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Wednesday, 13th August 2025

The House met at 9.30 a.m.

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng') in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM

Hon. Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Sergeant-at-Arms, ring the Quorum Bell.

(The Quorum Bell was rung)

The Quorum Bell shall be rung for a further five minutes.

(The Quorum Bell was rung)

I can confirm that we are quorate. We can now stop the bell and proceed to today's business.

(A phone rang in the Chamber)

Order! Are there members with their phones on?
Let us proceed.

PAPER

Are there any papers being laid this morning? No papers. Next order. Are there papers? Let me see.

*(The Temporary Speaker consulted with
the leading Clerk-at-the-Table)*

Hon. Members, there are papers to be laid by the following persons: Co-Chairperson of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Vetting of the Nominee for appointment as Member of the Board of the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK). Is that ready?

Hon. Nyikal, do you have a paper to lay this morning?

(Hon. (Dr) James Nyikal spoke off the record)

Go ahead.

Hon. (Dr) James Nyikal (Seme, ODM): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the House:

Report of the Departmental Committee on Health on the Harmonisation of the Proposed Amendments to the Assisted Reproductive Technology (National Assembly Bill No.61 of 2022).

Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Thank you. Proceed to lay it. Who is the Co-Chairperson of the Joint Parliamentary CBK? I would imagine this would be the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning. We can skip this and come back to it later.

Next order.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Is the Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning here? We will also skip this business as they are probably not ready.

Next order.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Hon. Members, I want you to be alert so that we can proceed as quickly as possible. We have the listed questions and statements for today in the Order Paper. We will start with the Member for Central Imeni. Is Hon. Kirima in the House? He is not in today, so the Question has been stood down.

(Question 069/2025 deferred)

REQUESTS FOR STATEMENTS

On Statements, we will start with Hon. Jane Kagiri. She is not here yet.

Hon. Sankaire, proceed.

STATUS OF INVESTIGATIONS INTO REPORTED CASES OF CHILD TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN MAI MAHIU

Hon. Leah Sankaire (Kajiado County, UDA): Hon. Temporary Speaker, I have a request for a Statement regarding the status of the investigation into reported cases of child trafficking and sexual exploitation in Mai Mahiu.

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 44(2)(c), I rise to request a statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Administration and Internal Security regarding the status of investigations into reported cases of child trafficking and sexual exploitation in Mai Mahiu, Nakuru County.

On Monday, 4th August 2025, an investigative journalist unveiled horrifying accounts of minors being trafficked and exploited for sexual purposes in Mai Mahiu. Notably, residents in the area have raised concerns with the police, urging them to take appropriate action, but no investigation or arrests have been made. Article 53 of the Constitution provides that every child has the right to be protected from all forms of exploitation, including abuse, neglect, harmful cultural practices, all forms of violence, inhumane treatment and punishment, and hazardous or exploitative labour.

The inordinate delay in the investigation and apprehension of suspects emboldens the perpetrators and exposes children to more abuse and trauma. If not urgently addressed, these inhumane acts will negatively affect children, particularly girls, in the area.

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Hon. Temporary Speaker, it is against this background that I request a statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Administration and Internal Security on the following:

1. A comprehensive report on the status of investigation regarding the reported cases of child trafficking and sexual exploitation in Mai Mahiu, Nakuru County.
2. The steps being taken by the government to ensure that the perpetrators of these heinous crimes are identified, arrested and prosecuted.
3. Measures that the government is putting in place to dismantle the child trafficking and sexual exploitation networks in Mai Mahiu and similar hotspots across the country.
4. Measures that the government is taking to provide immediate care, psychosocial support and rehabilitation to the affected children, including provision of shelter and medical care.
5. Preventative mechanisms that the government has put in place to safeguard the right of children to protection from all forms of exploitation.

I thank you, Hon. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon David Ochieng’): Thank you. Hon. Members, you may be awarded as communicated yesterday – that, this afternoon, the Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration will be in the House to respond to such. Therefore, I would rather we hold our horses and ask those questions to him. It will be a better thing to do than ask follow-up questions now, when the relevant Cabinet Secretary will be in the House this afternoon. All you need to do is be in the House in the afternoon and raise these issues in his presence because, as you are aware, even as we refer these matters to the relevant Committee, the Committee will have to summon the Cabinet Secretary, who will be in the House this afternoon. Be in the House and raise the issues you want to raise this morning. I think that is better guidance. I hope Hon. Members are accordingly guided.

The next Request for Statement is from the Member from Ndaragua, Hon. George Gachagua. He is not in the House. Members of Parliament should take their work seriously by being present in the House, particularly when they file questions at the Table Office, to ensure they can ask them effectively.

Member for Loima Constituency, Hon. Akuja, proceed.

SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME IN PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES

Hon. Protus Akujah (Loima, UDA): Hon. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 44(2)(c), I request a Statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Education regarding the school feeding programme under the State Department for Basic Education.

The School Feeding Program is a key initiative implemented by the State Department for Basic Education to promote access to education by increasing school enrolment, improving the health of school-going children and enhancing overall academic performance. The stakeholders of public primary schools in ASAL areas, especially in Loima Constituency, Turkana County, are deeply concerned that the programme is not in place. We face an acute shortage of food supply at the commencement of each term. This has been a recurring problem. Schools receive food at the end of every term, when schools are closing. This serves no purpose. Many vulnerable children, who are motivated by the availability of food in schools, have been forced to drop out. This shortage severely undermines the welfare of the learners and has a negative impact on the education sector in the region.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, it is against this background that I request a Statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Education on the following:

1. Reasons for the persistent delays in supplying food to public primary schools in ASAL regions.
2. Report on assessment of the operational capacity of the State Department for Basic Education to meet the educational needs of marginalised communities, including any challenges the agency may be facing.
3. Plans for immediate intervention to ensure the timely supply of food to affected schools.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon David Ochieng’): Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Education, this Statement Request is directed at your committee. Hon. Gisairo, how long will you take to respond?

Hon. Clive Gisairo (Kitutu Masaba, ODM): Let us do it in the first week upon resumption from recess.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Did you hear the question?

Hon. Clive Gisairo (Kitutu Masaba, ODM): Yes, I have heard. I will get the Statement.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Order. On the issue of the Departmental Committee on Education, this was communicated yesterday by the Hon. Speaker, and it goes to all Chairpersons of committees. There is a reason why we have a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman of a committee. The idea that committees now appoint Members of Parliament to respond to questions is unacceptable. The reason we appoint Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees is because they have responsibilities for which they are paid. This has to go to all Chairpersons. The issue of continuing to delegate without authority is not a good idea for the proper working of Parliament.

Hon. Akuja.

Hon. Protus Akujah (Loima, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I am surprised by this particular Committee, or rather, the Ministry of Education. I asked a question three weeks ago. They gave two weeks as the time by which they would be able to respond. This is the third week, but the response has not been brought. This is not the first time that this particular ministry is not responding to Member’s questions. I wonder what becomes of the Chairpersons of these Committees. I do not know what becomes of them. There is a question that has been directed at the Chairman of the Budget and Appropriations Committee. He was supposed to bring the response on 26th June, but he has not appeared in the Chamber. I do not know what happens to Hon. Members when they become Chairpersons of the Budget and Appropriations Committee. Do they cease to be Members of this House?

I have not seen Hon. Atandi in this House since 26th July.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Order. We are not discussing the Chairman of the Budget and Appropriations Committee. Your matter is very specific. Direct it to the Departmental Committee on Education. The Committee is so directed that the response to this Statement Request will be filed in the first week upon resumption from recess. Thank you.

Next is the Member for Machakos County, Hon. Joyce Kameme. I think I saw her in the House. Go ahead with your Request for Statement.

SAFETY AND SECURITY OF PEDESTRIANS USING THE MLOLONGO FOOTBRIDGE

Hon. Joyce Kamene (Machakos County, WDM): Hon. Temporary Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 44(2)(c), I rise to request a Statement from the

Chairpersons of the Departmental Committee on Roads and Transport regarding the safety and security of pedestrians using the Mlolongo footbridge.

The main objective of providing pedestrians with footbridges is to enhance the safety of pedestrians and, at the same time, reduce pedestrian and traffic conflicts. However, the Mlolongo Footbridge, which was once intended to be a secure route, has deteriorated into a dangerous zone. It is now frequently used by bodaboda riders, thus posing a serious risk to pedestrians, particularly during peak hours in the morning and evening. In addition, the presence of hawkers has further congested the bridge, restricted free movement and created confusion. These conditions have turned the footbridge into a hotspot for petty crime, including the snatching of people's belongings by criminals on motorbikes. The residents are also concerned that persons with disabilities (PWDs) are the most vulnerable to these incidents as they struggle to navigate the dangerous bridge, calling for intervention to ensure their safety and security.

It is against this background that I request a Statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Roads and Transport on the following:

1. Measures taken to ensure the safety and security of pedestrians, particularly persons with disabilities (PWD), using the Mlolongo Footbridge.
2. Steps being taken to regulate and support hawkers in a manner that safeguards their livelihoods while preserving pedestrian safety when crossing the footbridge.
3. The immediate steps taken to stop unauthorised use of the footbridge by motorbike riders and the initiatives made to provide alternative routes or designated spaces for motorbike users, thereby reducing congestion on the footbridge.

I thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): The Request for Statement is directed to the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure. Is the Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson in the House?

*(Hon. Joyce Kamene crossed the aisle
without bowing to the Chair)*

Hon. Kamene, what have you just done? You have done it twice. We do not do that. You crossed the aisle without bowing on two occasions. Do the needful.

(Hon. Joyce Kamene spoke off-the-record)

Whether you are taking water or your phone, you have to follow the rules.

*(Hon. Joyce Kamene proceeded to the
Bar and bowed to the Chair)*

Well done!

Hon. Dawood, are you the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee?

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. We will respond in two weeks' time after the recess.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Very well. The earlier communication I had given still stands – that this House frowns upon Chairpersons of committees, who have the responsibility of being here but frequently fail to attend. This behaviour is unacceptable. We cannot hold Hon. Dawood accountable as he is not the Chair of

the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure. Hon. Dawood, we will hold you to this.

(Hon. George Gachagua walked into the Chamber)

I invite the Member for Ndaragwa, who has just walked in, to make his Request for Statement.

ABDUCTION OF MR AMBROSE KIMITI
MWANGI IN SOMALIA

Hon. George Gachagua (Ndaragwa, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 44 (2) (c), I request a Statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations regarding the abduction of Mr Ambrose Kimiti Mwangi, a Kenyan, in the Federal Republic of Somalia.

In September 2023, Mr Ambrose Mwangi was employed by Iqarus, a British-based company contracted by the United Nations (UN) in Somalia to conduct medical evaluations and support rescue missions in combat zones. On 10th January 2024, while undertaking one of the rescue missions over the Galgaduud Region in Central Somalia – an area which is infiltrated by Al-Shabaab militants – the helicopter of Mr Mwangi reportedly developed mechanical problems and crash-landed. Mr Mwangi's employer reported to his family that upon crash landing, the crew and passengers were immediately taken hostage by suspected Al-Shabaab militants. It has now been over a year and a half since his disappearance, yet no substantial update has been communicated to the family regarding the progress of the investigation and rescue. The family remains in a state of distress and uncertainty, with no clarity on Mr Mwangi's whereabouts or safety. The situation raises serious concerns about the safety of Kenyan citizens working abroad, as well as the effectiveness of our diplomatic interventions in such situations.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, it is against this background that I request a Statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations on the following:

1. A report on the status of the investigation into the abduction of Mr Ambrose Mwangi in Somalia.
2. Measures being undertaken by the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs to assist in establishing the whereabouts of Mr. Mwangi, including coordination with Somalia authorities, steps taken to ensure his safe return and mechanisms to provide regular updates to his family.

I thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): This Request for Statement is referred to the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations. Is the Chairperson here? Who is the Vice-Chairperson? This matter is serious and should not be left to just any Member. Hon. Deputy Leader of the Majority Party, this is a serious issue and must be treated as such. A Kenyan has been abducted in a friendly country. It is not sufficient for just a committee Member to state that they will respond. It requires serious attention. It is your responsibility, as the Deputy Leader of the Majority Party, to ensure that this matter is pursued diligently so that the House is informed of the fate of Mr Ambrose Kimiti Mwangi.

Hon. Owen Baya (Kilifi North, UDA): Hon. Temporary Speaker, I have listened to the Member, and I recognise the seriousness of this matter. It is our responsibility, as the government, to protect Kenyans both inside and outside the country. The abduction of a

Kenyan in a friendly country is to be taken seriously. I undertake to speak to the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations, and ask him to expedite the safe return of this Kenyan.

Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): How long do you need to respond to this one?

Hon. Owen Baya (Kilifi North, UDA): By tomorrow.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Tomorrow is okay. I hope you will keep your word.

Is Hon. Kirima in the House? If he is not in, we will move on to Responses to Statements raised earlier. We have three responses from the Departmental Committee on Education regarding requests for Statements made by Hon. Bonaya, Hon. Anthony Oluoch, and Hon. Ann Wamuratha. Is the Chairperson present? The Vice-Chairperson?

(Hon. Clive Gisairo stood in his place)

Hon. Gisairo, kindly, locate your Chairperson. I will allow him to respond when he comes. Otherwise, I will not allow you to do so for the obvious reasons stated earlier. Look for the Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson. Those statements will not be responded to for that reason. I do not need to belabour that point. Moving forward, the House will not allow an ordinary Member to respond to questions on the Floor of the House, as we have Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons designated for that duty. This is an order from the Speaker, and Chairpersons should take note and act accordingly.

Hon. Members, for the convenience of the House, I request that we return to Order No.5 and then Order No.6. We previously stood down the matter of vetting the individual nominated for appointment to the Board of the Central Bank of Kenya.

PAPER

Hon. Naomi Waqo (Marsabit County, UDA): Hon. Temporary Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table:

Joint report of the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning, and the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Budget, on the approval hearing of a nominee for appointment as a Board member of the Central Bank of Kenya.

Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Next Order.

NOTICE OF MOTION

APPROVAL OF NOMINEE FOR APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER OF THE CBK BOARD

Hon. Naomi Waqo (Marsabit County, UDA): Hon. Temporary Speaker, I beg to give Notice of the following Motion:

THAT, taking into consideration the findings of the Joint Committee of the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning and the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Budget on the Approval Hearing of the Nominee for Appointment as a Board member of the Central Bank of Kenya, laid on the Table of the House this morning, and pursuant

to Section 11 (2) of the Central Bank of Kenya Act, Cap 491, this House approves the appointment of Mr Pius Ang'asa as a Board Member of the Central Bank of Kenya.

Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker.

Hon. Julius Sunkuli (Kilgoris, KANU): On a point of order.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Hon. Sunkuli, what is out of order?

Hon. Julius Sunkuli (Kilgoris, KANU): For purposes of giving a notice of Motion, is the Member in order to say "laid on the Table of the House this morning"? I am raising this matter because tomorrow, the Motion will not be read as "this morning". It should be read out as per the exact date. Can she read the Motion the way it will always appear?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Hon. Naomi Waqo, you know that Hon. Sunkuli is a ranking Member. For clarity, go ahead and do what is requested of you.

Hon. Naomi Waqo (Marsabit County, UDA): Okay. Hon. Temporary Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:

THAT, taking into consideration the findings of the Joint Committee of the National Assembly, Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning, and the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Budget on the Approval Hearing of the Nominee for Appointment as a Board member of the Central Bank of Kenya, laid on the Table of the House on Wednesday, 13th August 2025, and pursuant to Section 11(2) of the Central Bank of Kenya Act, Cap 491, this House approves the Appointment of Mr Pius Ang'asa as a Board member of the Central Bank of Kenya.

Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Well done! Members, for the convenience of the House, I am informed that Hon. Kirima and Hon. Kagiri are now in the House. We request that Members who have business listed in the Order Paper be here on time. It is only through your presence that we get a quorum, and we also carry out the business of the House.

Hon. Kirima, go ahead and ask your Question.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

ORDINARY QUESTIONS

Question 69/2025

MEASURES TO ADDRESS LONG-STANDING UNEMPLOYMENT ISSUES OF P1 TEACHERS

Hon. Moses Kirima (Central Imenti, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I am very sorry. I got caught in a terrible traffic jam.

Could the Commission—

- (a) State measures the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) is taking to address the long-standing unemployment of Primary 1 (P1) trained teachers who have remained unabsorbed since 2010?
- (b) Explain why teachers who attended promotional interviews for headteacher and deputy headteacher positions were overlooked despite some having served in acting capacities for over five years, relegating the acting teachers to regular classroom roles in the same schools?

- (c) State the reason why teachers from Central Imenti Constituency were overlooked while junior teachers from other counties were promoted and posted to schools in Central Imenti?

Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Chairperson of Departmental Committee on Education, there is a question posed to you regarding the absorption of P1 teachers who have remained unemployed since 2010. How long do you need to respond to it?

Hon. Julius Melly (Tinderet, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. Since we are heading for recess, I will respond in the first week after the recess. As a committee, we have been handling this issue, particularly for teachers aged 45 and above, as well as many P1 teachers who completed their courses in 2009 and who, up to now, have not been absorbed. The Commission brought us a Statement a few weeks ago regarding the member for Kesses, but the figures did not add up. I will combine this particular Question with the other one, so that I have a comprehensive reply for the House immediately we are back from the recess.

Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): I think we should leave it at that and wait for the reply. The Question is elaborate, Hon. Chairman. I want you to get time to look at the Order Paper. It is a very elaborate question regarding P1 teachers, promotions, and specifically those from Imenti Central.

Hon. Members, let us proceed to Requests for Statement, starting with a request by the Member for Laikipia County.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

EFFECTS OF BAN ON FOREIGN BUSINESSES BY GOVERNMENT OF UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Hon. Jane Kagiri (Laikipia County, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker, for being magnanimous enough to indulge us.

Pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 44(2)(c), I request a Statement regarding the effect of the ban by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania on the operation of foreign businesses by non-citizens, particularly Kenyans.

I also want to clarify at the outset that, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 87, this Statement is not intended to question or discuss the conduct of any individual or the Head of State of the Republic of Tanzania but rather to draw the attention of this House to a matter of regional policy concern.

On 28th July 2025, the United Republic of Tanzania issued the Business Licensing (Prohibition of Business Activities for Non-Citizens) Order 2025, which seeks to prohibit specific business activities for non-citizens. This directive prohibits non-citizens from operating in 15 sectors, including the business of the sale of goods on farms, crop purchasing operations, ownership and operation of micro and small industries, among other sectors.

The order is worrying as it contradicts the spirit of the integration of the East African Community (EAC) as posed in the East African Community Treaty 2000, particularly on the free movement of goods, services, capital and persons, and the elimination of trade barriers among partner states. The move by Tanzania also risks undermining regional integration, rolling back the gains made in creating a common market under the EAC Common Market Protocol.

This House may recall that in 2019, the Finance Act, as enacted, introduced increased levies and import duties on finished consumable goods, including those from the EAC region. While this provision was intended to protect local industries and promote domestic

consumption, it drew criticism from EAC partner states, including Tanzania, which viewed it as inconsistent with the Common Market Protocol and threatened retaliatory measures due to the impact on their exports to Kenya.

In response to the resulting diplomatic friction and the spirit of regional cooperation, this House, through the Finance Act of 2023, repealed the 2019 provision. However, this repeal has since negatively affected local manufacturers and traders, who now face competition from low-priced imports.

It ought not to be lost on us that our good neighbour, the United Republic of Tanzania, which previously expressed concern over trade restrictions, has since imposed similar prohibitions on Kenya despite the reciprocal action that this House took to repeal similar provisions when the region called on it. This raises legitimate concerns about unequal commitment to regional integration, obligations and the need for Kenya to re-evaluate its protectionism policy in light of the current developments.

Considering the cross-cutting nature of this matter, I seek a Statement from the Leader of the Majority Party on the following:

1. The immediate steps taken by the Departmental Committee on Defence and Foreign Relations, and the Select Committee on Regional Integration, to intervene in the matter with a view to securing a reversal of the Business Licensing (Prohibition of Business Activities for Non-Citizens) Order 2025 by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania.
2. Protectionist considerations should be made by the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning in re-examining the possibility of reinstating the 2019 provisions on the imposition of import duties on finished consumer boards from the region, and similar considerations in other sectors such as steel and cement, in light of the recent developments by the United Republic of Tanzania.
3. A report on the steps taken by the Departmental Committee on Trade, Industry and Cooperatives and the Select Committee on Regional Integration in engaging the Cabinet Secretaries for the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, and the Ministry of East African Community (EAC), the ASALs, and Regional Development, on the measures being taken by the Government to address the policy by Tanzania and its impact on Kenyan traders.

Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): The Leader of the Majority Party, Hon. Baya, this is directed to you. Considering this is an election year in Tanzania, when can we expect a response?

Hon. Owen Baya (Kilifi North, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. This is the first time in this Parliament that a response to a Request for Statement is sought directly from the Leader of the Majority Party instead of the Committees in charge. That notwithstanding, I must say that the relationship between Kenya and Tanzania is still very stable. We still share a cordial relationship as brother-to-brother countries. We will continue to do so despite some of the things coming from our sister country.

I undertake that we will respond to that Request for Statement when we resume from recess. In view of that Request for Statement, we look forward to strengthening the relationship between Kenya and Tanzania going forward. We wish the Tanzanians well as they approach their 2025 General Election. We wish that their Government remains stable and more accommodating because we are children of *Jumuiya*, the East African Community (EAC). We want to stick in there. We want every EAC member State to continue observing the protocols we have established over the many years.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): This is a very elaborate question, Hon. Baya. If you listened to Hon. Kagiri, the question cuts across four departmental committees. We hope that the response will be equally comprehensive and elaborate.

Hon. Owen Baya (Kilifi North, UDA): We will engage all the Cabinet Secretaries involved, especially the Ministries of East African Affairs and Foreign Affairs. We will coordinate with all the relevant Ministries, including the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment, to get an elaborate response. From this question, we may move to policy and ask the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) to look at all these matters and push a policy to prevent the continuation of this kind of matter.

I thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Hon. Members, I am informed that the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Education has flown back from Homa Bay and is now in the House. We had earlier been informed that he was in Homa Bay. I will allow him to respond to the questions by Hon. Mumina Bonaya. I have also seen Hon. Wamuratha and Hon. Anthony Oluoch in the House.

(Loud consultations)

Order! Hon. Members, join me in welcoming learners from Njenga Karume Primary School in Kiambaa Constituency, Kiambu County, seated in the Public Gallery. They are welcome to the National Assembly and the House of Parliament.

Hon. Melly, the Floor is yours. Be as brief as possible; this is an indulgence.

Hon. Julius Melly (Tinderet, UDA): Hon. Temporary Speaker, I rise to respond to requests made for statements by Members. First and foremost...

Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai (Kitui South, JP): On a point of order, Hon. Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Hon. Nyamai, what is out of order?

Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai (Kitui South, JP): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I have just realised that Hon. Major (Rtd) Bashir is back in the House. I do not know whether he has finished the punishment he was given by the Speaker. He was asked to withdraw a statement he had made in the House, but he refused. I think it was a very long punishment, but I can see him in his seat, looking very happy.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Thank you. Hon. Bashir, how long was your punishment?

Hon. Major (Rtd) Abdullahi Sheikh (Mandera North, UDM): Hon. Temporary Speaker, my punishment was for that particular sitting. The Speaker said I would be out of Parliament for the remainder of the sitting, not for the whole session of Parliament. It was for that day only.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): I confirm that Hon. Bashir has finished his term of imprisonment and is rightfully in the House this morning. Hon. Melly, go ahead.

Hon. Julius Melly (Tinderet, UDA): Hon. Temporary Speaker, I rise to give several responses to requests for statements made by Members. As per your direction, I hope the concerned Members are present. I will start with the request made by the Member for Isiolo. I also have requests for statements from the Member for Kiambu, Hon. Ann Wamuratha Mugo, Hon. Anthony Oluoch and Hon. Tindi Mwale.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, I cannot go against your direction. However, as the Departmental Committee on Education and as a ranking Member, we had an agreement in the spirit of running the Committee as one. We always discuss these issues with the relevant State

Department, and Members who are involved in the discussion are then able to present responses before the plenary.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Order! Order, Hon. Melly. I want to say this with a lot of respect. The Speaker made a ruling yesterday, and as a friend, I took it upon myself to call and inform you of it. I also said this morning that we will not allow chairpersons to have kangaroo agreements with their members to shirk their responsibilities. That agreement you have with them is hereby quashed and should never be heard of on the Floor of the House.

SALARY ENHANCEMENT FOR TEACHERS
IN ISIOLO MUNICIPALITY

Hon. Julius Melly (Tinderet, UDA): The Member for Isiolo, Hon. Mumina Bonaya, requested a Statement, and the report is as follows: All the 18 schools have been approved as Junior Schools. Twelve of the 18 schools have already received capitation and have been registered in NEMIS. Their bank details have also been provided. The table below provides details regarding each of the schools.

S/NO	Name of School	County	NEMIS Code	Remarks
1.	Yaqbarsadi JS	Isiolo	AQYG	The school received capitation in 2 nd term 2025.
2.	Abargase JS	Isiolo	-	The school has not applied for NEMIS code.
3.	Merti South Muslim Girls	Isiolo	F4ZC	The school received capitation in 2 nd term 2025.
4.	Awarsitu JS	Isiolo	UWYY	The school received capitation in 2 nd term 2025.
5	Kubi Marta Mukha JS	Isiolo	-	The school has not applied for NEMIS code.
6.	Merti School for the Deaf JS	Isiolo	6THN	The school received capitation in 2 nd term 2025.
7.	Kom New JS	Isiolo	D72R	The school received capitation in 2 nd term 2025.
8.	Mogore JS	Isiolo	HPAU	The school has not uploaded learners to NEMIS.
9	Bahari Girls JS	Isiolo	EN9T	The school has not uploaded learners to NEMIS.
10.	Makarim JS	Isiolo	YVW2	The school has not uploaded learners to NEMIS.
11.	Parkuruk JS	Isiolo	UZZQ	The school received capitation in 2 nd term 2025.
12.	Longopito JS	Isiolo	NJS2	The school received capitation in 2 nd term 2025.
13.	Kawalash JS	Isiolo	DKY5	The school received capitation in 2 nd term 2025.

14.	Parkishon JS	Isiolo	R7NU	The school has not uploaded learners and bank accounts in NEMIS.
15.	Rumate JSS	Isiolo	SYAZ	The school received capitation in 2 nd term 2025.
16.	Lengwenyi JS	Isiolo	RMD5	The school received capitation in 2 nd term 2025.
17.	Mata Arba JS	Isiolo	EPPZ	The school received capitation in 2 nd term 2025.
18.	Dololo Dakiye JS	Isiolo	EK85	The school received capitation in 2 nd term 2025.

All the schools, whose details were requested by the Member for Isiolo, have been registered and received capitation as indicated. We also wish to indicate that the county has equitably constructed Grade 9 classrooms, driven by the need to promote access, especially in marginalised areas. In Isiolo County, 82 classrooms have been constructed and completed.

I also have a response to a Statement sought by Hon. Abdul Haro, our Member in the Departmental Committee on Education.

(Hon. Julius Melly consulted with the Temporary Speaker)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Hon. Mumina, allow him to finish this Statement, and then we can deal with all of them together.

CHALLENGES FACING THE KIAMBU NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC

Hon. Julius Melly (Tinderet, UDA): I will now respond to the request by the Member for Kiambu County, Hon. Ann Wamuratha Mugo, regarding challenges facing the Kiambu National Polytechnic.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, the State Department responds as follows: A Report on the steps being taken to recruit, at least, 400 additional trainers for polytechnics ahead of the September 2025 intake. The National Assembly has allocated a total of Ksh2 million for the recruitment of additional Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) trainers across the country in the current Financial Year 2025/2026. The recruitment proposal for the current Financial Year 2025/2026 targets a total of 5,500 trainers. Currently, the institution has 163 trainers employed by the Public Service Commission and 138 by the Boards of Governors. The institutions will benefit from the additional allocation of trainers in proportion to the institutions across the country. This will be done once the projected recruitment has been undertaken.

The second question concerns the response to delays in the disbursement of capitation and measures put in place to expedite the exercise of the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) and scholarships to students in polytechnics. The main reason for the occasional delays in the disbursement of capitation to TVETs is the delay in the release of the Exchequer by the National Treasury. For instance, the Exchequer requisition for capitation for the Financial Year 2024/2025 was made and released as follows: for the Ksh1,102,194,000, the date of requisition was 6th September 2024. They received the money on 16th September 2024. The remaining capitation of Ksh3 billion was requisitioned on 23rd December 2024, but they received the money in February 2025. So, the delays are not the fault of the State Department; instead, they are due to the delay in the release of the Exchequer by the National Treasury.

The State Department states that it continues to engage with the National Treasury to ensure the provision of adequate budget and the timely provision of funding to TVET institutions. We also wish to inform the august House that capitation, scholarships, and loans for TVET trainees have been underfunded to the tune of Ksh19 billion in the Financial Year 2024/2025, comprising deficits of Ksh12.5 billion for the scholarships, Ksh2.96 billion for capitation, and Ksh3.84 billion for loans.

This is an issue the Committee has brought to this House several times. The State Department has done a lot in mobilising students. I want to inform the House that they are now targeting about 2 million students. To have 2 million students in our TVET institutions will actually get many of our young men and women off the streets and out of local centres. What we need is money for these students for scholarships and loans. It is good for this House to budget for not less than Ksh40 billion for TVET institutions.

The third part of the question is on the progress made in constructing 1,240 student accommodation units under the housing programme to ensure the availability of adequate accommodation in institutions. The State Department wishes to state it is working closely with the State Department for Housing and Urban Development on the construction of 1,240 trainee accommodation units under the Affordable Housing Programme. This will ensure the availability of accommodation to trainees in institutions. The State Department for Housing and Urban Development invited bids on 25th March 2025 to undertake construction works and sign an agreement with the management of the Kiambu National Polytechnic on the project. The project is now awaiting assignment of a contractor by the State Department for Housing and Urban Development. We are following up with the said State Department to expedite that.

The fourth part of the question is: what are the plans by the Ministry of Education to fund and equip specialised technical departments in the institution? Hon. Temporary Speaker, the Ministry is keen on equipping specialised technical departments at the Kiambu National Polytechnic through both income-generating activities at the institution and donor support. Currently, with the support of the German Government, the Ministry provides infrastructure and equipment in industrial mechatronics to support the development of skills in industrial automation, agriculture and value addition. So far, the project has procured basic equipment to support the delivery of dual training and the provision of Information Communication Technology equipment to enhance delivery.

The second batch of heavy training equipment is at the evaluation stage of procurement. The Ministry will progressively equip specialised workshops and departments based on the skills requirements of the industry. So, that is the funding part and how we plan to handle specialised aspects. They have the Appropriations-in-Aid, or the money they generate internally, as well as donor support from the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), which is doing a lot more in five national polytechnics.

That is the response to the questions. Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Hon. Mumina, proceed.

Hon. Mumina Bonaya (Isiolo County, JP): Hon. Temporary Speaker, I would like to thank the Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Education for the response they have brought to the Floor of the House on registration of junior secondary schools in my county. However, the reason it took my intervention to have this school registered is that the Ministry misuses the NEMIS to deny funding to schools and delay registrations. In my county, very many schools register students on NEMIS, but on the other end, their details are removed. The funding disbursed to those schools is less than what is required, given the number of students in the schools.

Similarly, they use NEMIS to deliberately delay registration of schools because they do not want to send resources to them. This is a matter that needs to be looked into seriously. We cannot continue like this because head teachers are telling us they have debts they cannot

pay due to the high number of students. However, the Ministry allocates less money than the number of students registered on NEMIS.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Hon. Chairman, this is a very straightforward matter that does not need back and forth.

Hon. Julius Melly (Tinderet, UDA): Yes.

(An Hon. Member stood on the aisle)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): The Member standing along the aisle, be either on the right or left. You cannot stand along the aisle for 10 minutes.

This should be a straightforward matter, Hon. Chairman.

Hon. Julius Melly (Tinderet, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I agree with the Hon. Member. This is an issue which the Committee has been pursuing because the students captured in NEMIS and the actual students in schools do not add up. That is why the Departmental Committee on Education petitioned the Ministry and the Cabinet Secretary to ensure a comprehensive Application that accurately captures all students, thereby aligning the number of students physically in school with those recorded at the Ministry. That is why they proposed the introduction of the Kenya Education Management Information System (KEMIS). It will be used from the level of basic education to university. I agree with you, Hon. Temporary Speaker, and that is why they are doing that correction.

Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Hon. Chairman, there is nothing wrong in the Committee. Isiolo County is not in Uganda or Tanzania. It is in the country. Why can't the Committee do a spot check in one of the schools, one of these days? If Members of Parliament are saying their schools have 800 students but the Ministry talks of 400 students, the Committee could do a spot check in three or four schools and provide the House with a report. Why depend on the Ministry's report?

Hon. Julius Melly (Tinderet, UDA): Hon. Temporary Speaker, our Committee has been doing spot checks across national polytechnics and universities. We are on top of it. We propose visiting schools soon to compare the actual number of students in classrooms with those captured on NEMIS, and to investigate ghost projects. In fact, during this recess, we plan to travel around the country to address this particular matter.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): We are waiting for that report.

The Member for Kiambu, proceed.

Hon. Ann Wamuratha (Kiambu County, UDA): Hon. Temporary Speaker, I would like to seek clarification from the Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Education regarding the employment of 400 teachers in TVET. He indicated that the Ministry has a budget of about Ksh2 million. I was wondering whether that amount should be Ksh2 million or Ksh2 billion.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Member for Nandi County. She was just seeking clarification. That is why I allowed her to speak.

Hon. Cynthia Muge (Nandi County, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. Hon. Wamuratha has addressed my concern, as I wished to have it on record. The Chairperson of the Committee read that they had allocated an amount of Ksh2 million, yet the number of teachers in the budget exceeds the amount that can be accommodated by Ksh2 million.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Member for Isiolo County. Just hold your horses.

Hon. Mumina Bonaya (Isiolo County, JP): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. The issue is that while teachers register students on the National Education Management Information System (NEMIS), their names are still missing. They are not captured. The issue

is not that they are not registered, but that someone is removing their names. Who is doing that?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Hon. Dawood. Hon. Chairperson, take down all the Members’ concerns, so that you can deal with them at once.

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. The Chairperson of the Committee has told us that they will look into NEMIS, but how long will it take? NEMIS has been there for ages. When will it sort out those issues? We need a timeline. We have been told that billions of shillings meant for capitation and school infrastructure have been lost. How long will we wait for answers? There should be a timeframe.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Hon. Nyamai.

Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai (Kitui South, JP): Thank you very much, Hon. Temporary Speaker. This matter of students not appearing on NEMIS is very serious. This House is being let down by the Directors of Education in our sub-counties. Students are losing money every financial year. We budget for it, but it does not reach those students. Normally, the President says that if something can be done, it should be accomplished immediately. The Government issues birth certificates to those students and registers them on NEMIS. The Government also employs the Directors of Education. This House allocates funds, which do not reach pupils and students in our schools. Why can it not be done?

As my colleague from Isiolo County has said, can the Chairman give us timelines on when all students in our primary and secondary schools will be captured on NEMIS?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Hon. Tubi.

Hon. Bidu Mohamed (Isiolo South, JP): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. This matter has been ongoing for some time. The number of students on NEMIS does not match the headcount of students in every school. I have tried checking the number of students in my constituency because I pay for them. I get resources on the basis of the number of students in the class registers. However, the numbers captured on NEMIS do not tally with the numbers in the class registers. I have even gone to the Ministry of Education to find out exactly why that is happening. Principals and head teachers are kicked off NEMIS when they try to feed information into the platform. The numbers are not captured. Why does that happen? Is it corruption? Something else must be going on there.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Member for Makueni.

Hon. Suzanne Kiamba (Makueni, WDM): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this very thorny issue. Almost all the schools in my constituency have students who appear in the school register but not on NEMIS. Teachers have tried to follow up on the issue because I instructed them not to complain to me when they can go to the Ministry to check the records. I do not know what is wrong with the sub-county leaders because, year in, year out, that data is not being captured. They always give the flimsy excuse that some students do not have birth certificates, or that the details on the birth certificates do not match the Identity Cards (IDs) of the mothers. How can the Government not sort out such petty issues? Why have we employed people?

We need to have a balance sheet. Where do the funds go if schools do not receive them? Can the Departmental Committee on Education give us a clear balance sheet? Where is the money? Money cannot disappear in the system. This situation is very wanting.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Hon. Ikiara.

Hon. Dorothy Muthoni (Nominated, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I want to join my colleagues in contributing to this matter of NEMIS and what is happening in our Republic. We may keep blaming the Directors of Education and everyone else, but the bottom line is that the teachers running the schools are suffering. When the data does not capture the reality in the schools, they receive dismal funds. At the end of the day, it is the students who suffer. The teachers do not know what to do. The Departmental Committee on

Education should tackle the issue head-on so that we know exactly what happens at the Ministry headquarters before we blame the Directors of Education at the sub-counties. The buck stops with the person who oversees the Ministry of Education. We should stop apportioning blame.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Lastly, Hon. Hilary Kosgei.

Hon. Hilary Kosgei (Kipkelion West, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. If every Member had an opportunity to contribute, the story would be the same across the country. Technology is supposed to help solve complex issues. Which technology is this that derails that function? It is fair that you give direction that, within a specific period, the Ministry of Education should capture the data of every student in the Republic of Kenya on NEMIS and bring that confirmation to this House, so that we close this matter once and for all.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): Hon. Lenguris.

Hon. Pauline Lenguris (Samburu County, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to add my voice to the issue being discussed on the Floor of this House, which affects most learners in our schools. It is discouraging that an entire Ministry with many employees and top officials cannot account for the number of students in our schools. This has made the running of our schools very difficult. Sometimes, even keeping students in schools is becoming a big problem. Managing schools without knowing the real number of students to determine the amount of resources to allocate to the schools is very difficult. This has affected learning. Taking care of students without proper resources, whose numbers are unknown, is difficult. We task the Ministry of Education to ensure that the number of students always tallies with the number captured on NEMIS, as this will determine the amount of resources to be allocated to the schools.

If NEMIS does not work, why can the Ministry not have a parallel manual programme to capture the number of students per school? They can then compare the number of students captured on NEMIS with the number captured in the manual register. This is because there are scenarios where you can have 1,000 students in a school, but NEMIS only captures fewer than 300 of them. Who will account for the missing number? Something needs to be done. The Ministry of Education should be up to the task.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng’): The Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Education.

Hon. Julius Melly (Tinderet, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I agree with the sentiments of the Members. I would like to give you a short story. Hon. Sabina Chege – the former Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Education – can confirm that before the introduction of NEMIS, they used leaflets and papers from schools to ascertain the number of students. After our benchmarking visit to the Charter Schools in the United States of America, NEMIS was introduced. We realised that there was a complete mismatch between the list brought by school principals to the Ministry of Education and the actual students on the ground. With the introduction of NEMIS, other issues arose.

I want to tell the House that in June this year, the new Principal Secretary launched the Kenya Education Management Information System (KEMIS) because of the inability of NEMIS to capture all the students' data. The Committee has tasked the Ministry to ensure that KEMIS is functional and running before the end of September.

The issue of money not being remitted to schools is what this House, through the Committee, has been telling the Cabinet Secretary. We have always put him to task, not only on capitation, but also on money for sports and music. We have issues with the disbursement of money to schools.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, I rest the case there. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): We will not allow any further discussion on this matter. The Chairperson has introduced a new confusion by stating that there was NEMIS and now there is KEMIS.

(Loud consultations)

Order, Hon. Members. On this matter, I direct that the Cabinet Secretary for Education shall come to the House in the week we resume—on the Wednesday of the week we resume from recess—to specifically explain to the House the system of registering students in our schools. This is to ensure that we get to know about the system from him. We do not want to hear it from a fellow Member. We want to know whether NEMIS is still there or not. We also want to know what KEMIS is. On that day, Members should leave this House with the knowledge of the system used to register students in our schools. This is to ensure that we do not have so many questions on the matter.

It is so ordered.

(Applause)

Next Order.

BILLS

Second Readings

THE BREASTFEEDING MOTHERS BILL
(National Assembly Bill No. 8 of 2024)

(Moved by Hon. Sabina Chege on 30.7.2025 – Morning Sitting)

(Debate concluded on 6.8.2025 – Morning Sitting)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Order, Hon. Members. The debate on this Bill was concluded last week. I will now put the question.

(Question put and agreed to)

(The Bill was read a Second Time and committed to the Committee of the whole House)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Next Order.

THE COUNTY GOVERNMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(Senate Bill No. 25 of 2023)

(Moved by Hon. Timothy Kipchumba on 12.8.2025)

(Debate concluded on 12.8.2025)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Hon. Members, debate on this Bill was also concluded. I will now put the question.

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(Question put and agreed to)

(The Bill was read a Second Time and committed to the Committee of the whole House)

MOTIONS

EXPRESSION OF CONCERN ON THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

THAT, aware that Kenya ratified the United Nations Charter on Human Rights on 31st July 1990; further recollecting that among the rights enshrined in the Charter is the right to life and self-determination by people; cognisant of the fact that Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory in Gaza and the West Bank has been characterised by disproportionate and indiscriminate use of force; concerned that this has deepened the humanitarian crisis in the region, including the destruction of infrastructure, widespread civilian casualties, and wilful killing of Palestinian civilians, including children in the occupied territories by the Israeli army; noting that these grave breaches amount to war crimes, flagrant violations of international humanitarian law and crimes against humanity; concerned that the recent escalation of hostilities between Israel and Iran including cross-border strikes and retaliatory attacks, threatens to engulf the wider Middle East region in conflict; recalling that Kenya has previously suffered attacks on its soil as a result of the Middle East conflict, including the 2002 attack on the Paradise Hotel in Kikambala; appreciating that the United Nations General Assembly recently passed a resolution demanding an end to Israel's unlawful occupation of Palestinian territories and urging compliance with international law; further appreciating the urgent need for the international community, including regional powers and the United Nations Security Council, to intensify diplomatic efforts aimed at achieving an immediate ceasefire, facilitating humanitarian access, and initiating inclusive peace negotiations in the Middle East; appreciative of the role Kenya has played regionally and internationally in global peace initiatives and in mitigating violations constituting crimes against humanity and in solidarity with the Palestinian civilians subjugated by Israel; this House—

1. Expresses deep concern over the dangerous escalation in hostilities in the Middle East that threatens international peace and security across the Middle East and beyond.
2. Re-affirms Kenya's proactive commitment to a peaceful resolution of disputes through negotiation, diplomacy, and adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter.
3. Urges all parties to the conflict to protect civilian lives and infrastructure in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and International humanitarian law (IHL) and to exercise maximum restraint and immediately cease further acts of aggression, including aerial bombardments, missile strikes, and other forms of military escalation.
4. Calls on the international community, including the United Nations and regional powers, to intensify diplomatic efforts aimed at de-escalation, the restoration of dialogue, and a return to the frameworks of international law.

(Moved by Hon. Shakeel Shabbir on 6.8.2025 – Morning Sitting)

(Debate concluded on 6.8.2025 – Morning Sitting)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Hon. Members, as you remember, debate on this Motion was also concluded. I will now put the question.

(Question put and agreed to)

Next Order.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS
TO THE LAND (AMENDMENT) BILL
(National Assembly Bill No. 40 of 2022)

THAT, the Senate amendments to the Land (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 40 of 2022) be now considered.

(Moved by Hon. Simon King'ara on 12.8.2025)

(Debate concluded on 12.8.2025)

(Loud consultations)

Order, Hon. Members. We are in the business of the House, so you have to be orderly. The debate on this Motion was also concluded last week. Therefore, I will proceed to put the question.

(Question put and agreed to)

Hon. Members, before we proceed to the next Order, join me in welcoming students from the following schools, seated in the Public Gallery:

1. Ramu Girls Secondary School, Mandera North.
2. Ramu Day Secondary School, Mandera North.
3. Takaba Boys Secondary School, Mandera West.
4. Sheikh Ali High School, Mandera North.
5. Kandolo Comprehensive School, Kilome, Makueni.
6. Ngutu Primary School, Tigania East, Meru County.

The students are welcome to follow our proceedings this morning in the House of Parliament.

(Applause)

Hon. Bashir, the onus is on you to welcome all the schools.

Major (Rtd) Abdullahi Sheikh (Mandera North, UDM): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I take this opportunity to welcome all the schools that have visited the National Assembly this morning. This is a place of honour, and I am sure they will learn a lot. In particular, I extend my felicitations to Sheikh Ali High School, Rhamu Girls, Rhamu Day, and my neighbouring school of Takaba. I invite them to join us in observing what Parliament and

its members do. Students, I am sure that as you grow up, you will be able to take up some of the roles that we currently hold here. You came back from the music festivals and you did very well. Congratulations. So, you are most welcome to the National Assembly and the precincts of Parliament. Enjoy your time. Welcome, all of you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Hon. Members, as you are aware, the students are here to visit us. They are all welcome to observe the proceedings.
Next Order.

Hon. Bidu Mohamed (Isiolo South, JP): On a point of order, Hon. Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Hon. Tubi, what is out of order?

Hon. Bidu Mohamed (Isiolo South, JP): Hon. Temporary Speaker, I was here yesterday, and I raised an issue with the Temporary Speaker, Hon. Farah Maalim. The issue is that three weeks ago, I asked for a Statement from the Chairman in charge of the Departmental Committee on Administration and Internal Security. It was slated for the first week upon resumption from recess. That time has lapsed. Now we are going into another recess, yet the matter concerning Isiolo has not been addressed. Chaos is happening in Isiolo, and they have something to do with the impeachment of the Governor of Isiolo County. Isiolo is ungovernable. Isiolo has problems. People are being killed left, right, and centre, and nothing is happening. We have tried to ask about that, but the question remains unanswered to date. Yesterday, I was promised it would be brought today, but it is not on today's Order Papers, both for morning and afternoon sittings.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Hon. Tubi, your concern is noted. You may be aware that the relevant committee is conducting a vetting on nominees to the National Police Service Commission this morning, but its members will be in the House in the afternoon. As I said earlier in the morning, even the Cabinet Secretary for the Interior and National Administration will be here in the afternoon. So be in the House and raise those matters at the right time in the afternoon today.

(Hon. Bidu Mohamed spoke off the record)

There is nothing to respond to. I have just communicated that the relevant committee is conducting a vetting exercise on the nominees to the National Police Service Commission as we speak, and that is why the Chair is not in the House. We know that he will be in the House in the afternoon.

We also know that the Cabinet Secretary for the Interior and National Administration will be in the Chamber in the afternoon. My advice to you is to be in the House in the afternoon to raise your issues with both of them. You are accordingly advised.

Next Order.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

(Order for the Committee read)

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng') left the Chair]

IN THE COMMITTEE

[The Temporary Chairlady (Hon (Dr) Rachael Nyamai) in the Chair]

SENATE AMENDMENT TO THE LAND (AMENDMENT) BILL
(National Assembly Bill No. 40 of 2022)

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The Temporary Chairlady (Hon (Dr.) Rachael Nyamai): Hon. Members, those who wish to participate in the Committee of the whole House, please take your seats. We are considering the Senate Amendment to the Land (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 40 of 2022) by Hon. King'ara. Hon. King'ara is in the House. I can see he is seated in his place.

Senate Amendment to Clause 3

THAT, Clause 3 of the Bill be amended in the introductory phrase to the proposed sub-section (16) by inserting the words “publish a notice in the Gazette specifying the particulars of the registration and” immediately after the words “the Registrar shall”.

(Question of the amendment proposed)

*(Question, that the words to be inserted
be inserted, put and agreed to)*

(Senate amendment to Clause 3 agreed to)

That is all. We have come to the end. I would like now to call upon the Mover, Hon. King'ara.

Hon. Simon King'ara (Ruiru, UDA): Hon. Temporary Chairlady, I beg to move that the Committee do report to the House its consideration of the Senate Amendment to the Land (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 40 of 2022), and its approval thereof without amendments.

(Question proposed)

(Question put and agreed to)

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon (Dr.) Rachael Nyamai): Hon. Members, we are going to consider the second Bill, which is the Consideration of the President's Reservation to the Cancer Prevention and Control (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 45 of 2022).

PRESIDENT'S RESERVATION ON THE CANCER
PREVENTION AND CONTROL (AMENDMENT) BILL
(National Assembly Bill No. 45 of 2022)

This Bill is by Hon. Raheem Dawood. I can see he is seated in the House. Let us proceed.

Clause 2

Hon (Dr.) James Nyikal (Seme, ODM): Hon. Chairlady, I beg to move:

THAT, Clause 2 of the Bill be deleted as proposed by His Excellency the President.

Hon. Temporary Chairlady, Clause 2 of the Bill proposes to introduce the definition of the terms e-health and telemedicine to the principal Act. The two terms are already defined in the Digital Health Act, and therefore, the Bill may cross-reference them as defined in the Digital Health Act. That is the rationale for that deletion by the President. Thank you.

(Question of the amendment proposed)

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon (Dr.) Rachael Nyamai): Hon. Dawood.

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Chairlady. This is my Bill of 2022. What the President is talking about, the Digital Health Act, is for 2024 or even 2025. We passed this Bill on 15th April 2024. So, I do not see the rationale for deleting my clauses. A Bill which has taken more than two years to come to fruition is now being thrown to the dogs. I think Article 115 has not been used properly, and the Leader of the Majority should take the concerns of this House seriously. This is because there is no point in Members of Parliament working on Bills, only to have them thrown out due to actions that should not have been there. My Bill was passed before the Digital Health Bill.

Therefore, I oppose this. It should go on record, and the Speaker and the Leader of the Majority Party should take note that this is not the way to treat Members of Parliament. There is no point in working on a Bill for two years only for it to be thrown out later. Even the Ministry of Health was involved in this Bill.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon (Dr.) Rachael Nyamai): Yes, we fully hear you, but you know what you require to be able to oppose it.

(Hon. Rahim Dawood spoke off the record)

I can give you another minute to finalise. Leader of the Majority Party, I will give you a chance.

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): Thank you, Temporary Chairlady. I understand I need two-thirds of the membership. That is why I am saying mischief was introduced into the Constitution through Article 115 and even Article 223, which is being misused currently. So, until we get to change those Articles, I know my hands are tied.

Thank you, Hon. Temporary Chairlady.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon (Dr.) Rachael Nyamai): Yes, you know that to change the Constitution is a long process through a referendum, but I would like to state facts because facts are important in this House. This Bill was concluded in this House, not in 2022, but in April 2024. Because of the bicameral situation of this House, it also had to go to the Senate. It has been there for a long time. I have requested the Table Office to give us the exact month, but it was in mid-2025. This House has not made any mistake; we are just following the process. You are right to oppose. It is your right.

I want to allow the Deputy Leader of the Majority Party to speak first; then I will return to the Chairman before we put the question. Proceed, Hon. Owen Baya.

Hon. Owen Baya (Kilifi North, UDA): Thank you very much, Hon. Temporary Chairlady. That is what democracy is about, Hon. Dawood: a Constitution which you must abide by. I also had my Bill on the Floor of this House. It went for assent, received a Presidential Memorandum of reservations, and then came back here. Because we are a democracy, we should be able to muster two-thirds and torpedo the Presidential Memorandum. I fully agree with Hon. Dawood that this House is the House that makes laws legislatively. We have the power to do that. But somehow, this Constitution mutilated the power of this House by introducing one word as a safeguard. The Executive is now making law. That is what is happening in this scenario. The Executive is making law which is not their preserve. If the Executive has issues with a law that we are passing, they should bring it through the ministries before we pass it. But to allow Parliament to go through the whole hog to pass the law, then they bring in their... Actually, I have learned that the Cabinet Secretaries go to the President and ask him not to sign because of certain reasons. Out of that, a memorandum is brought to the House. But this is input from the President.

This is my second term in this House. In the previous term, I think we had only one or two Presidential Memoranda. This means that the Cabinet Secretaries were working very well with Parliament to ensure we pass the right laws. However, we now have lazy members in the Executive who do not make input until they realise a law has been passed. They then run and block assent. This is bad manners. I ask the Executive to please participate fully when the law is here. The law allows us to conduct public participation and consult with ministries. They should come on board during that time so that we avoid instances where the President has to send a memorandum. Currently, we have memoranda for my Bill, your Bill, the Bill of the Member for Lamu East, and possibly another one. We have many memoranda coming in, indicating that there is a problem. I ask Hon. Musalia Mudavadi's Office, the Chief Cabinet Secretary, who has the mandate of coordinating the national legislative agenda, to ensure that they do their job to avoid these situations where a law goes to State House for assent and it is brought back. We are working backwards, and that should not happen.

Hon. Dawood, you have to bite the bullet on this one. We can pass this one; then, six months later, you can bring the same amendment and use the same whip to change the law. I will urge you to do that; otherwise, because you cannot marshal the two-thirds, we have to pass the law.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): I think you have done your part. You are trying to justify that you have also gone through the same process. But you...

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): On a point of information., Hon. Temporary Chairlady.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Who do you want to inform, Hon. Dawood?

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): The Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Health.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): I will give you a chance to inform him, but before that, I will give him a chance to speak on the deletion.

Hon. (Dr) James Nyikal (Seme, ODM): Hon. Temporary Chairlady, what has been stated is what the law is. We have said here many times that the Constitution has given the Executive the opportunity to make law, even if it is through the back door. Unfortunately, that is what it is. However, there is another issue: how to do that, and the speed with which we handle our processes. In my view, the Digital Health Act came after this Bill, moved on and was signed. So, by the time the vellum was presented to the President, the Digital Health Act was already a law; therefore, reference could be made to it. If the Cancer Prevention and Control (Amendment) Bill had gone before the Digital Health Act, in my view, the Digital Health Act is what would have been sent back with the information that what you are referencing is already in the law. We therefore must be careful with our processes and what they do to our Bills.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Thank you, Chairman. There is a point of information from Hon. Dawood. Would you like to be informed?

Hon. (Dr) James Nyikal (Seme, ODM): Information kills nobody. Let me hear the information.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Okay. Please go ahead and inform Hon. (Dr) Nyikal.

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Chairlady. This Bill was returned from the Senate last November. The Departmental Committee on Health accepted the changes early in February. It came back from the Senate last year, and not in May this year, as the Clerk-at-the-Table has told you. That is the information I want to pass.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Thank you very much. For the record, we have consulted, and this is the order of events. The National Assembly passed this Bill on 27th March 2024. It was passed by the Senate and returned on 26th November 2024. The Senate Amendments were passed on 15th April 2025. We received the reservations from the President on 1st July 2025. That is how it is in terms of the order of events. Most importantly, we need to put the question and make a decision.

(Question, that the words to be left out be left out, put and agreed to)

(Clause 2 deleted)

(Loud consultations)

You do not have the numbers.

(Loud consultations)

Clause 3

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Health. I hope you have the brief. Proceed.

Hon. (Dr) James Nyikal (Seme, ODM): Hon. Temporary Chairlady, I beg to move: THAT, Clause 3 of the Bill be deleted.

Clause 3 of the Bill seeks to amend section 5 of the principal Act by inserting new paragraphs. The two insertions on the functions of the National Cancer Institute are promoting the use of eHealth and telemedicine for the prevention and management of persons with cancer, and promoting the treatment of persons with cancer as components of primary health care. These provisions are already covered under section 3 on objects of the Digital Health Act. Once again, we have exactly the same situation as in the first place. The Committee researched this, noted the same and agreed with that.

(Members spoke off the record)

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Thank you very much. Let me propose the question first.

(Question of the further amendment proposed)

I allow Hon. Ochieng'.

Hon. David Ochieng' (Ugenya MDG): Hon. Temporary Chairlady, I wish to support all reservations, but we need to be clear so that Members know what we are dealing with. At this stage, it does not matter if we were 232 and all of us said 'nay'. We have to get this correctly; no one should read it in the wrong manner. Remember a situation where we dealt with a similar matter with the former Cabinet Secretary for Defence. There was pandemonium in the House. It is clear that for us to be able to overturn the President's reservation, we must raise the requisite numbers. So, it will not matter if all of us in the House today say 'nay'. This should go on record so that Members do not mislead their constituents or the public. For us to overturn the reservations, we must be 233 Members of Parliament.

(Hon. Owen Baya stood in his place)

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Deputy Leader of the Majority Leader, please sit. I am so sure Hon. Ochieng' is feeling intimidated.

Please proceed.

Hon. David Ochieng' (Ugenya MDG): No, he would not. He came to Parliament after I had been here for a long time, so he would not intimidate me. So the question of numbers has to be clear. And I agree with Hon. Baya that we should use the presidential reservation tool extremely sparingly. Above all, it should not be used to stifle a law that Parliament has passed. I always mourn a Bill I brought to this House three times. It was passed three times and presented to the President. I was told about the President's reservation one year later. I believe that, as Parliament, we should find a way of disciplining the issue. The body that makes law is Parliament, not the Presidency. We should ensure that the issues that warrant presidential reservation are those of extreme, exceptional and unforeseen circumstances, not any willy-nilly matter.

I support, Hon. Temporary Chairlady.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Thank you. There is a point of order from the Member for Kilgoris. What exactly is out of order?

Hon. Julius Sunkuli (Kilgoris, KANU): I wanted to add on to what our friend...

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Would you like me to give you a chance to contribute instead of adding?

Hon. Julius Sunkuli (Kilgoris, KANU): No. It is just a point of order to emphasise the fact that it is always the default position that the 'ayes' have it. If the Speaker is not clear or knows that the eventual answer is that there are no two-thirds of Members, even if more voices said 'nay', the default position in this case is that the 'ayes' have it. As sympathetic as this problem might be, I always thought Hon. Baya, being a very strong leader from Kilifi and of the UDA Party, has a lot of access to His Excellency the President. If the voice of the advisers becomes stronger than that of the Leader of the Majority Party, we are going to have a lot of problems. Perhaps it was not the Cabinet Secretary but the adviser who informed the President that the Bill should not be in this form. We will be getting legislation from State House instead of this House.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Thank you. Hon. Members, you know we are not debating; we are in the Committee of the whole House.

(Hon. Rahim Dawood spoke off the record)

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): You can only say something if I give you a chance. And I had given you a chance to say something before. Well, you will say something after the Leader of the Majority Party.

Hon. Owen Baya (Kilifi North, UDA): Hon. Temporary Chairlady, I want to draw the attention of the House to the time when the current Cabinet Secretary for Defence, Hon. Soipan Tuya, was in the seat where you are seated. We were handling the presidential reservation on the Finance Bill regarding tax on SMS and three other items. I was a very faithful member of the Orange Democratic (ODM) party. We actually marshalled the numbers, and we were ready. We did not want those reservations. For the first time, we wanted to torpedo a presidential memorandum. We were short five people. When the question was put, everybody said 'nay'. But because Hon. Soipan Tuya was aware of Article 115 of the Constitution, she said the 'ayes' have it, and it became pandemonium. The media and everyone else highlighted the voting, saying Hon. Soipan had made a mistake. But she was right. I remember Hon. JB Muturi asked me, 'Hon. Owen, how many were you?' I said we were 230. 'So, is it wrong that Hon. Soipan Tuya said what she did?' I said she was not wrong. She was right.

So, I want to tell my ladies: We do not have the numbers to torpedo a presidential reservation. What Hon. Dawood should have done from yesterday was to have marshalled 233 Members. He is a wealthy, very well-connected man. He would have used his position to influence every Member to be in the House, so that we could even have 234 Members.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Thank you, Hon. Baya. Hon. Dawood.

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): Hon. Temporary Chairlady, I believe you have the Memorandum. I have it with me. It is flawed and inaccurate. The fourth line says that the Cancer Prevention and Control (Amendment) Bill is National Assembly Bill No. 45 of 2025. My Bill is for 2022, not 2025. You have even said that this Bill was passed in March 2024, whereas the President is mentioning 15th April 2024. We are probably not talking about the same Bill.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Order, Hon. Dawood. I do not want you to mislead this House or the public. I would like you to go to that Memorandum and read the first paragraph. It is clear. We are talking about the Cancer Prevention and Control (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 45 of 2022). So, there is no 2025. There is no need to mislead the public. You still have another opportunity to make laws in this House.

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): Hon. Temporary Chairlady, if you allow me, the heading is 'Referral of the Cancer Prevention and Control (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 45 of 2025)'. That is what it says. It is not me. This was received and stamped by the Office of the Clerk on 30th June 2025. So, are we talking about the same Bill? Subsequent corrections may be there, but there are errors in this Memorandum. The errors cannot go just like that. Maybe the President needs to be told to redo the Memorandum. I know I cannot marshal 233 Members. That is out of question. Even if I were able to, I know half of them would not vote for it. I do not have an issue with that. However, this Memorandum is flawed, and it should be taken back to State House and brought back properly.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Okay, listen. Hon. Dawood, you are in your third term. I know that this does not happen every other day. It is also a learning process for all of us, not just for you. The Cancer Prevention and Control (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 45 of 2022) is a publication of that year. But if it were to be an Act, it would be for 2025. So, there is no error at all. This document is in order.

I am going to give the last opportunity to the Member for Makueni. Did you have your hand up? No, it is the Member for Machakos. You will be the last one, and then I will put the Question.

Hon. Joyce Kamene (Machakos County, WDM): Hon. Temporary Chair, I rise under Standing Order 35. I have looked around, and we do not have a quorum in the House to continue with this matter.

(Loud consultations)

(The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai) spoke off the record)

Hon. Owen Baya (Kilifi North, UDA): On a point of order, Hon. Temporary Chairlady, before you declare the lack of quorum.

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): What is out of order before I make the Statement?

Hon. Owen Baya (Kilifi North, UDA): Hon. Temporary Chairlady, it is okay and within the rights of the Member to say that. This is a learning process, and we learn as we proceed. This is a Presidential Memorandum under Article 115, and I want Members to read the Constitution. Whether we debate here and agree or not, it takes precedence...

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QUORUM

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachel Nyamai): Order. Order Hon. Baya. I order that the Quorum Bell be rung for 10 minutes. Unfortunately, Member for Taita Taveta, you cannot walk out, so please come back. So, let the Quorum Bell be rung for 10 minutes.

(The Quorum Bell was rung)

(Loud consultations)

The Temporary Chairlady (Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai): Hon. Members, I order that the Bell be stopped. We are unable to attain a quorum. I will therefore proceed to report that fact to the Speaker.

I thank you.

(The House resumed)

IN THE HOUSE

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng') in the Chair]

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Hon. Nyamai, proceed.

Hon. (Dr) Rachael Nyamai (Kitui South, JP): Hon. Temporary Speaker, I beg to report that while in the Committee of the whole House, the Member for Machakos County, Hon. Joyce Kamene, rose under Standing Order 35 and objected that the House did not have a quorum. The Bell was rung for 10 minutes, but a quorum was not attained.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, I beg to report.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Hon. Members, as you are aware, when that happens, we have to adjourn. Be upstanding, Hon. Members.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. David Ochieng'): Hon. Members, the time being 17 minutes to 12.00 p.m., this House stands adjourned until today, Wednesday, 13th August 2025, at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 11.43 a.m.

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