MPs push faster delivery of housing projects as modern markets transform Coastal Towns On PG 5

BUNGE Weekly

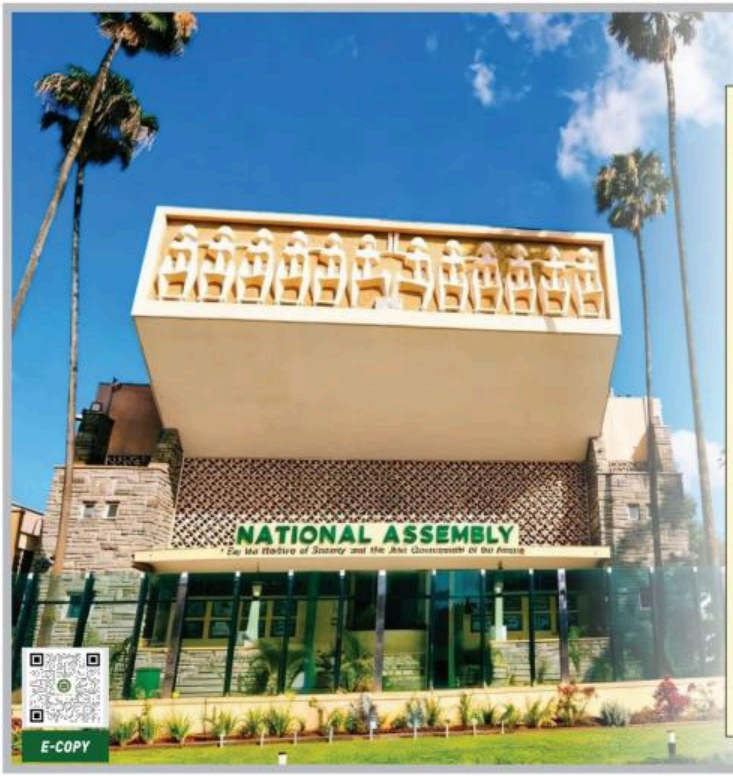
Issue No. 137

PLENARY • COMMITTEES • GENERAL • CLIQUE & CLICKS • BUNGE MASHINANI • WEEK IN HISTORY

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Monday, May 11th, 2026 to Monday, May 18th, 2026

National Assembly to hold public hearings on 2026/27 Budget Estimates across 16 counties



STORY ON PAGE 7

KEY FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF THE 2026/27 KENYA BUDGET ESTIMATES

- **Total Expenditure & Net Lending:** Ksh 4.785 trillion proposed for the 2026/27 financial year.
- **Education & Healthcare:** Ksh 2,077.0 billion allocated for sustained investment in education and acceleration of Universal Health Coverage (UHC).
- **Ministerial Development Expenditure (to reduce cost of doing business):** Ksh 749.0 billion targeting transport, energy, and water sectors.
- **Devolution / County Governments:** Ksh 495.5 billion total, including an equitable share of Ksh 420.0 billion.
- **Fiscal Focus Areas** (under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda - BETA):
  - **Job creation**
  - **Productivity**
  - **Economic inclusion**
  - **Support for key economic sectors**
- **Key Deadlines:** Public hearings run May 13-15, 2026 across 16 counties; written memoranda due by May 25, 2026.

FKF assures House Committee of AFCON readiness amid internal wrangles

The Departmental Committee on Sports and Culture has been assured of Kenya's preparedness to host the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON).

Appearing before the Committee chaired by Webuye West MP, Hon. Dan Wanyama the Football Kenya Federation (FKF) President, Mr. Hussein Mohammed, expressed confidence in the country's progress, stating that preparations are well underway and aligned with the requirements.

"I am pleased to report that Kenya's preparations for the 2027 AFCON are in excellent shape, proceeding on schedule and fully aligned with CAF's requirements and expectations," he said.

"Kenya is ready. Our infrastructure is on track, our Local Organising Committee is operational, our Hosting Agreement is executed, and our planning is fully integrated with our co-hosts," further guaranteed Mr. Mohammed

The Committee heard that the country has met the requirements of the Confederation of African Football, particularly in emergency response and healthcare systems through the development of a CAF-certified contingency management framework

The framework integrates government emergency services, CAF protocols, and venue operations into a

STORY ON BACK PAGE



Committee chairperson Hon. Dan Wanyama

PLENARY

House celebrates marathon hero Sabastian Sawe as MPs root for continued sports investment

Members of the National Assembly honoured Kenya's marathon star Sabastian Sawe following his victory at this year's London Marathon, where he clocked an impressive 1:59:30.

His performance saw him break the two-hour barrier in a competitive race, a feat considered among the greatest milestones in marathon history.

Lawmakers described his achievement as a proud moment for the country and a strong reminder of Kenya's continued dominance in long-distance running.

The House praised the 31-year-old athlete for his discipline, determination, and consistency, describing his victory as a win for Kenya and Africa. MPs said his achievement continues to inspire young athletes and strengthens Kenya's global reputation in athletics. Many also urged the government to prioritize investment in sports infrastructure to nurture emerging talent.

Elgeyo Marakwet County MP, Hon. Caroline Ng'elechei initiated the debate when she rose under Standing Order 259D(2)(b) to inform the House of Sawe's achievement and called upon her colleagues to recognize the athlete for his stunning performance.

"I notify the House of the outstanding achievement of world record athlete Mr Sabastian Sawe. He made history after clocking a sub-two-hour time in the London 2026 Marathon, setting a new record of 1:59:30. This extraordinary achievement firmly places him among the world's elite athletes," said Hon. Ng'elechei.

She added that Sawe's rise is driven by discipline, determination, and a strong commitment to Kenya's long distance running legacy, observing that he serves as a role model for the youth and should be emulated.

Majority Leader Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah congratulated Sawe for his performance, saying he had placed Kenya on the world map. He noted that the governments investment in sports facilities such as Talanta Stadium will support talent development and improve sports.

"What he has done is no mean feat. Breaking a world record is something that deserves the recognition he has received," said Hon. Ichung'wah

However, MPs noted that more needs to be done to ensure there is equal distribution of sports facilities across the country.



Elgeyo Marakwet County MP, Hon. Caroline Ng'elechei making her contribution on the extraordinary achievement of London Marathon star, Sabastian Sawe.

Hon. Patrick Makau said some counties still lack basic infrastructure, while Hon. Wilberforce Oundo called for stronger grassroots talent identification. Hon. Caleb Mule proposed the establishment of at least one sports academy in every constituency to fully unlock national sporting potential.

Speaker Wetang'ula visits recovering Kwanza MP Ferdinand Wanyonyi after India treatment



Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula could not hide his joy when he visited Kwanza MP Hon. Ferdinand Wanyonyi at his Nairobi home, where he is recuperating after being discharged from an Indian hospital following several months of specialized treatment

National Assembly Speaker the Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula paid a courtesy visit on Thursday to recovering Kwanza Member of Parliament Hon. Ferdinand Wanyonyi at his Nairobi residence, following the legislator's several months of specialised medical treatment.

The visit, marked by messages of unity, solidarity, and hope, underscored the close ties within Kenya's parliamentary leadership as Wanyonyi continues his recovery from active public duty.

the National Assembly fraternity remained firmly behind the Kwanza lawmaker throughout his healing journey, expressing confidence that he would soon return to continue serving his constituents and the nation.

"On behalf of the National Assembly family, we expressed our goodwill and wished him a speedy and full recovery," the Speaker said.

Hon. Wetang'ula also reassured residents of Kwanza Constituency that ongoing development projects and public programmes initiated by the MP remain on course despite his temporary absence.

He noted that key initiatives championed by Wanyonyi continue to receive close oversight to ensure that service delivery and development momentum are sustained until he is fully recovered.

The Speaker described Parliament as an enduring institution founded not only on legislative duty but also on mutual support in moments of strength and vulnerability.

The visit brought together several senior leaders, including Bungoma Senator Wafula Wakoli, his nominated counterpart, Connie Wakwabubi, and the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to UN-Habitat, Susan Nakhumicha, reflecting a broader show of support for the veteran legislator.

Hon. Wanyonyi, a political figure in Western Kenya, has been away from active Parliamentary engagements in recent months while undergoing treatment abroad, with leaders expressing optimism about his steady recovery.

Early this year, the speaker visited the ailing legislator at KIMS Health Care Management Limited in Kerala, India, where he was undergoing rehabilitation and treatment.

lator's return from India, where he underwent

Speaking after the meeting, Wetang'ula said

Parliament bids farewell to two officers taking up other national duties



Minority Whip Hon. Millie Odhiambo enjoys a jig during a farewell dinner held in honour of two officers transitioning from the Parliamentary Service to other national duties.



Justice Josephat Kuyioni makes his address during the event



Mr. Benjamin Magut the Ag. CEO, NG-CDF Board, makes his address during the event

It was a mixture of pride, deep reflections and outpouring of emotions as the National Assembly celebrated and bid farewell to two illustrious officers who now to take up other national duties.

Justice Josphat Kuyioni; formerly a Senior Legal Counsel in the National Assembly heads to the Judiciary as a Judge in the Environment and Land Court while Mr. Benjamin Magut; a Principal Clerk Assistant moves to the National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NGCDF) as Acting CEO.

The two officers were treated to a colourful farewell dinner during which colleagues, their superiors and even Members of Parliament celebrated their respective illustrious service to the Parliament of Kenya.

Minority Chief Whip in the National Assembly Hon. Millie Odhiambo who represented the Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula at the event noted that the elevation of the two officers to higher duties was an affirmation of the high level of proffessionalism among the members of staff in Parliament and dedication of the institution in enhancing the capacity of its officers.

" I have had a chance to work with the two and I can attest that they are both humble and extremely dedicated to their duties," noted Hon. Odhiambo.

Chairperson of the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning Hon. Kimani Kuria (Molo), in whose Committee Mr. Magut served as a Lead Clerk said the officer had served with great zeal, dedication and excellence to ensure the Committee delivered on key business especially the yearly Budget making process which is undertaken under strict timelines.

"There were many days we worked over the entire night and across the following day, to beat very tight timelines. I have seen great dedication and hardwork from Magut as he led the Committee secretariat to deliver on critical Committee business," said Hon. Kuria.

Justice Kuyioni, who has previously represented the National Assembly in high profile court cases, also worked very closely with the Legislative Caucus - which is a team of Hon. Members of Parliament - recently tasked bg tge Speaker to deal with the Petition relating to the NG-CDF and other legal matters of the House.

Chairperson of the National Assembly Committee on Delegated Legislation Hon. Samuel Chepkonga (Ainabkoi) who is a co-convener of the Caucus said Kuyioni had demonstrated remarkable proffessionalism and mastery of law and that he undertook his duties with great humility.

"I especially witnessed this when we handled the Petition on NG-CDF. He is a polished and smart lawyer who worked with the caucus with great humility," recounted Hon. Chepkonga.

Clerk of the National Assembly Mr. Samuel Njoroge noted that although the exit of the two officers was a major loss to the institution, it was also demonstrable proof of the high level of proffessionalism of parliamentary officers; whose skills are increasingly being tapped into by other Government agencies.

"Each of you has done an extremely good job. You were very reliable and proffessional at your work. We will greatly miss you," noted the Clerk.

Hon. Siyoi raises alarm over fertiliser shortage in Trans-Nzoia

A Member of Parliament has raised concern over the shortage of top-dressing fertiliser at National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) depots in the agriculturally rich North Rift region.

Hon. Lilian Siyoi (Trans-Nzoia County), on a Request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock, decried the acute shortage of the key farm input.

"There has been an ongoing shortage of top-dressing fertiliser NCPB depots in Trans-Nzoia County. The shortage has caused widespread concern among farmers, particularly during a critical farming season when timely access to fertiliser is essential for crop productivity," said Hon. Siyoi.

The lawmaker further noted that claims have emerged that subsidised fertiliser meant for local farmers has allegedly been diverted to neighbouring countries, worsening the situation.

"This has negatively impacted the farmers, with many facing significant losses likely to arise from poor crop yields. The disruptions also pose a serious threat to the livelihood of affected farmers," she added.

Hon. Siyoi called on the Committee to establish the cause of the shortage at NCPB depots in Trans-Nzoia County and to outline immediate measures to ensure adequate and timely supply of fertiliser.

She also sought a report on investigations into the alleged diversion of subsidised fertiliser to neighbouring countries, as well as long-term interventions to safeguard the programme, prevent diversion, and protect farmers from future shortages.



Hon. Lilian Siyoi (Trans-Nzoia County)

with many facing significant losses likely to arise shortages.

COMMITTEES' ROUND-UP

House Team proposes establishment of parliamentary corners in Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu libraries



Members of the parliamentary Committee on Broadcasting and Library pose for a group photo after a retreat in Machakos County. Front row (from left) is Hon. Shakeel Shabir (Kisumu West), Hon. Naomi Waqo (Marsabit), the Committee Chairperson, Hon. Daniel Nanok (Turkana West), Hon. (Eng.) John Kiragu (Limuru), Hon. Suzanne Kiamba (Makueni). Back row (from right) is Hon. Onesmus Ngogoyo (Kajiado North), Hon. Geoffrey Wandeto (Tetu), Hon. Felix Odiwuor (Langata) and Hon. Samuel Gachobe (Subukia).

The parliamentary Committee on Broadcasting and Library has proposed the establishment of parliamentary corners at the Kenya National Library Services, Mombasa County and Kisumu branch libraries as pilot centres in an effort to enhance public access to legislative information.

This will accord members of the public an opportunity to easily access laws, Bills, Committee reports and debates without necessarily visiting the Parliament of Kenya in Nairobi for the documents.

The proposal was made during a ccommittee meeting chaired by Hon. Daniel Nanok (Turkana West) to review a report on establishment of parliamentary corners in National and County libraries and stakeholder submissions on the Books and Newspapers (Amendment) Bill 2025 (National Assembly Bill No. 47 of 2025)

Lawmakers settled on the libraries on account of suitability of available spaces for setting up Parliamentary Corners, accessibility, availability, highest number of readership and demand for parliamentary material. The Committee noted that the initiative will later be rolled out to other county libraries across the country.

To ensure the success of the initiative, Hon. Nanok directed the Committee Secretariat to develop a modest budget that will facilitate all key aspects of the programme.

"The Committee Secretariat should come up with an inclusive and reasonable budget that captures all key aspects of a parliamentary Corner," Hon. Nanok said.

The MPs emphasized the importance of the initiative in promoting public awareness and access to parliamentary processes.

However, they raised concerns that some County libraries are very far away from the people, limiting accessibility.

To bridge this gap, the Committee observed that constituency offices can also host parliamentary corners.

During the meeting, the Committee also reviewed submissions by various stakeholders to enrich the Committee's report to the House on the proposed amendments to the Books and Newspapers Act, Cap. 111 which seeks to require the deposit of published works in the Parliament of Kenya Library.

Security Committee raises alarm over police misconduct, back training and technology reforms



Narok West MP Hon. Gabriel Tongoyo, Chairperson of the National Assembly Committee on Administration and Internal Security, speaking during a meeting between the IPOA Board and the Committee in Mombasa.

Members of Parliament have called for sweeping reforms in policing, including stronger accountability mechanisms, improved training, and the adoption of modern technology to restore public trust.

The lawmakers raised concerns over deep-rooted systemic weaknesses within the National Police Service, warning that urgent action is needed to curb misconduct.

The issues emerged during a meeting between the National Assembly Committee on Administration and Internal Security and the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) board in Mombasa.

Committee Chairperson Hon. Gabriel Tongoyo (Narok West) said while some challenges require legislative action, many stem from administrative and policy failures.

"Listening to the issues raised, a majority are either policy or administrative. The issue of training, for instance, is not entirely legislative. We need clarity on the specific legal gaps that must be addressed to enhance accountability, especially for senior officers," said Hon. Tongoyo.

Hon. Mburu Kahangara (Lari) cautioned against proposals to exempt spontaneous demonstrations from prior police notification, warning they could be abused.

"If we allow spontaneous assemblies without notification, organisers may deliberately avoid informing police and later claim protests were spontaneous, worsening the situation," he said.

Hon. Peter Masara (Suna West) urged IPOA to address deeper structural and cultural issues within the police service beyond legal reforms.

"Is it only gaps in the law that make officers behave the way they do? Training systems remain outdated despite the shift to a police service. Some officers clearly should not be in service," he said.

Hon. Masara cited cases of excessive force, questioning why officers shoot unarmed civilians multiple times. "There must be a deeper problem that we must address collectively," he added.

Committee vice-chairperson Hon. Dido Raso (Saku) raised concerns about the entrenched "blue code of silence" within the police, where officers shield one another.

"How do we navigate this silent oath where officers protect each other? Those who commit offences must have their day in court," he said.

Hon. Francis Sigei (Sotik) raised concerns about slow adoption of technology such as body cameras and CCTV systems, saying resistance continues to stall reforms.

MPs push faster delivery of housing projects as modern markets transform Coastal Towns



Members of the Committee on Housing, Urban Planning and Public Works inspecting the Tezo Affordable Housing Project in Kilifi County

Members of the National Assembly Committee on Housing, Urban Planning and Public Works have praised the impact of affordable housing and modern market projects across the Coast region, saying the developments are creating jobs, supporting local businesses and improving living standards for wananchi.

During an oversight tour covering Kwale, Taita Taveta, Kilifi, Mombasa and Tana River counties, lawmakers inspected housing estates, markets and roads funded under the Affordable Housing Programme and the Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Programme (KISIP II), while also raising concerns over stalled and delayed projects.

In Diani, legislators commended the nearly complete Diani Modern Market in Msambweni Constituency, describing it as a project capable of improving livelihoods for traders and small businesses.

Traders operating at the Sh193 million facility praised the improved working conditions, modern cold storage rooms and cleaner trading spaces that have replaced congested informal setups.

Acting Committee Chairperson Hon. Rindikiri Mugambi said the project reflected the Government's agenda of providing dignified trading spaces and supporting economic growth.

"This market is going to uplift traders economically and provide a clean and secure environment for biashara. It is encouraging to see wananchi already appreciating the impact this project will have on their lives," said Hon. Mugambi.

The Committee also inspected the Diani White House Affordable Housing Project, where MPs praised the engagement of local youth interns, apprentices and Jua Kali artisans supplying fittings and materials.

"This programme is not just about houses. It is about creating jobs, transferring skills to young people and opening opportunities for local artisans and suppliers," said Hon. Daniel Manduku.

In Matuga Constituency, MPs toured the Matuga Affordable Housing Project before inspecting roads upgraded under KISIP II in Kombani to improve access within informal settlements.

In Taita Taveta County, the Committee inspected the Voi Pool House Affordable Housing Project, the Voi Modern Market and the Mwatunge ESP Market in Mwatate Constituency.

Lawmakers noted that the county is benefiting from more than Sh11.9 billion in housing and infrastructure investments expected to stimulate local economies and create employment opportunities.

"These affordable housing projects must not only deliver units but also stimulate local industries and skills development. Employ the youth in the area," Hon. Mugambi said during the Voi inspection.

At the Mwatunge ESP Market, now 90 per cent complete, MPs praised the contractor for timely delivery.

However, lawmakers expressed concern over delays in Kilifi and Tana River counties despite significant public investment.

In Kilifi, the Committee inspected the Watamu ESP Market, Tezo Affordable Housing Project and the Mtwapa Mini City Affordable Housing Project. MPs criticised slow progress at the Sh2.78 billion Mtwapa project, which was only 27 per cent complete despite more than half the contract period having elapsed.

"This project cannot realistically be completed within the stipulated timelines," observed Hon. Jane Kagiri.

In Tana River County, lawmakers toured the Mapenzi, Vetlab and Minjila affordable housing projects as well as the Hola ESP Market, where construction had stalled despite the market being reported as 90 per cent complete.

"I want to urge members of the public to apply for these houses that are subsidized," said Hon. Mugambi. "I also call on area MPs and Women Representatives to sensitise wananchi on how to benefit from these projects."

MPs back tougher rules on ethnic balance and inclusion in public service

A proposed policy by the Public Service Commission (PSC) seeking to enforce compliance with laws on ethnic balance and equal opportunities has received backing from Members of Parliament.

PSC Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Paul Famba told the National Assembly Committee on Cohesion and Equal Opportunities that the draft Diversity Policy 2016 and Affirmative Action Regulations are designed to address ethnic inequalities in the public service while enhancing service delivery.

"The policy promotes fairness, inclusion and representation in access to employment, training and development in the civil service," stated Mr. Famba when he appeared before the Committee chaired by Mandera West MP, Hon. Adan Yussuf Haji.

He added that approval of the policy by the National Assembly would help build a more united, efficient and effective public service.

The senior official noted that under-representation of some ethnic groups and the low inclusion of Persons Living with Disabilities (PLWDs) informed the policy development.

Lawmakers endorsed the proposals saying they would compel state agencies to adhere to legal requirements on diversity and inclusion while ensuring public institutions reflect the country's ethnic composition.

"The policy would make it compulsory for state agencies to follow the law and support the Committee's efforts to ensure that public institutions reflect the diversity of Kenya in their staffing," said Hon. Haji.

Lamu County MP, Hon. Marubu Muthoni said the framework would also tackle gender disparities, particularly the exclusion of women from employment and leadership positions.

"We want to see a public service where women have equal access to leadership opportunities just like their male colleagues," she said.

Nyeri Town MP, Hon. Duncan Mathenge called for a review of the internship programme to include diploma and certificate holders.

"The current programme mainly supports degree holders leaving out those with diplomas and certificates who form a large group. It should be reviewed to include everyone," stated Hon. Mathenge.



Members of the Cohesion and Equal Opportunities Committee led by Chairperson Hon. Adan Yusuf Haji (centre) pose for a photograph with PSC CEO Mr. Paul Famba (second left) after a meeting. The MP's are Hon. Fred Ikana (far left), Hon. Monicah Muthoni Marubu (Second Right) and Hon. Geoffrey Kiomburi

Shinyalu MP, Hon. Fredrick Ikana urged that the policy addresses youth access to jobs and government tenders warning that low youth representation in public service raises concerns about sustainability and succession.

Mr. Famba said the Commission would incorporate the Legislators submissions into the final draft.

legal requirements on diversity and inclusion degree holders leaving out those with diplomas draft.

Members' Services Committee conducts inspection visits to assess service delivery in Embu and Kirinyaga Counties

The National Assembly Committee on Members' Services and Facilities undertook inspection visits to Embu and Kirinyaga counties, where they engaged staff from eight constituency offices on various service delivery matters. The delegation of MPs, led by Nyamira County MP, Hon. Jerusha Momanyi, visited the Runyenjes, Manyatta, Kirinyaga Central, Gichugu, Mwea and Ndia constituency offices, as well as the offices of the Embu and Kirinyaga County Woman Representatives. The visit sought to assess the state of service delivery by the Parliamentary Service Commission through engagements with Constituency Liaison Office staff. The Committee aimed to gauge staff satisfaction levels, identify existing challenges, and gather feedback on the delivery of services to the public. Among the issues raised was the timely payment of salaries, with most staff confirming that remuneration is processed within the stipulated timelines by the PSC. On staff medical insurance, the constituency officers informed the Committee that despite making monthly contributions to the Social Health Insurance Fund (SHIF) there are limitations in service coverage, particularly when seeking settlement of hospital bills through the scheme. The legislators also sought to establish whether Constituency Office Managers remit statutory deductions to the relevant authorities in a timely and efficient manner. Staff further urged Members of Parliament to explore mechanisms that would ensure contributors to the health fund receive improved and more efficient services at designated health facilities.



Members of the Committee from left: Hon.Brighton Yegon, Hon. Ruth Odinga, Hon. Jayne Kihara, Hon. Elisha Odhiambo, and Hon. Jerusha Momanyi pose for a photo with the Mwea Constituency Office Manager, and other staff.

Lawmakers approve copyright tariffs with key exemptions to protect small businesses and political space

The National Assembly has approved the Copyright (Consolidated Music and Audio-Visual Works) Tariffs, 2026–2028, paving the way for a more structured licensing framework for the use of music and audio-visual content across Kenya, while exempting small businesses and political events from some proposed levies.

Moving the Motion, Bonchari MP Hon. Charles Onchoke said the tariffs were intended to harmonise and strengthen royalty collection in the creative sector, which he described as a major source of youth employment and economic growth.

"These tariffs are central to strengthening Kenya's creative economy. Without a clear framework, creators will remain underpaid and piracy will continue to undermine the sector's potential," said Hon. Onchoke.

The House adopted recommendations by the Committee on Delegated Legislation to annul two controversial provisions in the proposed tariffs.

The first, Tariff Item CMT 17, had proposed levies on small establishments including salons, barbershops, spas, car washes and retail shops for



FILE PHOTO: Members of the National Assembly during a sitting

Lawmakers termed the provision "overly broad and economically insensitive," arguing that it would place an unnecessary burden on micro and small enterprises already operating under tight margins.

The second annulled provision, Tariff Item CMT 22, sought to impose charges on political activities such as campaigns, manifesto launches and candidate unveilings.

The Committee ruled that the proposal risked infringing Article 38 of the Constitution, which guarantees political rights and participation.

"We must ensure that regulation does not become a barrier to democratic participation. Political expression should not be monetised in a manner that limits civic engagement," the Committee stated in its report.

The Committee further noted that the revised framework balances the protection of creators' rights with the sustainability of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), which form a significant part of Kenya's informal economy.

Finance and National Planning Committee Chairperson Hon. Kuria Kimani welcomed the amendments, saying Parliament had "protected entrepreneurship while still supporting the creative industry."

"We must ensure small businesses are not crushed by excessive levies. This is how we implement the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda," he said.

The approved tariffs are expected to improve royalty collection systems, enhance compensation for artists and reduce piracy, while easing operational costs for thousands of small businesses that rely on ambient music to attract customers.

playing copyrighted music within their premises.

Public Accounts Committee seeks records on Ksh74.7 million TVET scholarships

The Public Accounts Committee has directed the State Department for Technical, Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to submit detailed financial records on the disbursement of KSh74.7 million in scholarships to learners.

The directive was issued by Committee Chairperson Hon. Tindi Mwale (Butere) during a session where members of the House team reviewed reports of the Office of the Auditor-General for the 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 financial years on the State Department.

TVET Principal Secretary Dr. Esther Muoria and senior departmental officials, appeared before the committee to respond to audit queries.



Public Accounts Committee Chairperson Hon. Tindi Mwale consults with Lugari MP Hon. Nabii Nabwera during a meeting with officials from TVET State department

According to the Auditor-General's report for the financial year ending June 30, 2024, a total of KSh74,721,240 was disbursed to 452 students to support their studies in various TVET institutions.

However, the report raised several concerns regarding the accountability and verification of the beneficiaries.

The audit noted that the department did not provide sufficient evidence to confirm that all 452 recipients were the intended beneficiaries.

Instead, the department relied on information provided by a consultant, before approving the disbursement of funds.

Further scrutiny of a consultant's letter, revealed that 102 of the listed beneficiaries were still awaiting placement by the Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service, while 137 had not secured admission letters.

Additionally, the State Department did not provide an updated status report on the beneficiaries, and there was no evidence of a budget allocation for monitoring and supervising the implementation of the scholarship programme.

In response, PS Dr. Muoria stated that beneficiaries were selected from the Wings to Fly programme, targeting students who did not transition to university.

She explained that students' personal, academic, and socio-economic details had been verified during their secondary education, and that scholarship awards were based on placement processes coordinated by KUCCPS.

The Committee Chairperson department two weeks to submit all relevant agreements, beneficiary details, and supporting documentation for further scrutiny.

"We are not saying that the program is bad; it has helped many learners. However, we want to understand how the disbursement was done and also offer input that can be helpful," explained Hon. Mwale.

(Continued) from Page 1

Kenyans across 16 counties will next week have an opportunity to directly engage Members of Parliament on the country's development priorities as the National Assembly rolls out public hearings on the 2026/27 Budget Estimates.

In a notice issued by the Clerk of the National Assembly, Mr. Samuel Njoroge, wananchi, civil society groups, professionals and other stakeholders have been invited to submit views on the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the National Government, Parliament and the Judiciary for the 2026/27 financial year.

The nationwide exercise by the Budget and Appropriations Committee comes as the Government seeks to consolidate gains under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), with the proposed budget focusing on job creation, productivity, economic inclusion and support for key sectors of the economy.

The National Treasury recently laid before the House the Budget Estimates for the Financial Year 2026/27, proposing a total expenditure and net lending of Ksh 4.785 trillion.

According to the Budget books, education and healthcare are set to receive Ksh 2,077.0 billion for the sustained investment in education and the acceleration of Universal Health Coverage.

To reduce the cost of doing business, the budget allocates Ksh 749.0 billion for ministerial development expenditure, targeting strategic sectors like transport, energy, and water.

Devolution remains a cornerstone of the fiscal plan, with Ksh 495.5 billion allocated to County Governments, including an equitable share of Ksh 420.0 billion.

The public hearings will begin on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, in Kitui, Garissa, Homa Bay, Nyandarua and Nairobi before moving to Busia, Siaya, Bungoma, Kirinyaga, Taita Taveta, Tana River, Marsabit, Bomet and Kajiado on May 14. West Pokot and Meru hearings will conclude the exercise on May 15.

Members of the public have been encouraged to submit written memoranda to the Budget and Appropriations Committee either physically at Parliament Buildings in Nairobi or through the official parliamentary email address before May 25, 2026. In a notice issued by the Clerk of the National Assembly, Mr. Samuel Njoroge, wananchi, civil society groups, professionals and other stakeholders have been invited to submit views on the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the National Government, Parliament and the Judiciary for the 2026/27 financial year.

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official parliamentary email address before May 25, 2026.

PUBLIC HEARING LOCATIONS

County	Venue	Date
Kitui	Kitui Multi-Purpose Hall	May 13, 2026
Garissa	Garissa Library, Garissa Town	May 13, 2026
Homa Bay	Orero Boys National School Hall	May 13, 2026
Nyandarua	Ol Joro Orok CDF Hall	May 13, 2026
Nairobi	Utawala DCC Office	May 13, 2026
Busia	Busia Agricultural Training Center	May 14, 2026
Siaya	Siaya IEBC Hall	May 14, 2026
Bungoma	ICM Kopsiro	May 14, 2026
Kirinyaga	CDF Hall, Kerugoya	May 14, 2026
Taita Taveta	Buguta Social Hall, Voi Constituency	May 14, 2026
Tana River	Tana River County Social Hall, Hola	May 14, 2026
Marsabit	Catholic Church Hall, Marsabit Town	May 14, 2026
Bomet	St. Bakita Conference Centre	May 14, 2026
Kajiado	Kiserian Catholic Don Bosco	May 14, 2026
West Pokot	Mtelo Hall	May 15, 2026
Meru	Kamundi Hall	May 15, 2026

BUNGE MASHINANI ▸ KANDARA CONSTITUENCY

Kandara Hospital receives new ambulance to boost emergency services

Kandara Hospital has received a major boost after the area MP, Hon. Chege Njuguna, donated a new, fully equipped ambulance to enhance emergency services.

While handing over the ambulance—purchased using funds from the Kandara NG-CDF—to the hospital management, Hon. Chege noted that the decision to acquire the vehicle was driven by the hospital's lack of efficient ambulance services, which has hindered timely response and the saving of lives.

"The ambulance will go a long way in resolving the challenges the hospital has been facing in responding to emergencies due to inadequate ambulance services," he said.

He also urged the hospital management to ensure proper maintenance of the ambulance so that it can serve the local community for a longer period.



Kandara MP Hon. Chege Njuguna hands over a document of the new ambulance bought for Kandara hospital by NG-CDF to the facility's managers

LIKONI CONSTITUENCY



Likoni MP and PSC Commissioner Hon. Mishi Mboko presenting a dummy cheque to management of a school for the support of needy and bright students

Likoni MP increases bursary fund to support more needy students

More bright and needy students in Likoni Constituency will benefit from bursaries after area MP Mishi Mboko increased the bursary fund to KSh75 million.

Hon. Mboko, who is also a Commissioner at the Parliamentary Service Commission, said the decision was made due to the rising number of students seeking financial support for their education.

"Due to the high poverty levels, many families are unable to educate their children. That is why I increased the bursary fund to help more needy students as a way of reducing illiteracy and poverty," she said.

The Commissioner spoke while distributing bursary cheques to needy students in the constituency recently.

TESO SOUTH CONSTITUENCY

Simbachai ICT Hub nears completion to empower youths in Teso South

Teso South MP Mary Emaase has invested in the construction of the Simbachai ICT Hub to help youths earn a living through online opportunities and access jobs both locally and abroad.

The project, which is now 85 per cent complete, will serve as an important infrastructure landmark for the Simbachai community.

She added that the project will equip young people with the skills needed to take advantage of emerging opportunities in the digital economy, especially through the government's Kazi Majuu programme. The hub is also expected to encourage innovation and reduce youth migration by creating opportunities within the local community.



The Simbachai digital hub that is under construction by area MP Hon. Mary Emaase to support youths ventures and create jobs for them both locally and internationally through the Kazi Majuu programme

KAMUKUNJI CONSTITUENCY



Kamkunji MP Hon. Yusuf Hassan shares a word of advice with beneficiaries of

Kamukunji learners receive full secondary school scholarships

A major boost for 30 Grade 10 pupils from Kamukunji as they received full scholarships to complete their secondary education through the Jomo Kenyatta Foundation Elimu Scholarship Programme.

Kamukunji MP Hon. Yusuf Hassan flagged off the learners in Majengo and pledged to sponsor who were interviewed but did not make the final list due to limited slots.

"I thank the JKF team, led by Tom Owour, and the Kamukunji team, led by DCC Omar Ali and Sub-County Director of Education Luuley Abdullahi. Congratulations and best wishes to all the students," he said.

the scholarship programme

scholarships for 20 more candidates

CLIQUE & CLICKS



Members of the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Administration and Internal Security pose for a group photo with GSU officers after inspecting a GSU camp in Mombasa City



Clerk of the National Assembly Mr. Samuel Njoroge (second right) and Deputy Clerk Mr. Jeremiah Ndombi (right) present a ceremonial walking stick to Mr. Benjamin Magut during his farewell dinner. Looking on are Parliamentary officers Ms. Susan Maritim and Mr. Denis Abisai



Nyeri County MP, Hon. Rehab Mukami Wachira after her election as President of the Women's Caucus of the Pan-African Parliament, becoming the first Kenyan to lead the influential continental women legislators' platform under the Seventh Legislature. The Women's Caucus of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP) new Bureau brings together representatives from all five African regions in a renewed push to strengthen the voice of women in legislative processes across the continent.



Members of the National Assembly Committee on Administration and Internal Security pose for a group photo after the conclusion of a four-day retreat with the IPOA Board in Mombasa



Kisumu West MP Hon. Rosa Buyu poses with IPOA CEO Elema Halake while holding a copy of the IPOA Regulations 2024.



Elgeyo Marakwet MP Hon. Caroline Jeptoo Ngelichei poses for a photo with IPOA Commissioner Kenwilliams Nyakomitah while holding a copy of the IPOA Regulations 2024.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK



I strongly condemn any form of animosity and violence among communities in Kenya. Kenya is diverse, and communities should not compete but live together build nation. It is painful for those who have experienced conflict, especially the 2007/2008 Post-Election Violence, from which many have never recovered. As an elder, I note concern emerging signs of violence, intolerance and intimidation ahead of the next General Election. We must not ignore early warnings. The Kriegler Commission showed that ignoring such signs leads to crisis. The current incidents may divide the nation and harm many innocent people. A conflict anywhere affects the whole country."

- Hon. Harold Kimuge (Nominated)



Payment for examiners is not an unforeseen expense. Article 223 of the Constitution should not be used to justify such payments. This is a cost that should be properly planned for, like salaries, healthcare, and other ministry expenses. The fact that teachers remain unpaid after marking examinations last year, while discussions on funding continue, shows a lack of seriousness. This House must also take responsibility. As a Member of the Departmental Committee on Education, I confirm that these figures were included in the Supplementary Estimates and submitted to the Budget and Appropriations Committee. Why was payment for examiners not given priority?."

-Hon. Mary Emaase (Teso South)



Countries are known for different sporting achievements. Kenya is fortunate to have talented sportsmen and sportswomen. However, we need stronger patriotism to support and nurture them so that the country continues to build an international identity as a sporting nation. It is not enough to only celebrate them when they win international titles. Mr Sabastian Sawe and many others have achieved this. As leaders, what have we done to support them? As a country, what have we done to recognize not only those performing well but also young people who still lack opportunities to join international competition at global level successfully?."

-Hon. Adan Keynan (Eldas)



It is important that we do not bury our heads in the sand about the challenges facing the education sector. Many children are staying at home because they cannot afford school fees, yet large amounts of money are being spent on political campaigns and empowerment programmes. We must honestly admit that the education sector needs urgent reforms. Although bursaries help, they are not enough to support every needy child. Many students miss opportunities because their parents cannot afford basic costs. Education should provide equal opportunities for children from both rich and poor families, but this is not happening".

-Hon. Jayne Kihara (Naivasha)



Gen Z in this country has shown that Kenya can move forward without focusing on tribe or ethnic background. During the 2024 demonstrations, they called Parliament and the Executive to account while rising above ethnic divisions. Their actions proved that leadership should be based on ideas and service. As leaders, we must realise that the politics of ethnicity should end with our generation. I urge Gen Z to lead this change by electing leaders based on integrity and ability. More than two million people registered as voters in the recent IEBC exercise. If their numbers rise further, they can transform the country's leadership."

-Hon. Danson Mwashako (Wundanyi)



The victory by Mr Sabastian Sawe and his breaking of a world record should greatly inspire the youth of our country. It shows that hard work, talent, and commitment can lead to excellent results. I appreciate the efforts of the Kenya Kwanza Government in supporting young people through sports development. Several stadiums are being constructed across the country to help nurture sporting talents. I encourage all young people with sporting talent to go out, practise, and perform. Sports can become an economic activity and a source of empowerment that improves their livelihoods and future opportunities in life."

- Hon. Jane Kagiri(Laikipia County)



The National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) is a very key constitutional commission, especially now that the country is only 15 months away from the polls and temperatures are rising. For a long time, NCIC has mainly focused on hate speech, which is important. However, the Commission has a broader mandate that also deserves attention. NCIC should address issues such as fair access to opportunities and the inclusion of marginalised groups. Many communities feel underrepresented in public appointments and national opportunities, yet NCIC rarely speaks on these concerns. The Commission should ensure every Kenyan feels included, represented, and part of one united nation."

-Hon. Geoffrey Wandeto (Tetu)



"The key concern is whether school uniforms, whether sold in schools or outside, are affordable to parents. Many families are already under financial strain, making this a serious issue. While some suggest doing away with uniforms, this may create new problems. Without uniforms, differences in wealth among students would be more visible. Some learners may wear expensive clothes, while others may not afford basic attire. This could lead to distraction, inequality, and emotional distress among students. It may also contribute to negative behavior. Therefore, uniforms remain important, but their cost must be regulated to ensure they are affordable for all families."

- Hon. Catherine Omanyo (Busia County)



The issue of goons has become a concern. Leaders must accept responsibility, as political actors often contribute to this problem. I urge all leaders to conduct politics responsibly and avoid using gangs or violent groups. I call on the Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration to remain vigilant and perform his duties effectively. Hooliganism and gangsterism tend to arise when formal institutions fail to function properly. When security agencies do not ensure safe and peaceful meetings, some leaders turn to youth to cause harm. Strengthening security management is essential as the country approaches elections to ensure peace and stability."

-Hon. Oku Kaunya (Teso North)



The recurring floods in Nairobi and other parts of Kenya, including the Lake Victoria dykes, show chronic failures in enforcing building regulations, waste management, and protection of riparian land. I also note that relocation efforts have historically been slow and often resisted. So, what can we do to arrive at a final, proactive solution? This is because many high-rise buildings are coming up, which is positive, but there is insufficient planning for the sewerage system. We should develop long-lasting solutions. Such measures are necessary to ensure sustainable urban development and prevent future flooding challenges across affected regions going forward now."


-Hon. Edith Nyenze (Kitui West)

Hansard professionals set to convene in Kisumu this week for the 8th Annual meet

The Hansard Association of Kenya (HAK) is set to convene for the 8th Annual Conference, scheduled to take place this week in the lakeside city of Kisumu from May 10th to 16th, 2026.

Themed Hansard: Milestones,Gains and Impact, the conference will serve as a platform for legislative reporting professionals to harmonize standards and embrace the digital frontier of governance.



The Kisumu summit follows the 7th Annual Conference held in May 2025, which saw over 300 professionals congregate in Mombasa. The forum sponsored by Parliament of Kenya focused heavily on breaking linguistic barriers and leveraging technology to make parliamentary records more accessible to the public.

While the Mombasa forum laid the groundwork for integrating Kiswahili and local dialects into county assemblies' reporting, the 2026 Kisumu conference aims to go further by exploring the ethical and practical implications of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and automated speech-to-text technologies in the legislative process.

This year's event is expected to draw a diverse array of stakeholders, including delegates from the National Assembly, the Senate, and all 47 County Assemblies. International delegations from Ghana, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Somaliland,and Sierra Leone have also confirmed participation.

This diversity in participation is crucial for the development of benchmarks to address emerging challenges in the digital age, and to harmonise reporting standards across the country while providing a platform to share experiences and best practices with peers in the region.

Hon. Gladys Boss, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, and Mr. Samuel Njoroge, Clerk of the National Assembly are scheduled to make keynote addresses at the forum. Additionally, a retinue of resource persons drawn from the academia and the media has been tapped to facilitate various sessions at the conference.

The week-long programme is structured around four critical pillars designed to elevate the hansard profession.

These include an evaluation of the transition from manual shorthand to digital systems; covering decades of documentation and a deep review of the hansard's role as a bulletproof legal record for judicial review and parliamentary privilege.

In a effort to build on the consequential matter of trust and accountability, the forum will delve into strategies for developing open hansard initiatives to provide real-time transcript access to citizens.

The program schedule indicates that the conference will also delve into ways of addressing cybersecurity, the risk of artificial intelligence hallucinations in official records, and professional certification. Artificial Intelligence has prominently featured as a crucial topic in the last two conferences.

According to HAK President Mr. George Wanyoko, the annual meet is held in recognition of the crucial role the Hansard plays in advancing governance and public accountability.

"The Hansard is more than a transcript. It is a vital instrument which plays a crucial role in governance, judicial proceedings, and in enhancing public accountability," Mr. Wanyoko who also heads the Hansard Department in the Senate, noted.

"As we gather in Kisumu, we celebrate our milestones and sharpen our focus on the impact we have on the legislative landscape of Africa", he added.

Beyond technical reporting, the 2026 conference has adopted a strong focus on staff wellness, addressing the unique cognitive load and burnout associated with real-time transcription.

Additionally, sessions will be dedicated to inclusive communication, ensuring the Hansard is accessible to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) through braille and sign language integration.

The conference is expected to conclude with the generation of Kisumu Resolutions; a communiqué intended to set the standards for Hansard practice across Commonwealth jurisdictions.

House Committee seeks prosecution of training levy defaulters as NITA fails to collect Ksh. 194m



Members of the Committee on Public Investments on Social Services, Administration, and Agriculture (PICSSAA) have demanded evidence of measures taken to punish defaulters of the National Industrial Training Authority (NITA) training levies.

The Committee made these demands during a session with NITA to review audit queries raised by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG), which flagged uncollected training levies totaling Ksh 194,220,421.00 as of June 2015.

According to the OAG, no efforts were made to convict the defaulters or ensure the outstanding amounts were recovered, and no analysis was provided to show how the debts had accrued for each of the defaulters.

The Committee Chairperson, Hon. Emmanuel Wangwe (Navokholo) took issue NITA officials over the inaction, questioning why defaulters had not been taken to court.

"The Constitution of Kenya has been in force since 27th August 2010. You had all the leeway to take these people to court. Since then, have you done so?" posed Hon. Wangwe.

Hon. Peter Owino (Ndhiwa) raised concerns regarding weak debt collection mechanisms, questioning how the Authority continued to offer services without enforcing payment of the levy.

"How can you provide services and fail to follow up on payments? This raises serious concerns about accountability by NITA," posed Hon. Owino.

Pointing to negligence in the oversight role of the training levy, Hon. Jackson Kosgei (Nominated) flagged concerns regarding the composition and effectiveness of the Board.

Another key issue that arose during the meeting was the manner in which the Authority introduced a debt collector, Collection Africa with the Committee directing NITA to provide supporting documents and the minutes that regularized the appointment of the company.

Responding to the Committee's concerns, NITA officials led by the acting Managing Director (MD), Ms. Theresa Wasike, attributed the failure to prosecute levy defaulters to inadequate staffing levels.

She noted that procedural requirements necessitated the presence of inspectors during prosecution.

She told the Committee that the Board entered into a contractual agreement with a debt collector, Ms. Collection Africa Limited, on May 20, 2020, who were paid on a commission basis.

BUNGE Weekly
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E-COPY

(Continued) from Page 1

unified and tested response mechanism capable of handling medical and security emergencies during the tournament.

However, Members of the Committee raised concerns over the ongoing internal disputes within FKF, questioning their potential impact on Kenya's credibility and readiness to host the prestigious event.

Addressing the concerns, the President reaffirmed the Federation's commitment to ensuring stability and delivering a successful tournament.

"Kenya will host AFCON 2027 with honour, excellence, and full support of all institutions of government, football, and civil society, and FKF, under my leadership, is fully committed to that outcome," he affirmed.

In a separate meeting, the Committee met the National Executive Committee (NEC), led by FKF Vice-President Mr. Macdonald Mariga, who cited lack of transparency, alleged misuse of public funds, irregular CHAN 2024 insurance arrangements, and charter flight procurement as key causes of the ongoing dispute.

The Committee heard that the FKF President directly authorised payments amounting to Kshs 42.7 million to an unlicensed entity with NEC recommending conflicted members to step aside as investigations are ongoing.

The Committee resolved to hold a joint meeting with FKF and NEC officials with the Chairperson stating, "These are weighty issues that require serious interrogation."



The Football Kenya Federation (FKF) President Mr. Hussein Mohammed (left) enjoys a light moment with Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Sports and Culture Hon. Dan Wanyama (second right) and Committee Member, Hon. Charles Nguna (right) looks on.

This week in history

Parliament Advances Electoral and Boundary Reforms

During this week in May 2009, the 10th Parliament of Kenya took a key step in advancing the country's post-election reform agenda by approving nominees to the Interim Independent Boundaries Review Commission (IIBRC), popularly known as the Ligale Commission.

The approval followed the tabling of a report by the parliamentary Select Committee on the Review of the Constitution on April 30, 2009. On May 7, the National Assembly debated and adopted a Motion endorsing the nine commissioners led by Andrew Ligale as Chairperson. Former President Mwai Kibaki later formalised the appointments through a Gazette Notice issued on May 12, 2009.



Chief Justice Evans Gicheru (centre) with members of the Interim Independent Boundaries Review Commission. Left is chairman of the commission Andrew Ligale and the Minister for Justice Mutula Kilonzo

The IIBRC was established as part of reforms under the National Accord and Reconciliation framework following the 2007/2008 post-election crisis. Its mandate was to review and redraw constituency and administrative boundaries to promote equitable representation based on population, geography and community interests.

At the same time, Parliament enacted legislation creating the Interim Independent Electoral Commission (IIEC), a transitional body tasked with overseeing electoral processes pending wider constitutional reforms.

Although the approval process moved swiftly, the Commission's work later unfolded in a politically sensitive environment, reflecting the complexity of boundary delimitation in Kenya.

Nevertheless, the IIBRC laid critical groundwork for boundary provisions later entrenched in the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and helped shape the electoral framework used in subsequent General Elections.

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