



BUNGE Weekly

Issue No. 123

Monday, November 24th, 2025 to Monday, December 1st, 2025

PLENARY | GENERAL | COMMITTEES | CLIQUE & CLICKS | QUOTES



President Ruto outlines key achievements in his 3rd State of the Nation Address

President William Samoei Ruto has cast a spotlight on the progress his administration has made over the last three years, outlining major reforms and development projects commissioned during his tenure. He highlighted these developments when he addressed a joint-sitting of Parliament during the 13th State of the Nation Address delivered on Thursday November 20, 2025.

The President highlighted flagship initiatives, including the Affordable Housing Programme, the construction of modern markets, expansion of the digital ecosystem, the Hustler Fund, fertiliser subsidies, and growth in Kenya's export footprint. He described these as national projects that are "realistic, grounded, and entirely within reach."

Reflecting on the economic challenges his administration inherited in 2022—including a weakening shilling, inflation peaking at 9.6 percent, low foreign reserves, and declining investor confidence—President

Ruto said the government had undertaken bold measures to stabilise the economy.

"Within that context, we acted. We restored fiscal discipline, eliminated wasteful subsidies, rationalised public expenditure, strengthened revenue collection, and placed our economy on a path of recovery and sustainability," he said.

In the health sector, President Ruto highlighted reforms under the Social Health Authority (SHA), now covering 27 million Kenyans—more than triple the number previously enrolled under NHIF. He reassured cancer patients that the government is committed to easing their treatment burden.

"SHA will enhance the Cancer Benefits Package from the current KES. 550,000 to KES. 800,000, effective December 1, 2025, ensuring patients access uninterrupted, quality care without financial hardship," he announced.

On education, the President stated that funding had increased significantly, with the national education budget

▶ ON PAGE 2

KEY POINTS FROM PRESIDENT RUTO'S ADDRESS:

- ▶ **Economic Turnaround:** Claimed success in stabilizing an inherited weak economy through fiscal discipline, ending subsidies, and rationalizing spending.
- ▶ **Flagship Programs:** Highlighted the Affordable Housing Programme, Hustler Fund, fertiliser subsidies, and digital expansion as key achievements.
- ▶ **Healthcare Expansion:** Announced the Social Health Authority (SHA) now covers 27 million Kenyans and will increase cancer benefits to KES. 800,000 from December 2025.
- ▶ **Education & Research Boost:** Increased the education budget to over KES. 700 billion and raised the allocation for the National Research Fund to 2% of GDP.
- ▶ **Major Infrastructure Plans:** Unveiled ambitious plans for 50 mega dams, 2,500 km of dualled highways, and 28,000 km of tarmacked roads.
- ▶ **Railway & Ports Modernization:** Confirmed the SGR extension from Naivasha to Kisumu will start in 2026 and plans to revitalize Kenya Airways and modernize key ports.

GENERAL

Parliament holds candlelight tribute for staff member Nancy Atieno Ogola ... ▶

PAGE 3



COMMITTEES' ROUND-UP

Budget Committee interrogates Budget execution for FY 2024/25 and ... ▶

PAGE 8



PLENARY

Colonial-era statute repealed, state corporations management reforms... ▶

PAGE 4



SCAN TO READ E-COPY

President Ruto outlines key achievements in his 3rd State of the Nation Address (Continued)

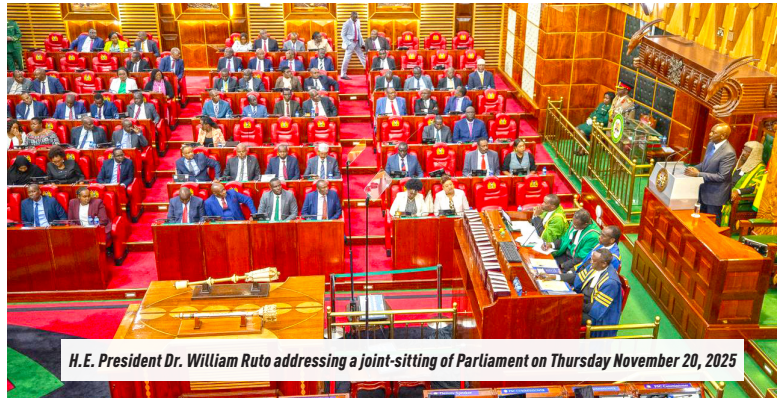
➤ **FROM PG 1** rising from KES. 490 billion in 2021 to over KES. 700 billion in 2025, while the allocation to the National Research Fund grew from 0.8 per cent to 2 per cent of the GDP. He pledged to mobilise domestic and private-sector investment to strengthen research and innovation.

The President further unveiled an ambitious water and infrastructure plan that includes constructing 50 mega dams, 200 medium and small dams, and thousands of micro dams to boost water storage and bring 2.5

million acres under irrigation within seven years.

A comprehensive network of 2,500 kilometres of highways is set for dualling, alongside tarmacking 28,000 kilometres of roads. He added that extending the Standard Gauge Railway from Naivasha to Kisumu and eventually to Malaba will begin in January 2026.

President Ruto also promised to revitalise Kenya Airways and modernise JKIA, Mombasa Port and Lamu Port through public-private partnerships.



H.E. President Dr. William Ruto addressing a joint-sitting of Parliament on Thursday November 20, 2025

General ▶

Three-Judge Bench to hear National Assembly bid to dismiss Petition on PFM act Amendments

A three-judge Bench of the High Court has been constituted to hear the National Assembly's application seeking the dismissal of a petition challenging amendments to the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act passed in 2014.

The Bench, appointed by the Chief Justice, will be presided over by Justice Francis Gikonyo, sitting alongside Lady Justice Roseline Aburili and Justice Moses Ado Otieno.

The application arises from a petition filed by Busia Senator Okiya Omtatah and eight others, who are questioning the legality of the Government's borrowing between the 2014/2015 and 2024/2025 financial years. The petition lists 23 respondents including the National Assembly, former President Uhuru Kenyatta, the Attorney General, the Cabinet Secretary for Treasury and National Planning, the Controller of Budget, the Central Bank of Kenya, and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

In its affidavit, the National Assembly argues that the petition is premature, stating that the petitioners bypassed constitutionally prescribed avenues for raising concerns on public finance matters.

The Assembly notes that the Constitution and the Public Audit Act empower the Auditor-General to investigate public accounts upon receiving complaints. It contends that the petitioners did not lodge any request or complaint with the Auditor-General before moving to court.

Additionally, the National Assembly points to Article 119 of the Constitution, which allows any citizen to petition Parliament to request investigations or audits of public funds—an avenue the petitioners did not pursue.

"By sidestepping these mechanisms, the petitioners deny the Court the benefit of the constitutional dispute-resolution framework," the Assembly states, arguing that this strips the Court of jurisdiction.

The Assembly further highlights that Parliament has already acted on concerns related to public debt. It cites the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) report tabled on November 30, 2023, which recommended a forensic audit of Kenya's public debt portfolio. The Auditor-General subsequently initiated the audit in line with this recommendation.

Given this ongoing process, the Assembly maintains that the issues raised in the petition are already under examination by constitutionally mandated bodies.

The three-judge Bench is expected to issue directions on the hearing of the matter in due course.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA IN THE HIGH COURT OF KENYA AT NAIROBI MILIMANI LAW COURTS CONSTITUTION & HUMAN RIGHTS DIVISION PETITION NO. E216 OF 2025	
OKIYA OMTATAH OKOITI.....	1 ST PETITIONER
NYAKINA WYCLIFFE GISEBE.....	2 ND PETITIONER
ELIUD KARAINA MATINDI.....	3 RD PETITIONER
BERNARD MUCIRI MUCHERE.....	4 TH PETITIONER
DR. MAGARE-GIKENYI BENJAMIN.....	5 TH PETITIONER
KELVIN SAIOTI NAIKENI.....	6 TH PETITIONER
OLIVE NAINIKEI AMBROSE.....	7 TH PETITIONER
DR. DANCAN OTIENO ONYANGO.....	8 TH PETITIONER
NAOMI NYAKERARIO MISATI.....	9 TH PETITIONER
VERSUS	
H. E. (FORMER) PRESIDENT UHURU MUGAI KENYATTA.....	1 ST RESPONDENT
THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE.....	2 ND RESPONDENT/APPLICANT
THE CABINET SECRETARY FOR NATIONAL TREASURY.....	3 RD RESPONDENT/APPLICANT
THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY FOR NATIONAL TREASURY.....	4 TH RESPONDENT/APPLICANT
THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, PUBLIC DEBT MANAGEMENT OFFICE.....	5 TH RESPONDENT/APPLICANT
THE HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL.....	6 TH RESPONDENT/APPLICANT
THE CONTROLLER OF BUDGET.....	7 TH RESPONDENT
THE AUDITOR GENERAL.....	8 TH RESPONDENT
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.....	9 TH RESPONDENT
FORMER CONTROLLER OF BUDGET AGNES ODHAMBO.....	10 TH RESPONDENT
FORMER AUDITOR GENERAL.....	

Female MPs root for more support from partners to champion conservation agenda



KEWOPA Chairperson Hon Leah Sankaire (Kajiado) makes her remarks during a Parliamentary Policy Dialogue on gender-responsive biodiversity and natural resource governance at a Nairobi hotel on Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Development partners have been urged to enhance their support for female lawmakers to strengthen their advocacy for gender-responsive biodiversity and natural resource governance.

Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA) Chairperson Hon. Leah Sankaire (Kajiado) stated that female legislators are uniquely positioned to drive the conservation agenda, as the issue directly affects them and their constituents.

"Women Parliamentarians serve as key agents of change in society. We are better equipped to champion environmental resilience together with the women at the grassroots, and all we need is support," said Hon. Sankaire.

Women & children Most Affected by Climate Vulnerabilities ▶

She noted that those most affected by the adverse effects of climate change are women and children, pointing out that their daily lives and safety depend on access to land, water, forests, and other natural resources.

Hon Sankaire made the remarks during a Parliamentary Policy Dialogue on gender-responsive biodiversity and natural resource governance.

The consultative engagement was

convened by the Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA Kenya) with support from the World-Wide Fund for Nature – Kenya.

"It is not a secret that women play key roles in conservation through water management, restoring degraded land, protecting traditional knowledge, and sustaining community-based practices," she added.

Call to Mainstream Gender in Environmental Policy ▶ y

The KEWOPA chairperson advocated for embedding gender considerations in all stages of environmental policy, including land use, climate adaptation, conservation, and community resource rights.

She emphasized that Ministries, Departments and Agencies must track their gender-equity commitments to ensure that women-led communities are not left behind.

Dialogue to Strengthen Parliamentary Capacity ▶

The dialogue aimed to build the capacity of Members of Parliament to incorporate gender considerations into legislation, oversight, and resource allocation in line with Target 23 of the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Parliamentary staff urged to embrace continuous learning as 62 officers graduate

Staff working in the Parliament of Kenya have been urged to embrace continuous learning to strengthen their professional skills and improve service delivery.

Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) Commissioner Hon. Rachel Ameso said continuous learning is essential for all officers.

“The legislative landscape continues to evolve, shaped by emerging governance challenges, public expectations, and technological advancements,” said Hon Ameso, who the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST) Board Chairperson

“We must remain open to new ideas, embrace new knowledge, and uphold accountability, transparency, and service to the people of Kenya,” added the Commissioner.

She made the remarks during the graduation of

62 officers who completed the PSC Mandatory Course (II), the third cohort of the programme designed for staff at PSC Scales 6 and 7.

Hon. Ameso congratulated the graduands and encouraged them to apply their training in their roles. She revealed that PSC courses will soon be fully integrated into the Commission’s schemes of service.

“The Mandatory Courses bridge the gap between theory and real-world practice. They equip participants with essential skills, ignite critical thinking, and promote an innovative, problem-solving mindset needed in the legislature,” she said.

Commissioners Hon. Johnson Muthama and Hon Faith Gitau supported her call, urging staff to embrace new knowledge for their career growth and their own good.

Senate Clerk and PSC Secretary Jeremiah

Nyengye reaffirmed the Commission’s commitment to professional development, noting the importance of training in supporting parliamentary work.

CPST Executive Director Prof. Nyokabi Kamau emphasised the Centre’s role in delivering quality training for Parliament, County Assemblies, and other stakeholders.

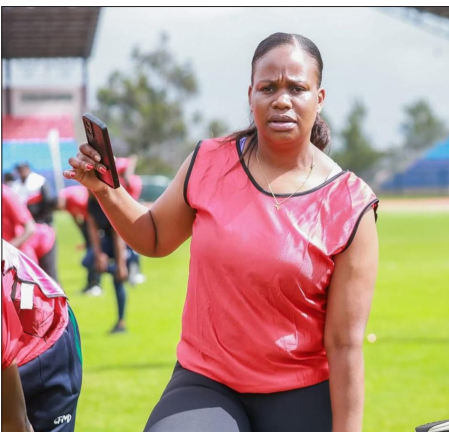
She outlined CPST’s progress and encouraged participants to pursue further programmes.

The Foundations of Legislative Practice and Procedure course was first piloted in December 2019 in Naivasha with 35 officers.

Cohort II was delivered in December 2023 at Machakos University with 37 officers. Cohort III adopted a hybrid model, combining two weeks of online instruction with in-person examinations at the Machakos Technical Institute for the Blind.



Parliament holds candlelight tribute for staff member Nancy Atieno Ogola



Parliamentary staff, Members of Parliament and Senators on Tuesday morning gathered at Nyayo Stadium’s basketball arena for an emotional candlelight tribute in honor of Ms. Nancy Atieno Ogola, a National Assembly staffer who died on November 15. Ms. Ogola, a Telephone Assistant in the Human Resource Development Department, was remembered as a cheerful, dependable colleague whose vibrancy was felt both in the office and on the sports field.

The ceremony, lit by dozens of candles, brought together MPs, Senators, sports officials and staff who described her death as a painful loss to the Parliamentary family. Prayers and hymns set a solemn mood as colleagues reflected on her life and service. Senator Veronica paid glowing tribute, describing Ms. Ogola as “a remarkable young woman whose positive energy inspired everyone around her.” She added that Ogola embodied the true spirit of public service dedicated at work and committed to excellence in sports. Hon.

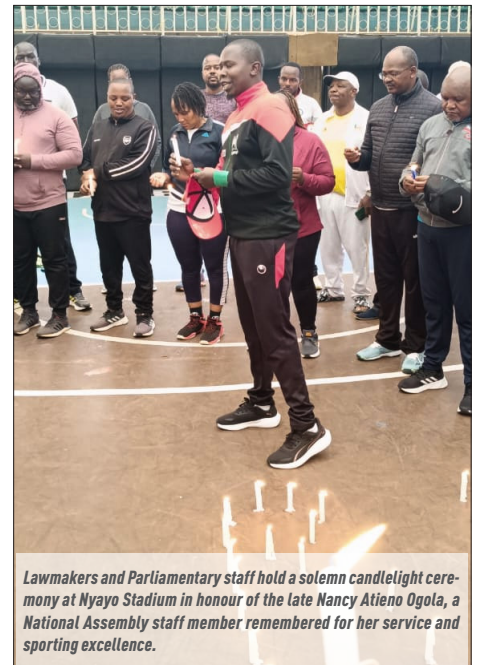


Eli Letepila hailed her as one of the most disciplined athletes within Parliament’s sporting teams. “Nancy never missed training. She played with heart and courage. We have lost a true team player,” he said, calling for enhanced wellness checks for staff. Her athletic talent shone across volleyball, basketball, netball, football and tug of war, earning her admiration from sports officials including Nairobi Volleyball Branch Chair Moses Mbuthia, who described her as “a gem in the volleyball community.”

Colleagues from the HR department remembered her as warm, helpful and ever ready to assist, saying her absence leaves a major gap both professionally and socially.

MPs including Hon. Eli Letepila, Hon. John Waluke, Hon. Raphael Wanjala, Hon. Oku Kaunya, Hon. Elsie Muhanda and Hon. Pauline were among those present to honor her memory.

As preparations for her final send-off continue, Parliament has pledged full support to the family, remembering Ms. Ogola as a dedicated public servant, gifted athlete and cherished friend.



Lawmakers and Parliamentary staff hold a solemn candlelight ceremony at Nyayo Stadium in honour of the late Nancy Atieno Ogola, a National Assembly staff member remembered for her service and sporting excellence.

Celebrating distinguished service: House pays tribute to retiring Chief Serjeant-at-Arms, Aloisio Lekulo



The Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula (centre) poses for a group photo with the family of Mr. Lekulo during the farewell dinner held in his honour.

The National Assembly on Thursday bade a heartfelt farewell to Chief Serjeant-at-Arms, Mr. Aloisio Lekulo, as he prepared to retire today after 21 years of distinguished service.

His final official duty was honourably serving as the Mace Bearer during the State of the Nation Address by H.E. President William Samoei Ruto on Thursday, November 20, 2025.

Special Recognition by the Speaker during SoTNA ▶

Mr. Lekulo's impending departure was highlighted earlier when the Speaker of the National Assembly, art. Hon. Speaker (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula,

gave him a special mention during the convocation at the commencement of the State of the Nation Address, to a thunderous foot thumping by MPs—a characteristic manner of expressing approval by the lawmakers.

"He has risen through the ranks as a high school teacher, as a District Officer and competitively employed in parliament in 2006 in the sergeant's office, rising to become the Chief-Sergeant-at-Arms," Speaker Wetang'ula said.

"This special mention of this gallant son of Kenya is for the reason that he comes from the smallest community in our nation, the Elmolo who according to records of the last census total 500 people in number, he added.

Farewell Dinner and Tributes ▶

On Thursday November 20, 2025, the National Assembly hosted a farewell dinner in his honour.

The event was graced by Speaker Wetang'ula, Leader of Majority Party, Hon. Kimani Ichung'wa, Speaker Emeritus Hon. Francis Ole Kaparo, Parliamentary Service Commissioners Sen. Joyce Korir and Hon. Rachael Ameso, Members of Parliament led by Laisamis lawmaker, Mr. Lekulo's home MP, Hon. Joseph Lekuton, and senior staff.

During the event, Mr. Lekulo's diligence and commitment to service were highly celebrated.

To commemorate his distinguished service, the Speaker presented him with a copy of the Hansard recordings from the Tuesday, November 18, 2025, sitting, which captured the tributes conveyed by Members of the House to him.

Further recognizing his contributions, the Clerk of the Senate and Secretary to the Parliamentary Service Commission, Mr. Jeremiah Nyegenye, presented him with a Certificate of Excellent Service on behalf of the Commission.

Invoking the provisions of Standing Order No. 1, Speaker Wetang'ula then directed the Parliamentary Service Commission to accord Mr. Lekulo lifetime access to Parliament and Parliamentary facilities.

This is a rare and significant honour, typically reserved only for former Members of Parliament.

Mr. Lekulo was accompanied to the event by his wife and children, as well as several professionals from his Elmolo community, who lauded him for honouring their community through his excellent service delivery.

Legacy of Professionalism and Leadership
Mr. Lekulo will be remembered for his leadership and commitment to the professionalisation of the Serjeant-at-Arms service. He spearheaded the initiative to register officers with prestigious international associations, including the Commonwealth Serjeant-At-Arms Association and the National Legislative Society of Serjeant-at-Arms Association-America (NLSSA), thereby benchmarking the service against global best practices.

He also lent his administrative acumen as a Member of the National Assembly Board of Management (BOM), contributing to critical policy formulations.

Career in Public Service ▶

Prior to joining the Parliamentary Service, Mr. Lekulo held a robust background in public service for a decade. He served as a District Officer in various stations, including Isiolo, Trans-Nzoia, and Laikipia.

His public service career also included a four-year tenure as a teacher under the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) at Garbatullah High School from 1992, where he was described as "an inspiration to many young boys in the bandit-prone region and encouraged many to pursue education."

During the afternoon sitting on Tuesday, November 18, Members of the National Assembly also expressed profound gratitude for the retiring officer's contributions. They wished him well in his retirement.

PLENARY ▶

Colonial-era statute repealed, state corporations management reforms unlocked as President Ruto assents to four Bills



H.E. President Dr. William Ruto assents four Bills into law on Friday November 21, 2025 at State House Nairobi

A colonial-era statute has been repealed after President William Ruto assented to the Provisional Collection of Taxes and Duties (Repeal) Bill on Friday, November 21, 2025.

The Provisional Collection of Taxes and Duties (Repeal) Bill, 2025, sponsored by the Leader of the Majority Party in the National Assembly, Hon. Kimani Ichung'wa, was introduced on September 18, 2025, and passed on November 18, 2025, without amendments, signaling consensus among lawmakers to remove the obsolete statute.

The law's repeal was long overdue, as courts had previously declared it unconstitutional, affirming that all taxes must be imposed through properly enacted laws.

The President acknowledged this move as a significant reform to the Kenya tax regime.

"The Provisional Collection of Taxes and Duties (Repeal) Act expunges from the laws of Kenya the 1929 statute that previously allowed Parliament to introduce taxes before full legislation was enacted," noted the President.

Additional Bills Signed ▶

During the occasion at State House Nairobi, attended by Parliamentary leadership led by the Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula, the Head of State also signed into law the: County Governments Additional Allocations Bill, 2025; Capital Markets (Amendment) Bill, 2025 and the Government-Owned Enterprises Bill, 2025

Increased County Funding ▶

The County Governments Additional Allocations Act

provides an extra KES 70.6 billion to devolved units in the 2025/2026 financial year. KES9.98 billion from the National Government's share of revenue is directed toward settling salary arrears for doctors and Community Health Promoters, and completing County Aggregation and Industrial Parks. Counties are also set to receive KES 57.7 billion from development partners for various development projects.

Capital Markets and Governance Reforms ▶

The Capital Markets (Amendment) Act is set to modernise the regulatory framework for licensing capital market intermediaries, aiming to revitalise the sector, improve efficiency, and enhance the ease of doing business. It also removes shareholding limits to attract greater investment in regulated institutions.

Reforms in state corporations ▶

The signing into law of the Government-Owned Enterprises Bill is another landmark reform aimed at introducing best governance practices in the management of State corporations. The new law seeks far-reaching reforms in the management of commercially viable government enterprises, including the appointment of independent board Members through a transparent and competitive process, among other progressive measures which President Ruto noted were geared towards strengthening accountability.

"These four Bills which now form part of the laws of Kenya, reinforce our commitment to sound governance, transparency, and effective service delivery", he stated

COMMITTEES' ROUND-UP ▶

PIC-SSAA opens full inquiry into the Kenya Veterinary Vaccines Production Institute land-grab scandal



The Members of the Public Investments Committee on Social Services Administration and Agriculture Hon. Nabuin Ekwo (left), Hon. Bishop Kosgei (centre) and Hon. Michael Wambugu (right) during the meeting with the KEVEVAPI management on audit queries at Parliament Buildings.



The Vice-chairperson of the Public Investments Committee on Social Services Administration and Agriculture Hon. Caleb Amisi (left) chairing the meeting with KEVEVAPI management on audit queries.

In a session chaired by the Committee's Vice-Chairperson Hon. Caleb Amisi, the Committee on Wednesday, interrogated KEVEVAPI Managing Director Dr. Alex Sabuni and his management team over historical audit queries and a decades-long land dispute that has seen the institution lose nearly two-thirds of its original land allocation.

"This matter is deeper than what we are discussing here," Hon. Amisi warned. "It is explosive, and we must know who authorized the subdivision and who signed off on the demarcation of the mother title."

The Committee Members were informed that KEVEVAPI was initially allocated 93.3 hectares. However, in December 1994, a former managing

director allegedly sought consent to subdivide the land into nine parcels without approval from the parent ministry or the National Treasury. The parcels were subsequently disposed of to private developers and, despite follow-up efforts, had not been recovered by June 30, 2017.

The inquiry also revealed a similar pattern of irregularity at KEVEVAPI's Embakasi land, originally 93.02 hectares. Legislators described the shrinkage of the land — from 77.7 hectares, then to 45.2 hectares, and now to 29.05 hectares — as a "well-planned game" executed over many years.

"This is a straightforward case of abuse of office," Hon. Owino said. "The board cannot escape accountability for what transpired."

Dr. Sabuni maintained that KEVEVAPI never sanctioned any subdivision or sale of its land.

He told the Committee that the institution had filed multiple complaints with the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) and pursued legal action based on findings by the Ndung'u Commission Report, which listed beneficiaries of the irregular allocations.

The original title deed, management noted, had been surrendered to Kenya Commercial Bank as collateral for a KES. 30 million loan facility, but the land was never used to settle the debt.

KEVEVAPI is currently battling four court cases over the remaining 29.05 hectares in Embakasi. "We have already won three of the cases," Dr. Sabuni said. "The latest ruling is now on appeal."

Lands Committee roots for upgrade of infrastructure at the Kenya Survey HQ

There is an urgent need to upgrade the equipment and other infrastructure at the Kenya Survey Headquarters for better and more efficient land adjudication across the Country, the Departmental Committee on lands has said.

This emerged during a visit by Members of the Departmental Committee on lands visit to the Kenya Survey headquarters, in line with its mandate on Budget Implementation Oversight.

The delegation, led by Kirinyaga Central MP Hon. Gachoki Gitari visited the Kenya Survey Headquarters where there inquired into among other matters the

status of digital mapping, integration with the Ardhii Sasa system.

The MPs also sought to review the facility's ICT capacity and as well as on status of survey equipment and satellite imagery systems.

During the visit, the Committee noted that there was urgent need for upgrade of key infrastructure at the facility to enhance land data security.

Among the facilities which the Committee noted needed immediate upgrade was the surveying and digital mapping equipment, and the land recordkeeping and backup system.

The MPs also recommended the need for



Members of the Lands Committee are showed one of the survey equipments during the inspection visit



A delegation of the Lands Committee led by Kirinyaga Central MP Hon. Gachoki Gitari (Central) interact with officers from the Kenya Survey Headquarters during the inspection visit.

immediate upgrade of equipment at the facility's printing press where most of the existing ones are old dating back to the early 90s, with most of the crucial equipment not working.

The MPs noted that the survey aspect in land adjudication was crucial and that the recommended upgrades were critical in enhancing land reforms.

"Clearly there is need for purchase of additional equipment across most of the departments we have visited. Survey work is very central to land matters and the state of this place is not good," noted Hon. Gitari.

The Committee is due to draft a Report on the visit for tabling in the House.

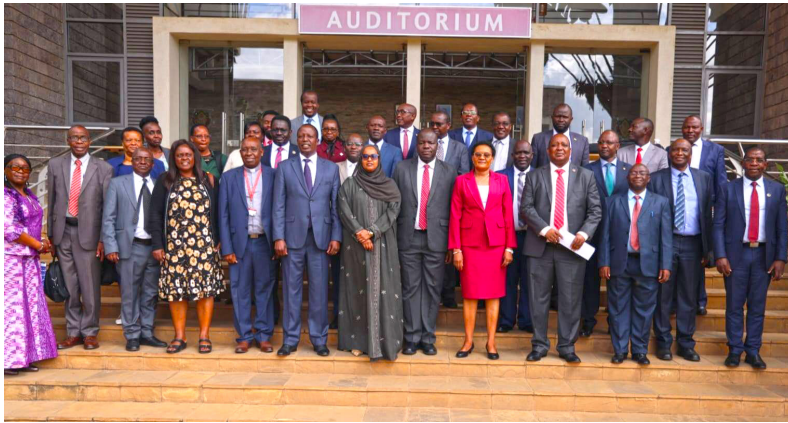
Private Universities Association seeks Education Committee's intervention to address pending bills

The National Assembly Committee on Education, chaired by Tinderet MP, Hon. Julius Melly, on Tuesday engaged the Kenya Association of Private Universities (KAPU) led by Very Rev. Prof. Stephen Mbugua, the Vice Chancellor of the Catholic University of Eastern Africa, to discuss challenges facing private universities, including pending government bills, and sustainability of university programs.

During the session, Hon. Melly questioned the authenticity of student population data provided by KAPU, urging the association to work closely with the Ministry of Education and the Commission for University Education (CUE) to validate their figures.

KAPU acknowledged that the government owes private universities approximately KES. 48.8 billion, accumulated since 2016, when the government began placing students in private universities through the Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service (KUCCPS).

"We have submitted details of the pending bills to the National Treasury, the Universities Fund, and the



Members of the Committee on Education in a group photo with Vice Chancellors of various Private Universities, Members of the Kenya Association of Private Universities.

Ministry of Education. The Ministry has previously acknowledged the debt and we have also presented our case to the Pending Bills Committee of the National Treasury," said Prof. Mbugua.

He noted that before 2016, private universities were financially stable as they admitted students directly, but the KUCCPS placement policy change and delayed disbursements of Differentiated Unit Cost (DUC) funds had left many institutions struggling.

"While the government undertook to meet 80%

of the tuition fee for government-sponsored students, the disbursement process has not been smooth, forcing universities to finance learning from their reserves," he added.

Baringo North MP, Hon. Joshua Makilap, emphasized the need for data verification, particularly on government-sponsored students placed in private universities since 2016. "We need accurate data. How many students have graduated, how many have deferred, and how many dropped out? This information is crucial as we look into funding and pending bills," he said.

On financial sustainability, Siaya County MP, Hon. Dr. Christine Odhiambo questioned

the association on efforts to address pending bills and generate alternative sources of income.

KAPU called on the Ministry and CUE to review program approval charges, arguing that the current fee of KES. 320,000 per program is unsustainable, especially for universities offering over 100 programs.

On policy, the Committee directed KAPU to submit amendments to the Universities (Amendment) Bill to strengthen the higher education sector.

PAC probes irregular Kenya Airways loans and unapproved Telkom buyout in Treasury audit review



Garissa County Woman Representative Hon. Amina Udgoon, Hon. Siyad, the vice-chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), during a session with officials from the State Department of National Treasury

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) has raised serious concerns over billions of shillings advanced to Kenya Airways, the controversial buyout of Telkom Kenya shares, and wasteful expenditure linked to delayed settlement of court awards, following its scrutiny of the National Treasury's audit for the financial year ending June 2024.

Chaired by Vice Chairperson and Garissa County Woman Representative Hon. Amina Udgoon Hon. Siyad, the Committee interrogated audit findings by the Auditor-General pointing to possible loss of public

funds, misuse of Article 223, and breaches of financial management laws.

"We are dealing with very serious questions of accountability," Hon. Siyad told Treasury officials. "These are huge sums of public money and Kenyans deserve clear answers."

According to the audit, the Treasury transferred KES. 10 billion to Kenya Airways in 2022/2023 as an on-lent loan, raising the airline's loan exposure to KES. 41.27 billion disbursed between 2019 and 2022. PAC heard that portions of these loans were issued before formal agreements were signed—an issue that shocked Members.

"This Committee finds it unacceptable that billions were released without signed loan agreements," Hon. Siyad said. "How does the Treasury justify lending public money informally?"

Accrued interest and penalties later pushed the total accumulated loan to KES. 43.048 billion by December 2022. Additionally, the Government paid KES. 12.326 billion on behalf of the airline to settle a defaulted foreign loan, including KES. 7.8 billion spent under Article 223.

An Auditor-General representative told the Committee they found no documentation showing how the Treasury plans to recover the funds. "There is no repayment plan, no security, and no formal agreement," the representative said. As a result, the audit concluded that the recoverability of the KES. 55.37 billion owed by Kenya Airways "could not be confirmed."

PAC also questioned the Treasury's expenditure of KES. 6.196 billion to acquire a 60% stake in Telkom Kenya under Article 223. Despite the Treasury seeking retrospective approval, Members pointed out that Parliament never approved the spending.

"This is a clear breach of the law," Funyula MP Dr. Wilberforce Oundo said. "You cannot spend over six billion shillings and then expect Parliament to rubber-stamp it afterwards."

The Auditor-General further stated that the legality and propriety of the entire transaction could not be authenticated without parliamentary approval.

The audit additionally revealed avoidable expenditure amounting to KES. 97.27 million in interest and legal fees after the Ministry failed to promptly settle a contractor's claim. A debt of KES. 235.6 million eventually rose to KES. 327.19 million following a court award.

"This is negligence," Hon. Siyad said. "Taxpayers should not pay for delays that could have been avoided."

Hon. Siyad directed Treasury officials to table all documentation on the loans and Article 223 expenditures, warning: "If this paperwork does not exist, someone must take responsibility."

PIC Governance and Education warns institutions; audit review meetings attendance and financial accountability are mandatory



Public Investments Committee on Governance and Education Chairperson, Hon. Wanami Wamboka delivers his closing remarks during the meeting in Parliament

The Public Investments Committee on Governance and Education, chaired by Hon. Wanami Wamboka (Bumula), has asserted that when institutions are summoned for audit review sessions, their leadership must appear, and where former officials are specifically required, they too must be present.

The Committee stressed that attendance is an obligation, not an option, ensuring that any financial irregularities, management gaps or suspected wrongdoing are examined thoroughly and dealt with under the law.

Institutions Ordered to Return with Full Teams ▶

Deliberating on audit queries raised by the Auditor-General, the Committee guided institutions to account for public funds and to present clear, time-bound remedial plans. Several institutions were rescheduled to return with key personnel and documentation. Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University and Jeremiah Nyagah National Polytechnic were both directed to appear on December 3, 2025, with the latter asked to bring the former principal given the short tenure of the current head. Kenya Utalii College was also told to present senior leadership on December 3, 2025.

Eldoret Polytechnic Told to Mobilise Its Own Revenue ▶

On Eldoret National Polytechnic, Members investigated reports of a stalled library project whose contractor had been terminated after funds failed to materialize. MPs urged management to stop waiting for capitation and instead mobilize revenue, including leveraging the institution's 104 acres. Management was further instructed to

submit a concrete action plan on generation of revenue.

Meeting Deferred Over Poor Preparedness ▶

The School Equipment Production Unit's engagement was postponed after the team attended without essential personnel, underscoring the Committee's insistence on preparedness.

UON Enterprises Unit Queried Over Procurement Irregularities ▶

The University of Nairobi Enterprises and Services was queried over procurement irregularities after seven officers instead of five, were appointed to a tender panel and a contract was allegedly awarded to an unqualified bidder.

Tambach TTC Cited for Persistent Governance Failures ▶

Members reminded management that legal frameworks require value and compliance, not merely the lowest bid. Tambach Teachers Training College was singled out for persistent governance problems, including a three-year adverse audit opinion and an unacceptable ethnic imbalance among staff. The Chair recommended referral to the Head of Public Service where warranted.

Oversight Aimed at Protecting Public Resources ▶

Hon. Wamboka reiterated that parliamentary oversight is not theatrical,

"It is a mechanism to protect public resources, to demand accountability and to ensure those who manage public institutions answer for lapses. Institutions must comply when summoned. Where misconduct or fraud is established, the law will take its course."

Public Debt and Privatization Committee engages economic experts on the FY 2024/25 Annual Debt Management Report

Kenya's public debt continues to rise despite a drop in the debt-to-GDP ratio, the Public Debt and Privatization Committee was told in a session chaired by Balambala MP, Hon. Abdi Shurie.

While presenting this perspective to the Committee, the Chief Financial Officer of the Kenya Bankers Association, Mr. Kennedy Mutisya, reported that the total public and publicly guaranteed (PPG) debt rose to KES 10.582 billion by the end of FY 2023/24, an increase of KES 303.2 billion driven largely by ongoing borrowing pressures.

He noted that although the debt-to-GDP ratio fell from 72.0% to 65.7%, the absolute debt burden continues to grow.

"Kenya's total public and publicly guaranteed (PPG) debt stock stood at KES 10,582.0 billion at the end of FY 2023/24, which is an increase of KES 303.2 billion (2.9%) from the previous fiscal year. The public debt-to-GDP ratio declined from 72.0% in FY 2022/23 to 65.7% in FY 2023/24, mainly due to the appreciation of the Kenya Shilling," said Mr. Mutisya.

He further explained that the upward trajectory has persisted into 2025 due to a combination of structural and external pressures. By the end of the fourth quarter of FY 2024/25, the fiscal deficit had reached KES 1.011 billion, equivalent to 5.8% of GDP.

Mr. Mutisya warned that high and rising public debt is exerting significant macroeconomic pressure on the country, cautioning that:

"High and rising public debt continues to impose significant macroeconomic constraints on

Kenya's economy. Fiscal space has narrowed sharply, with debt service absorbing 48% of the FY 2024/25 budget and leaving limited room for development expenditure. Heavy reliance on domestic borrowing has contributed to elevated interest rates, crowding out both public investment and private sector credit by making borrowing more expensive."

Representatives from the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA), led by Programme Officer Mr. Raphael Muya, also made submissions to the Committee. They observed discrepancies in the National Treasury's reported debt figures, citing findings from their own research.

Committee Members questioned the source and credibility of the data, seeking clarification on how the institute concluded that the Treasury had misreported debt figures.

The IEA responded that all their analysis was based on data extracted from the National Treasury's Statistical Annex Report, which provided the information required for their assessment.

In its recommendations, the IEA emphasized the need for a forward-looking fiscal strategy to anchor economic recovery, noting that the country must redefine its growth path.

"There should be a clear roadmap from the National Treasury to showcase the possibility of achieving a GDP growth rate of over 7%, with the National Assembly playing its critical role of oversight. This could include approving and implementing balanced budgets and/or rescheduling or restructuring debt for the next five years," said Mr. Muya.



Hon. Abdi Shurie, Chairperson of the Public Debt and Privatization Committee while chairing the session with Kenya Bankers Association

Budget Committee interrogates budget execution for FY 2024/25, seeks clarity on E-GPS implementation

Members of Budget & Appropriations Committee chaired by Hon. Samuel Atandi have demanded greater accountability in government spending, following concerns on low absorption of funds in the 1st quarter of Financial Year 2025/26, implementation of the Budget for FY 2025/26, ballooning pending Bills and procurement delays owing to the electronic Government Procurement Systems (e-GPS).

Appearing before the Committee, the Deputy Controller of Budget (COB), FCPA Stephen Masha furnished Members of BAC with audit findings of the 1st quarter of the current financial year Budget, noting that the challenges in the adoption of the new procurement system have contributed to the low absorption of funds.

"The e-GPS has posed challenges to the procurement process due to a learning curve, resistance from some users, integration issues with internal systems and vendor-related problems," he said.

Members of the Committee raised concerns on the approval of Article 223 requests by the Controller of Budget, exemptions granted to some government entities from the use of e-GPS framework and ballooning pending Bills by Counties despite full disbursement of funds by the National Treasury.

The Members of Parliament also sought clarity on whether the office of the Controller of Budget releases Development funds to the Recurrent vote and the operational coordination or rather twinning between the National Treasury, Central Bank and COB.

In response, the Deputy Controller of Budget defended the twinning, noting it has eliminated voiding of transactions and safeguarded diversification of funds. On County Pending Bills management by Counties, he attributed the delays to the late disbursement of final tranches, saying Counties don't get enough time to process and pay vendors.

Comparing the external and internal



The Chairperson for Budget & Appropriations Committee Hon. Samuel Atandi during a meeting with various stakeholders on Budget implementation for quarter 1 FY 2025/26

Debt borrowing, FCPA Masha acknowledged the negative impact of domestic borrowing on account of driving out local businesses but on the contrary urged the Committee to seek clarification from the National Treasury on why the country has embarked on domestic borrowing.

He however called on joint efforts in tackling the sustainability of the Public Debt to ensure that the Debt levels don't go high to avoid the scenario of Debt default, which would have serious consequences to the economy.

The Deputy COB recommended better planning and prioritisation of essential services during Budget formulation and implementation alignment of expenditures with operational realities and ensuring that borrowing supports implementation-ready development projects with measurable economic returns.

The Committee will incorporate the submissions from the office of the Controller of Budget into their report alongside those from the National Treasury and the office of the Auditor General to inform oversight and ensure accountability and alignment of public funds.



The Deputy Controller of Budget, FCPA Stephen Masha (left) in company of officers from the Office of the Controller of Budget presenting key findings on the implementation of FY 2024/25 and first quarter of 2025/26 before Budget & Appropriations Committee

Quotes of The Week



Mr. Lekulo has been instrumental in enhancing specialised staff training, including VIP training, which has equipped personnel with the skills needed to address emerging trends in institutional security and events management. These competencies have significantly strengthened security within the precincts of Parliament, improved estate management, and supported the seamless coordination of orderly proceedings in plenary. On behalf of the National Assembly, the Parliamentary Service Commission, and indeed on my own behalf, I wish to thank Mr. Lekulo for his close to two decades of service to Parliament and to wish him well in his future endeavours"



Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula - Speaker of the National Assembly on the floor of the House on Tuesday, November 18th 2025



The legislative landscape continues to evolve, shaped by emerging governance challenges, public expectations, and technological advancements. We must remain open to new ideas, embrace new knowledge, and uphold accountability, transparency, and service to the people of Kenya."



Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST) Board Chairperson during the graduation of Parliamentary officers



Northern Kenya was largely absent from the President's speech, we don't have roads, we have cattle trucks that we are using and they get cut off whenever it rains, in Wajir South, the section between Modogashe and Samatar has not started, the part is critical because it links three Counties that make up North-Eastern, the Lorian swamp passes there and it affects transport whenever it rains".



Hon. Mohammed Adow, MP, Wajir South



The speech covered most of what the president has achieved but Northern Kenya was really missing out in his achievements, he mentioned several road major infrastructures in terms of dual roads, none was from Northern Kenya, he mentioned several dams none is from Northern Kenya, he talked of agriculture in terms of coffee, tea, sugarcane and all other sectors of agriculture but when it came to livestock there was nothing substantial, we disagree with the figures he gave, we are in protest, we need reconsideration by the Government",



Hon. Yakub Salah, MP, Fafi.

BUNGE MASHINANI ▶

MWATATE CONSTITUENCY

Mheshimiwa Shake azindua kisima cha maji kata ya Bura eneo bunge la Mwatate

Mbunge Wa Mwatate Mheshimiwa Peter Shake kwa ushirikiano na Coast Water Works Development Agency (CWWDA) ikiongozwa na Mwenyekiti wa Bodi Dkt. Daniel Katama Mwaringa pamoja na Mkuurugenzi Judith Wabosha, MCA wa Kata ya Chawia Mheshimiwa Mabishi Kirubai na wadau wengine muhimu, wameweza kukamilisha uzinduzi wa kisima cha Mwarondo kilichopo Kijiji cha Sechu Kata ya Chawia na kisima cha Kwa-Mwazambo kilichopo Nyolo Kata ya Bura katika eneo bunge la Mwatate.

Miradi hii italeti suluhu la kudumu kwa maelfu ya familia ambazo kwa muda mrefu zimekuwa zikikosa maji safi na salama. Kupitia visima hivi, wakaazi wa maeneo hayo wataweza kupata maji kwa matumizi ya nyumbani, kufanikisha kilimo, kukuza ufugaji wa mifugo na

kuboresha afya na hali ya maisha ya jamii kwa ujumla.

"Usambazaji wa Maji huenda sio jukumu la moja kwa moja la Mbunge, lakini uongozi wa kweli ni kwenda zaidi ya majukumu rasmi ili kutimiza mahitaji ya wananchi".

Kwa sababu pale huduma inapofanywa kwa moyo, mipaka ya vyeo haijalishi, kinachojalisha ni maendeleo kwa wananchi." Mheshimiwa Shake alisema



Mbunge Wa Mwatate Mheshimiwa Peter Shake akizindua maji kisima cha Mwarondo kilichopo Kijiji cha Sechu Kata ya Chawia na kisima cha Kwa-Mwazambo kilichopo Nyolo Kata ya Bura katika eneo bunge la Mwatate.

TURBO CONSTITUENCY

Turbo MP hosts CS Cooperatives to assess Nyota initiative progress among youths



Turbo MP Hon. Janet Sitienei (fifth from right) and CS Cooperative Ministry Hon. Wycliffe Oparanya pose for a photograph with youths and other government officers after a meeting.

Turbo MP Hon. Janet Sitienei hosted a team from Cooperative ministry led by Cabinet Secretary Hon. Wycliffe Oparanya to assess the progress of the National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) Program's four-day Business Development Services (BDS) training for Lot one, Cohort one.

Hon Sitienei welcomed government's decision to empower youths through Nyota noting that the initiative is designed to equip young entrepreneurs with essential business management and financial skills that form the

foundation of sustainable enterprise development.

The leaders held engagement with vibrant youths who conveyed both optimism and determination about the programme, noting that the training will help bridge gaps in skills and opportunity for them.

"The energy and ideas expressed today underscore a broader truth, that Kenya's youth are eager to build meaningful livelihoods, but need structured support and access to capital, mentorship, and market linkages," said Hon Sitienei

WUNDANYI CONSTITUENCY

Hon. Danson Mwashako Unveils New Classrooms and Learning Facilities in Werugha

Hon. Danson Mwashako has announced major progress in the improvement of education facilities across Werugha Ward, marking a significant milestone in ongoing efforts to enhance learning environments for local students.

Following recent updates on the construction of new classrooms at Nyache Primary School, the MP confirmed the completion of a modern block of four classrooms at Msangarinyi Primary School and the full renovation of classrooms at Paranga Primary School.

Hon. Mwashako revealed that his



team, together with engineers from the Department of Public Works, had officially handed over certificates of practical completion to the respective schools.

He extended his gratitude to the Project Management Committees, contractors, and community Members for their exceptional dedication, noting that the projects were completed within an impressive 70 days.

In addition to the new infrastructure, 190 brand-new lockers and chairs have been delivered to local schools



New Infrastructure, improved facilities and new furniture commission by Hon. Danson Mwashako

KIBRA CONSTITUENCY

Kibra residents benefit from a week long free medical service from Spain based doctors



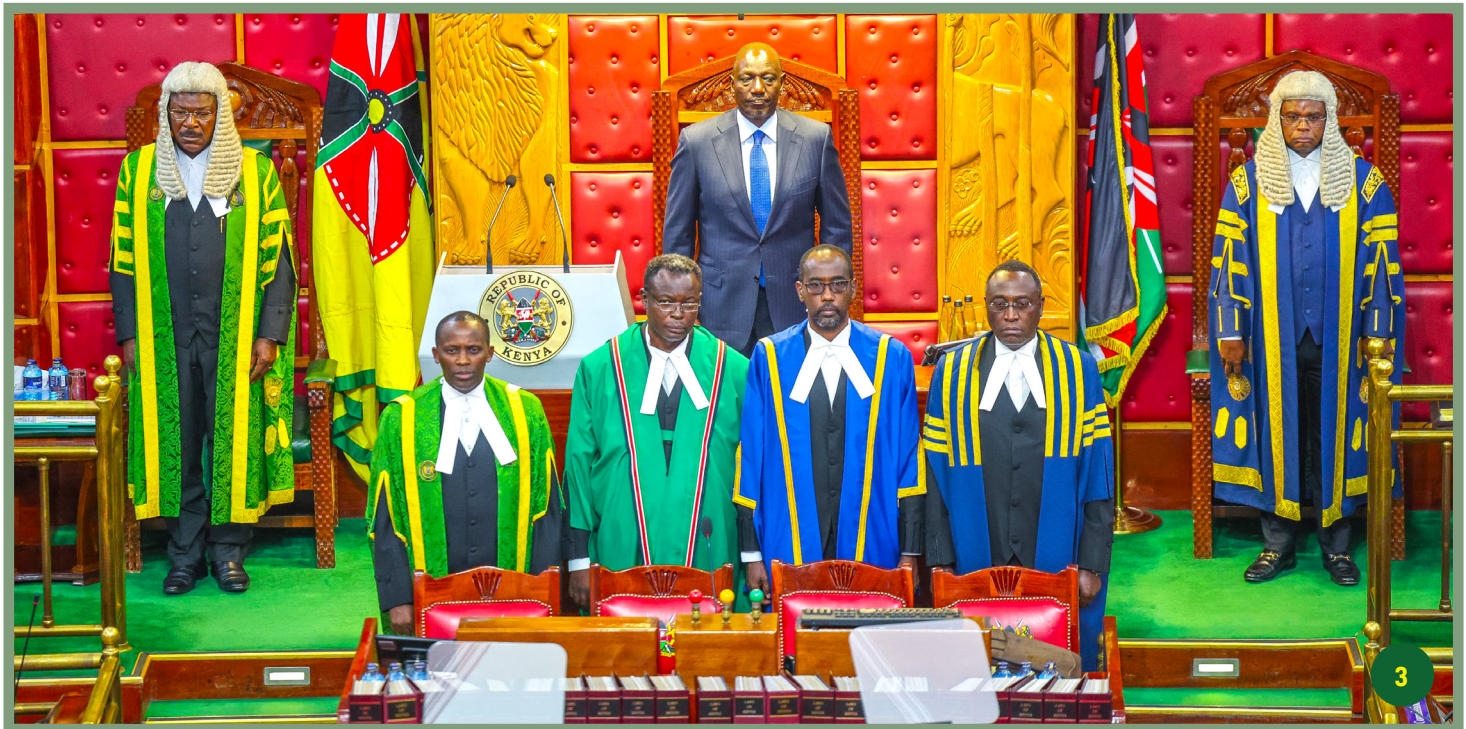
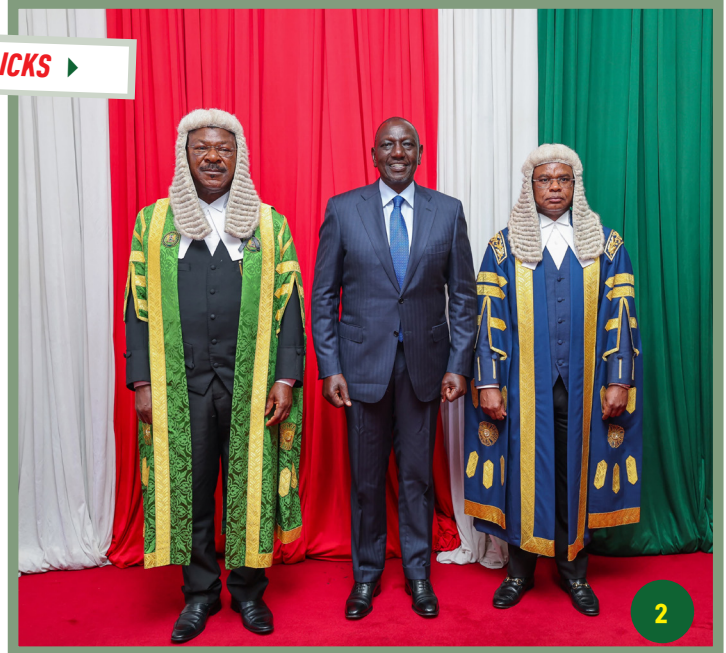
Residents of Kibra constituency benefitted from free medical services provided by a group of volunteer medics from the Spain based Youcanyole medical institution.

The medical camp organised by area MP Hon Peter Orero saw the doctors attend to hundreds of patients drawn from the constituency and who could not access medical attention from other facilities due to lack of money.

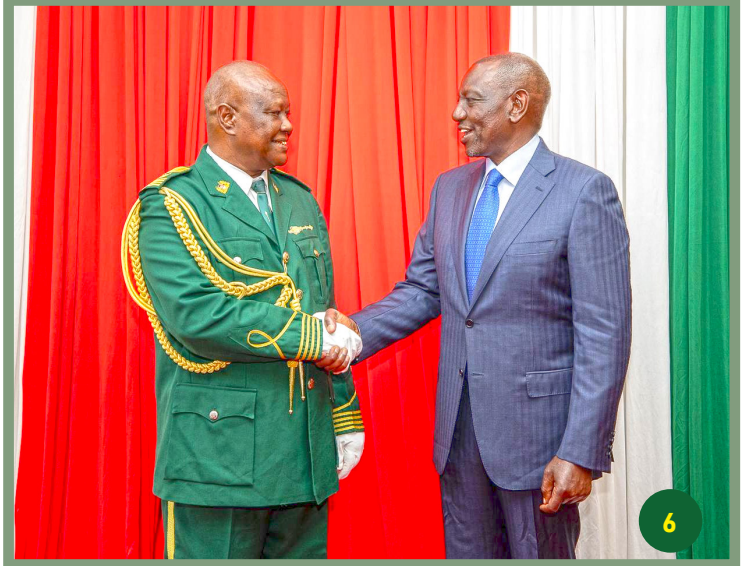
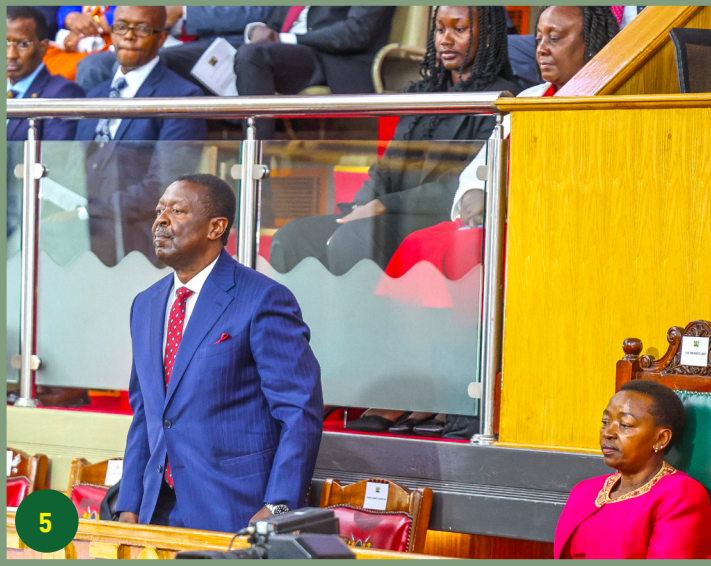
"I want to take this opportunity to thank my friends from Youcanyole medical institution for honouring my

invitation to come and provide free medical services to my people, what we have witnessed from the medical camp is that our people are in dire need of medical care because poverty hindered them from accessing the services from other health facilities," said Hon Orero.

He noted that he also discussed with leadership of the medical team on ways of collaborating to strengthen medical volunteer partnership for the slum dwellers alongside deployment of their medics to beef up the existing medical personnel in public hospitals in the constituency.



1. H.E. President William Ruto inspects a Guard of Honour mounted by the 19th Battalion, Kenya Rifles of the Kenya Army.
2. H.E. President William Ruto (centre), Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Moses Wetang'ula, Speaker of the Senate, Hon. Amason Kingi.
3. H.E. President William Ruto (centre), Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Moses Wetang'ula, Speaker of the Senate, Hon. Amason Kingi, the Clerk of the National Assembly, Mr. Samuel Njoroge, the Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly, Mr. Jeremiah Ndombi, Deputy Clerk of the Senate, Mr. Mohammed Ali, the Clerk of the Senate, Mr. Jeremiah Nyegenye
4. Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court, Lady Justice Martha Koome (center) accompanied by senior Judges during the 13th State of the Nation Address in the National Assembly Chamber



5. H.E First Lady, Mrs. Racheal Ruto and the Prime.Cabinet Secretary, H.E. Musalia Mudavadi in the National Assembly Chamber during the 2025 State of the Nation Address
6. H.E. President William Ruto congratulates the retiring Chief Sergeant-At-Arms, Mr. Lekulo
7. H.E. President William Ruto (Right), Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Moses Wetang'ula (Left) and Retiring Chief Sergeant-At-Arms, Mr. Lekulo having a chat.
8. Mr. Lekulo receives a copy of the Hansard for Tuesday November 18 containing the tributes of MPs to Mr. Lekulo for his distinguished 20- year service to Parliament





A PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

© Copyright 2025

TEAM LEADER:

Joe Okong'o

EDITORIAL TEAM:

James Macharia, Winnie Kiziah, Yaqub Ahmed, Ivy Maritim, Ambrose Nguti,
Rinha Saineye, Derrick Kathurima, Kevin Ojiambo, Mercy Mayende

CONTRIBUTORS:

Noelle Chelagat, Peter Atsiaya, Wilson Mwangi, Hillary Mageka, Daniel Psirmoi, Brian Ojamaa

Bunge Weekly is Designed & Printed by
KENYA LITERATURE BUREAU
Publishers and Printers



SCAN TO READ E-COPY >



Facebook- Parliament of Kenya



Instagram-nassembly_ke



X- @NAssemblyKE and @NACCommitteeKE