

NEWS GENERAL

CAMPAIGN

Ruto: 2 million jobs at risk if opposition wins

Cites threats to scrap affordable housing and Social Health Authority

JULIUS OTIENO
@TheStarKenya

PRESIDENT William Ruto has warned that more than two million youths risk losing their jobs if the opposition wins the 2027 general election.

The President claimed opposition leaders were plotting to dismantle key government initiatives, including affordable housing and the Social Health Authority (SHA), with devastating consequences for millions of Kenyans. "Those competing with us will take us back. They are saying that they will scrap affordable housing. I don't know where all these over one million youths will go to," Ruto said.

Speaking during a service at ACK Church in Kapsabet, Nandi county, on Sunday, Ruto accused his political rivals of advancing policies that would reverse gains made under his

administration. He claimed more than 1.1 million jobs linked to the affordable housing programme, 680,000 overseas employment opportunities and 300,000 digital jobs could be jeopardised by an opposition administration.

The President particularly defended SHA, warning that its abolition would return Kenyans to the days of selling property and organising harambees to settle hospital bills.

"They are saying they will remove SHA so that people can go back to selling cows, doing harambees, and selling their property to pay hospital bills. Those people, pray that they don't take us back," he said.

"Working with these people (opposition) will be like playing cards. It will be guesswork. Those people are useless. They are brainless. They have no vision. They have no agenda," he said.

Ruto urged Kenyans to carefully scrutinise the policies and development agenda of those seeking their votes in the next election.

He maintained that democracy should be about competing visions, development plans and manifestos rather than political rhetoric.

"We must use our freedom and right to choose in a democracy to choose a better vision. Choose a better plan. Choose a better manifesto. That is the essence of democracy," he said.

"It is going to be a very big shame if we are going to be people who are free but in poverty. It defeats the very essence of freedom and democracy."

The President said his administration remains committed to transforming healthcare, education, agriculture and infrastructure to improve the livelihoods of Kenyans.

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi described opposition lead-



President William Ruto addresses residents of Kapsabet town in Emgwen constituency, Nandi county, yesterday /HIRAM ONGODI/PCS

ers as merchants of dishonesty who cannot be trusted to lead the country.

"If someone has been secretary general of ODM, how can he lie to us that within six months, he can launch a party, market it and create structures?" he said.

He said that the country was in safe hands with President Ruto. He urged Nandi residents to register as voters to guarantee a second term.

National Assembly Majority leader Kimani Ichung'wa said Mr Kenya residents will fulfil their pledge to the

President to give him a second term.

"We said Uhuru kumi and Ruto kumi. That is a journey we started in 2013. We have already given Ruto his first term. We still have five years for a second term," Ichung'wa said.

Ruto announced the government had streamlined operations at the Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (Kemsa) to ensure timely delivery of drugs to public health facilities.

Ruto said strengthening dispensaries and health centres would reduce congestion in referral hospitals.

ILLEGAL PRACTICE

Senators plot tougher laws to stop branding of projects with images

JULIUS OTIENO

SENATORS are now considering tightening the law to stop governors and MCAs from branding publicly funded projects with their names, images and political identities.

They are accusing the county leaders of turning public investments into personal political campaigns.

The development comes after the governors appeared to ignore warnings by Parliament that the practice is illegal.

Nandi Senator Samson Cherargei said Parliament should strengthen existing laws to hold county leaders accountable for personalising projects financed through taxpayers' money.

"Maybe they think the current laws we have are weak. We will tighten the laws so that we can see where they are running to," Cherargei said.

He added: "You cannot publish your image and name on projects implemented by taxes paid by Kenyans."

Kisii Senator Richard Onyonka questioned the legal basis for the practice and whether the public is adequately involved in such decisions.

Onyonka cited Nyambara Park in Kisii, which he said had reportedly been branded Etaya Governor's Park, using an alias associated with the sitting governor.

He petitioned the Senate's Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations Committee to establish the legal and administrative basis for the branding of the facility and other county projects bearing the governor's name.

"Concern has arisen over the practice of naming and branding

county-funded projects after sitting governors," he said.

He wants the committee to establish whether public facilities financed by taxpayers should carry the personal names, titles, political identities or party affiliations of sitting office holders.

The senator wants the committee to establish the names, locations and costs of county-funded projects branded after the governor, as well as the procedures used to authorise the naming.

He also wants clarification on whether the decisions were subjected to public participation and the relevant approval processes.

Onyonka further asked the committee to disclose the costs incurred in branding Nyambara Park and similar projects, including procurement procedures and the sources of funding used.

He questioned whether existing national laws and administrative guidelines adequately prevent the personalisation of public projects.

Onyonka said county projects should be identified and branded in a manner that recognises their public ownership, promotes accountability and prevents the impression that governors financed them personally.

Last year, the committee called on the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) to investigate the branding of public assets by elected leaders.

The committee, chaired by Wajir Senator Mohamed Abass, made the recommendations following a petition by human rights activist Laban Omuundi, a Nakuru resident.

THEY ARE
ACCUSING
THE COUNTY
LEADERS OF
TURNING PUBLIC INVESTMENTS INTO
PERSONAL
POLITICAL
CAMPAIGNS

KEMSA

KENYA
VISION 2030

KENYA MEDICAL SUPPLIES AUTHORITY (KEMSA)

Tel No: 254 20 3922000

www.kemsa.go.ke Email: info@kemsa.go.ke

National Supply Chain Centre, Embakasi Off Airport North Road

P.O. Box 47715-00100 GPO Nairobi, Kenya

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) NOTICE

The Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA) on behalf of the Government of Kenya, Ministry of Health herewith invites sealed tender as follows:

No.	Tender No.	Tender Description	Tender Closing Date
1.	KEMSA/GOK-MOH/OIT 01/2026-2027	Supply of ARV Medicines	27th October, 2026 at 10.00 am

1. Qualified and Interested tenderers may obtain further information during office hours on Monday to Friday, 08.00 hrs to 17.00 hrs, except on Public Holidays from the Procurement Director's office situated at:

KEMSA, National Supply Chain Centre,

Embakasi Off Airport North Road,

P.O. Box 47715-00100, Nairobi

Tel No: +254111035800

Email: procurement.programs@kemsa.go.ke

2. Tender documents may be viewed and downloaded free of charge from the website: <http://www.kemsa.go.ke/tenders> and PPI Portal: tenders.go.ke Tender Documents obtained electronically will be free of charge.

3. Tenderers must register their bid documents at the Procurement Office or via email at procurement.programs@kemsa.go.ke (Refer to registration form in the tender document) to facilitate any further clarification or addendum.

4. The bid documents must be deposited in the Tender Box No.1 marked GOK/World Bank at the reception on the Ground Floor- Office Block, KEMSA, National Supply Chain Centre, Embakasi Off Airport North Road, Nairobi on or before the dates indicated in the table above.

5. Late bids shall be rejected and returned unopened.