

Radio case on Chinese to be heard Monday

BY NATION CORRESPONDENT

The High Court will rule on Monday on whether to release Chinese nationals arrested for illegally running a radio station in Runda Estate, Nairobi.

Mr Justice Luka Kimaru yesterday said he would issue a ruling on Monday following a heated argument between the state and the lawyer representing the 37 Chinese citizens.

Whereas Mr Tom Wachakana for the accused requested the judge to release his clients, currently being held at Gigiri Police Station on bond, a state lawyer strongly opposed the application.

Forty others

"Their travel and identification documents have been impounded by the police. They cannot skip trial or interfere with investigations," Mr Wachakana said.

However, the lawyer representing the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Director of Criminal Investigations said the application was not necessary since the period the court gave the police to conduct investigations was almost coming to an end.

The 37 were arrested on Monday and 19 of them did not have identification documents.

Fourty other Chinese nationals appeared in court on similar charges and police were given 10 days to carry out investigations.

Ward rep sues Speaker over Kabogo motion

BY NATION CORRESPONDENT

A Kiambu ward representative has sued the county's Speaker for blocking a Motion for impeachment of Governor William Kabogo.

Mr Joseph Murugami (Limuru Central ward) filed the suit at the High Court yesterday, accusing the Speaker of bias and abuse of office in rejecting his request to table the Motion.

Justice Weldon Korir yesterday certified the case urgent and directed him to serve the Speaker with the documents.

On November 18, Mr Murugami prepared the Motion for Mr Kabogo's removal from office, accusing him of gross violation of the Constitution and other laws.

It was supported by 30 county assembly members' signatures, and was forwarded to the Speaker for approval.

However, the Speaker raised several issues, including alleged forgery of signatures, which made it impossible for Mr Murugami to issue a notice to table the Motion in the assembly.

Mr Murugami's lawyer, Mr Ndegwa Njiru, yesterday told the court that the decision was meant to frustrate the ward leader's efforts to table the Motion. The hearing will be on December 17.

NEW BLOOD | MP Simba Arati who was eyeing party leader's seat walks out as Raila is endorsed

ODM approves Naivasha line-up

Namwamba, Mbadi and Junet assume key offices as Otuoma gives meet of party's top organ a wide berth in a protest move

BY ISAAC ONGIRI
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ODM leader Raila Odinga yesterday unveiled a new team of party leaders after the National Governing Council (NGC) endorsed a new line-up adopted at the Naivasha retreat last month.

Budalang'i MP Ababu Namwamba officially took over as the party's secretary-general, replacing Prof Anyang' Nyong'o who has held the position for the last eight years while Suba MP John Mbadi became chairman.

But Funyula MP Paul Otuoma, who has openly criticized the line-up, gave the event a wide berth. Dr Otuoma told *Saturday Nation* that he was graduating at the University of Nairobi and did not find time to attend the NGC.

"It is now time to put what happened to us in February this year—when newspapers and the media wrote our party's obituary—behind us and focus on our future," Mr Odinga told the delegates.

He declared that his party had resurrected, and that his next mission is to ensure it puts in place adequate machinery to dislodge President Uhuru Kenyatta's Jubilee regime from power in the coming election.

He urged the new officials to work hard to ensure the party is rebranded and popularised on the ground ahead of the 2017 General Election.

Earlier, the delegates approved proposed amendments to the party's constitution to create new positions to accommodate more officials.

The delegates created the post of Director of Elections and nominated Suna East MP Junet Mohammed as the holder of the office.



JEFF ANGOTE | NATION

ODM leader Raila Odinga (centre) in a jig with the party's new Secretary-General Ababu Namwamba (second left), Chairman John Mbadi (second right), other leaders and delegates at yesterday's meeting at Bomas of Kenya in Nairobi

Mr Odinga criticized the Jubilee regime over runaway insecurity in the country, saying the government had failed to protect the citizens from terrorists.

It is awkward, he said, that the government is blaming Kenyans for some of the attacks and trying to run away from its own core responsibility.

"Recently we were told that the government killed 100 Al-Shaabab militia members in an air raid. We are wondering how they were able to count the bodies from the air," he said.

Mr Odinga said that recent nomination of Kajlado Central MP Joseph Nkaiserry as Cabinet Secretary for Interior amounted to an illegal political poaching.

"Now that they have poached Maj Nkaiserry we are going to demand that we be allowed to get back our seat without contest. And this is a condition," he said.

He said the Cord's referendum campaigns were on, and that the opposition would continue to insist on electoral reforms and improved devolution.

Addressing the delegates Mr Namwamba pledged to ensure the party is revitalized and strengthened.

He also extended an olive branch to disgruntled party members and urged them to support the party.

The party's new chairman John Mbadi promised to work with party officials to deal with cartels that sell party documents during nominations.

Siaya Senator James Orengo, who had previously criticised the list, was among several MPs who attended the event. Several other rebel MPs including Ugenya MP David Ochieng and his Kabondo Kasipul MP Sylvance Osele were also present.

LINE-UP

Junet and Mbadi take big offices

■ **Party leader:** Raila Odinga

■ **Deputies:** Hassan Joho and Wycliffe Oparanya

■ **Chairman:** John Mbadi

■ **Secretary-General:** Ababu Namwamba

■ **Deputies to the Secretary-General:** Agnes Zani and Elizabeth Ongoro

■ **Director of Elections:** Mohammed Junet

■ **National Treasurer:** Timothy Bosire

■ **Organising Secretary:** Abdikadir Aden

Teacher's union warns of first term strike over salary dispute

BY NATION REPORTER

Post-primary school teachers have given the government till January 1 to meet their wage demands or put the first term in jeopardy.

Teachers in Mandera and other violence-hit areas have also been advised to stay away until adequate security is in place.

The Kenya Union of Post Primary Education Teachers yesterday said the decision was made following delays to implement pay rise pacts.

"Teachers are bleeding. In January, we are not opening schools. No money no schools. That is the message we are sending to government," Kuppet Secretary-General Akello Misori (above) said in a statement.

Education Cabinet Secretary Joseph Kaimenyi has said the demands by teachers would



have to await the Salaries and Remuneration Commission, which the teachers have rejected.

Prof Kaimenyi also said the exchequer could not shoulder the extra burden, adding that a salary increase would cripple other sectors of the economy.

But the teachers are having none of this. "For over

six years we have been in piecemeal negotiations. We don't like quarrelling with our employer," he said.

Kuppet also demanded the payment of leave allowances by the end of this month.

Teachers working in north eastern Kenya were told not to report for work until their safety was assured.

"Come January, no teacher shall go back to Mandera. It is the duty of the government to provide security," Mr Misori said.

Other demands include payment of risk allowances to science teachers and those in violence-prone areas.

The union also demanded house allowances for members. "Teachers working in upmarket schools like Kenya High live in the ghettos because houses near their workplaces are out of reach," the secretary-general said.

New universities funding plan urged

BY NATION CORRESPONDENT

Outgoing University of Nairobi Vice-Chancellor George Magoha yesterday asked the government to consider funding universities based on the resource requirements of their courses.

Known as unit cost-based funding, universities are financed at a level that matches their running costs, as opposed to uniform funding, Prof Magoha explained.

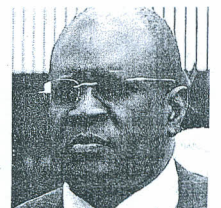
"If adopted, unit cost-based funding will plug the deficit that has continually plagued universities offering courses that require a lot of investment in learning materials and lecturers," said Prof Magoha.

He spoke at the university's 52nd graduation ceremony presided over

by the Chancellor, Dr Vijoo Rattansi, at which over 7,000 graduands were awarded degrees, diplomas and certificates. Among them were 104 doctorates.

Dr Rattansi called upon institutions of higher learning to commercialise research and create new industries and jobs.

Prof Magoha has been replaced as Vice-Chancellor by one of his deputies, Prof Peter Mbithi.



Prof George Magoha