consider resource constraints and prioritize funding crucial aspects of the economy.

“Our resource envelope as a country is tight. We therefore have a delicate task to reallocate money from some functions and add to the county allocation,” he said.

As these Committees deliberate on how to share resources, the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning has commenced public participation on the Finance Bill, 2024. The Committee has since invited the members of the public to submit their written views on the Bill.

The Bill which was published on Thursday, May 9, 2024 is set to spell out the revenue raising measures for the National Treasury to fund the budget.

Committee on Sports and Culture wants three Agencies in Ministry allocated funds (Continued)

► FROM PAGE 1

Mandatory contractual obligations such as payment of rent and staff gratuity,” Hon. Wanyama said.

Speaking during a meeting with Ministry officials led by the Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Aisha Jumwa and Principal Secretary, Ms. Umami Bashir to consider the 2024/25 budget estimates, Hon. Wanyama said the Agencies will be crippled without funding.

Hon. Jumwa and the PS pleaded for the Committee’s intervention in ensuring the Agencies are allocated funds noting that the Ministry has all the time not been getting sufficient funding from the Treasury.

“I have inherited a Ministry that has always been starved of money. We cannot be effective in service delivery if taps for resources in the Ministry are always dry,” Hon. Jumwa told the Committee.

She singled out the Kenya Copyright Board which she noted is critical to coordinating legislation on copyright and related rights that protected those in the industry from exploitation adding that failure to fund them would derail their work.



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
13TH PARLIAMENT- THIRD SESSION (2024)
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

IN THE MATTER OF ARTICLE 118(1) (b) OF THE CONSTITUTION
AND

IN THE MATTER OF CONSIDERATION BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF:

1. THE PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATION MANAGEMENT BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 17 OF 2024);
2. THE BREASTFEEDING MOTHERS BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 8 OF 2024);
3. THE UNIVERSITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 16 OF 2024)

INVITATION TO SUBMIT MEMORANDA

WHEREAS, Article 118(1) (b) of the Constitution requires Parliament to facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other business of Parliament and its Committees and National Assembly Standing Order 127(3) requires House Committees considering Bills to facilitate public participation;

AND WHEREAS, the Public Relations and Communication Management Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 17 of 2024); the Breastfeeding Mothers Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 8 of 2024); the Universities (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 16 of 2024); were Read a First Time on 25th April 2024 and 2nd May 2024 respectively and thereafter referred to the relevant Departmental Committees for consideration and reporting back to the House;

IT IS NOTIFIED THAT:

1. **The Public Relations and Communication Management Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 17 of 2024)** is a Bill sponsored by the **Leader of Majority, Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah, EGH, MP** that seeks to provide a legal framework for the promotion, development and regulation of the public relations and communication management profession. The Bill seeks to promote professionalism within the public relations and communication management sector and to provide mechanisms for training, registration and licensing.
2. **The Breastfeeding Mothers Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 8 of 2024)** is a Bill sponsored by the **Hon. Sabina Chege, MP** that seeks to provide a legal framework for mothers who may wish to breastfeed their children at their work place. The Bill provides for the right of a mother to breastfeed at the work place and requires employers to provide breastfeeding employees with lactation rooms to either breastfeed or express milk for their children.
3. **The Universities (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 16 of 2024)** is a Bill sponsored by the **Hon. Yaa Owen Baya, MP** that seeks to amend the Universities Act 2012 to allow the President to appoint Chancellors of Public Universities devoid of current provisions of the Act. The current procedures in the second schedule of the Act discourages persons from applying for the position of Chancellor as it is long and time consuming especially for targeted persons who are normally eminent personalities in the country who may not have time to go through the entire procedure

NOW THEREFORE, in compliance with Article 118(1)(b) of the Constitution and Standing Order 127(3), the Clerk of the National Assembly hereby invites the public and stakeholders to submit memoranda on the Bills to the respective Departmental Committees as listed below:

NO.	BILL	COMMITTEE
1.	The Public Relations and Communication Management Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 17 of 2024)	Communication, Information and Innovation
2.	The Breastfeeding Mothers Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 8 of 2024)	Social Protection
3.	The Universities (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 16 of 2024)	Education

Copies of the Bill are available at the National Assembly Table Office, Main Parliament Buildings and on the parliamentary website www.parliament.go.ke/the-national-assembly/house-business/bills.

The memoranda may be forwarded to the **Clerk of the National Assembly, P.O. Box 41842-00100, Nairobi**; hand-delivered to the **Office of the Clerk, Main Parliament Buildings, Nairobi** or emailed to ena@parliament.go.ke to be received on or before **Monday 3rd June, 2024 at 5.00 p.m.**

S. NJOROGE
CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
21st May 2024

"For the Welfare of Society and the just Government of the People"



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Your input will help us improve and better serve you.



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT—THIRD SESSION (2024)

IN THE MATTER OF ARTICLE 118 (1)(b) OF THE CONSTITUTION
AND

IN THE MATTER OF AN INQUIRY INTO THE CONDUCT OF THE BRITISH ARMY TRAINING UNIT IN KENYA (BATUK)

NOTIFICATION OF AND INVITATION TO PUBLIC HEARINGS

WHEREAS, Article 118(1) (b) of the Constitution requires Parliament to facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other business of Parliament and its Committees;

AND WHEREAS, Article 95 of the Constitution mandates the National Assembly to represent the people, deliberate on issues of concern to the people and exercise oversight over state organs while the National Government under the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution is mandated to oversee national defence and the use of national defence services;

FURTHER WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Articles 95(2) and 125 of the Constitution and Standing Order 216 (5) (a) of the National Assembly Standing Orders, the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations is inquiring into the conduct of the British Army Training Unit in Kenya (BATUK) since its inception to date under the following terms of reference:-

- a) **To investigate the alleged ethical breaches** related to ethical misconduct, including corruption, fraud, discrimination, abuse of power, and other unethical behaviour;
- b) **To investigate the allegations of Human Rights violations**, including mistreatment, torture, unlawful detention, killings or any other violations of the internationally recognised human rights standards;
- c) **To assess BATUK's operational integrity**, especially safety protocols, compliance with legal requirements and adherence to established military standards;

IT IS NOTIFIED that in compliance with Article 118(1) (b) of the Constitution, the Committee shall undertake public hearings from **28th to 30th May 2024** in Laikipia and Samburu Counties as per the below schedule:-

S/No.	DATE	COUNTY	VENUE	TIME
1.	28 th May 2024	Laikipia	Laikipia East, Jua Kali Centre	10.00 am
			Nanyuki Town, Nanyuki Social Hall	2.30 pm
3.	29 th May 2024	Samburu	Archers Post, Archers Post Chief's Camp	10.30 am
4.	30 th May 2024	Laikipia	Doldol, Kiwanja Ndege Centre	10.30 am

The public is hereby invited to attend and submit written memoranda and/or oral views on the specific terms of reference of the inquiry as outlined and on any other relevant issue.

CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 21st May 2024

"For the Welfare of Society and the Just Government of the People"



A PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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