Thousands spend the night inside stadium

- Thousands packed renovated Kipchoge Keino Stadium in first national Mashujaa Day celebration in North Rift.
- President highlighted development record, claiming the Opposition was spreading hate and dividing the country.

WYCLIFF KIPSANG, ELDORET



A section of the crowd that attended Mashujaa Day celebrations at the Kipchoge Keino stadium in Eldoret yesterday. [Benjamin Sakwa, Standard]

The 63rd Mashujaa Day was celebrated with pomp and colour on Tuesday as thousands of Kenyans filled the newly renovated Kipchoge Keino Stadium in Eldoret City. It was the first time the national holiday had been hosted in the North Rift, and the event was uniquely co-hosted by Uasin Gishu, Nandi and Elgeyo Marakwet counties.

The stadium, situated along the Iten-Eldoret road, opened its doors as early as 5am, many people had spent the night inside. Security was heavily beefed up in and around the venue, with all those entering thoroughly frisked by personnel drawn from various units.

Those without proper identification documents, including some journalists, were turned away.

The scorching sun did not deter the crowds. Kenya Defence Forces personnel took command of the main entrance while other units maintained general security around the stadium.

President William Ruto arrived with his motorcade shortly after 11am as guests enjoyed entertainment from traditional dancers and schoolchildren from across the country. He was joined by, among others, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed.

During his 10-day tour of the North Rift, the President on Monday assented to the County Governments Additional Allocations Bill, 2026, at State Lodge in Eldoret. The new law raises additional allocations to counties from Sh70.67 billion in the 2025/2026 financial year to Sh71.09 billion for 2026/2027, an increase of Sh425.6 million. The funds comprise Sh12.73 billion from the national government's share of revenue, Sh56.38 billion in loans and grants from development partners, and further allocations from court fines and mineral royalties.

It also requires quarterly reports on actual transfers to county governments to strengthen accountability. The allocations will support healthcare staffing and management, climate change resilience, agriculture value chain development, drought response, natural resource management, and water and sanitation, providing additional budgetary support for counties to discharge their constitutional functions.

President Ruto also signed into law the County Assembly Services (Amendment) Bill, 2023, which seeks to strengthen the governance and administration of county assembly services. The law provides clear, fair and time-bound procedures for the removal of County Assembly Service Board members and for the suspension and removal of clerks of county assemblies, while safeguarding the rights and benefits of seconded staff.

At yesterday's celebrations, the President struck a reconciliatory tone, urging the opposition to tone down the politics of hate, anger and ethnicity. He appealed to his political opponents to embrace issue-based politics, saying Kenyans cannot afford to elect leaders who lack a vision and a plan for the country.

"You are becoming merchants of hate, merchants of ethnicity, merchants of anger. Our country cannot afford anger, ethnic politics or division," President Ruto said. "We went into the elections with a plan and an agenda because we wanted to change the politics of Kenya. We do not want the politics of our nation to be ever anchored on ethnicity or division."

He maintained that his administration has remained committed to the promises made to Kenyans during the 2022 General Election.

The President said his decision to work with ODM Party Leader Raila Odinga was informed by the need to end ethnic politics, exclusion and division. He added that the UDA and ODM would continue working together to advance national unity and development.

Defending Kenya's democratic and constitutional order, President Ruto said the freedom to choose leaders should enable citizens to distinguish between those offering a transformative plan and those resorting to insults and divisive politics.

He urged Kenyans to hold leaders accountable for their promises and not allow ethnicity to determine political choices.

"We told the country that we had a plan; we told Kenya that we had an agenda. We told Kenya that we had a mission. We told Kenya that we had a vision for the transformation of our nation," he said.

"Today, as I stand in the city of Eldoret, I can confirm that the plan to transform Kenya is on course."

The President cited agricultural revival, economic stabilisation, universal healthcare, education reform and affordable housing as priority programmes that are changing the country. On the economy, he said Kenya had moved from a difficult financial position to a more stable footing, with inflation under control and the country rising to the sixth-largest economy in Africa.

Agricultural revival and government interventions, he explained, were improving farmers' earnings and putting more money in citizens' pockets.

In healthcare, he noted that the Social Health Authority had registered more than 33 million people, compared with eight million under the former National Health Insurance Fund, and was making monthly payments to health facilities across the country, including Sh13 billion to Uasin Gishu County.

On education, the President said the government was introducing a new funding model so that access to higher education would depend on students' academic ability rather than their parents' financial circumstances.

On employment, he said the government was creating jobs through affordable housing, modern markets and student hostels. Some 300,000 housing units are at various stages of completion, generating more than 1.1 million jobs nationwide.

During the tour the President inspected the tuition block at Koitaleel Samoei University College in Nandi Hills, which is 90 per cent complete and equipped with laboratories, lecture theatres and a library. He also laid the foundation stone for two student hostel blocks at the institution. He launched construction of the 22-kilometre Mugundoi-Nandi Hills and Kosiage-Cheptulu roads at a cost of Sh1.38 billion, part of a Sh25 billion investment to build 350 kilometres of roads across Nandi County, and flagged off a Sh157 million last-mile electricity connectivity project in Nandi Hills.

He later inspected the 729-unit Nandi Hills Affordable Housing Project and announced that the government is investing Sh18 billion in the county to build 4,000 housing units, among other projects

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COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MOMBASA

INVITATION TO TENDER

The County Government of Mombasa invites sealed tenders for the following tenders:

S/ No	Tender Number	Description	Eligibility
1.	CGM/PRO/ PSA/T/004/2026-2027	PROVISION OF STAFF MEDICAL INSURANCE COVER FOR THE YEAR 2026 – 2027	OPEN TENDER-NATIONAL
2.	CGM/E/PRO/T/5/2026-2027	PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF KENGELENI ECD CENTRE	OPEN TENDER-NATIONAL
3.	CGM/E/PRO/T/6/2026-2027	PROPOSED COMPLETION OF AMANI ECD CENTRE	OPEN TENDER-NATIONAL
4.	CGM/E/PRO/T/7/2026-2027	PROPOSED COMPLETION OF RONALD NGALA ECD CENTRE	OPEN TENDER-NATIONAL

Interested and eligible tenderers may download the tender document **FREE OF CHARGE** from the County website www.mombasa.go.ke and the Public Procurement and Information Portal(PPIP) http://tenders.go.ke Bidders are advised to regularly visit the County Government of Mombasa website to obtain any additional information/addendum on the tender. **All addenda/additional information on the tender shall be posted on the website as they become available.**

Interested tenderers may obtain further information from the **Procurement Office on 2nd floor room 102, County Assembly building – Mombasa.**

Duly completed bid documents in plain, sealed envelopes bearing the **tender name, tender number** and **its description** must be deposited at the Tender Box located at the **County Assembly Hall, Ground Floor next to the main office, Treasury Square, Mombasa.** All bidding documents should reach the said venue on or before **3rd November 2026, 10:00 Hours** and addressed to:

The County Secretary,
County Government of Mombasa
P.O BOX 80133-80100
Mombasa.

Tenders will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of the candidates who choose to attend or their representatives, at **Finance Boardroom, County Assembly Hall 2nd Floor.**

Prices quoted should be net inclusive of all taxes and shall remain valid for 180 days from the closing date of the tender.

Canvassing or lobbying for the tender shall lead to automatic disqualification. The County Government of Mombasa reserves the right to accept or reject any tender and does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

The County Secretary
County Government of Mombasa