

Minister stops NHIF fiat on patient shifts

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referring the set out procedure to the ministry for review before any announcement on its being adopted is made, she said.

At the same time, the minister castigated the habit among a section of clients of NHIF shifting a patient from one hospital to another within a short time, as the cessation and restart of treatment adds to drug resistance for patients.

"That has been the practice for patients simply because they have health insurance. Today he is treated here and while still on the course of treatment, goes to another hospital to restart the treatment," she said, identifying this habit as a big problem.

NHIF earlier announced a new procedure taking off August 1 for hospitals that send treatment bills to the fund that a hospital should not accept a patient who has been treated at another hospital before 30 days elapse.

That however does not include instances of referral to another hospital or in cases of emergency which will be deemed to be genuine, the notice had indicated.

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Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa exchanges greetings with PanAfrican Energy Tanzania managing director Andrew Hanna at the firm's pavilion on the sidelines of the opening of Tanzania Energy Congress 2022 in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt to oversee full participation of local firms in oil, gas industry

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effectively participate in the sector, he said.

Such measures would ensure that the larger firms implement career development programmes and put in place succession plans for Tanzanians employed in their companies, he said.

The series of measures is in line with facilitating the private sector to acquire technical skills for higher participation in the energy sector. Training institutions need to impart the necessary skills and a knowledge base on energy business to local entrepreneurs and experts.

Establishment of a regional natural gas infrastructure and investment in renewable energy in addition to local content development were equally important strategic issues in the sector, he said.

Skills and capacity building for small and medium scale enterprises (SMEs) was vital, he said, pointing at the major priorities of the government in the energy sector as the construction of East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) from Hoima in northern Uganda to the port of Tanga. The other project is building a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) plant at Likong'o Mchinga area in Lindi region.

"However, these sources will not automatically be a blessing without having a clear vision and mission backed up with appropriate policy, legal and institutional framework that guides the entire value chain of natural gas exploration and exploitation," the premier asserted.

Energy minister January Makamba said the congress is a vital forum in raising awareness and promoting investments in the energy sector, starting from electricity to oil and gas, and a scatter of other concerns.

"It is obvious that this gathering will enable stakeholders of the oil, gas and power sectors to deliberate on the energy business in the country and

worldwide," he stated.

The main elements of the Tanzania Energy Policy (2015) include developing domestic energy resources as least cost options, promoting lower energy pricing, along with improving energy reliability, security.

Enhancing energy efficiency, encouraging local private sector participation in the energy value chain, reducing deforestation and developing human resources are vital goals for the sub-sector, he said.

"Therefore, I will very much appreciate to hear issues on clean cooking initiatives being discussed as it is a very important subsector which always does not receive much attention," he told the gathering.

Tanzania is spearheading initiatives to bring onboard issues of clean cooking, he said, hinting that deliberations at the congress will help come up with common strategies to develop the energy sector in the country and the sub-region.

The congress is slated to cover a wide range of areas in energy business, from electricity generation, transmission and distribution to petroleum exploration, natural gas production and distribution to final consumers like power plants, industries and household use.

Abdulsamad Abdulrahim, chairman of the Association of Tanzania Oil and Gas Service Providers (ATOGS) who steered the organizational team for the congress, said that the forum will be showcasing local brands for interested parties in the global value chain investment companies.

The forum has attracted upwards of 5,000 participants since it started, and this year it features representatives from Oman, Kenya, Mozambique, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Brunei, Canada, Australia, Uganda, Burundi, DRC Congo, Zambia, Britain, Comoros, Italy, China, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Norway, and the United Arab Emirates, in particular.

Fuel price hike ignites small businesses panic

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selling at 1,000/- was now pegged at 1,500/-. More customers have fled, he said.

"I don't know what the situation will be at the moment because everything has doubled," he said.

Arusha-based Bajaj rider Dickson Martin said that the increase in fuel price will push up the fare and risks doubling food prices.

Babati town resident Ramadhani Mohamed said that it is good for the

government to look at increasing some taxes to compensate for increases in oil prices because everyone depends on oil.

The government should increase the tax on alcohol as it is a luxury as well as cash transactions based on mobile phones to save consumers of fuel as the price is too high, he suggested.

Tanga city resident Festo Asenga said that fuel price rose from 3,190/- to 3,500/- within two days and it affects their businesses as customers

can't afford the hiked prices for such services.

Bomango'mbe Bajaj rider in Kilimanjaro region, Khalifa Juma said he was thinking of abandoning the transport business as it doesn't pay anymore, taking into account that fares remain the same.

When contacted, Mustapha Mwalongo, the Tanzania Bus Owners Association (TABOA) information director, said that the secretariat will soon convene a members' meeting to

discuss the new fuel prices.

The meeting will discuss in detail how the prices affect them in transportation, relating to upcountry destinations. After the meeting they will give their position on what to do with current fares, he said.

EWURA on Tuesday night released new zonal cap prices of petrol, diesel and kerosene, whereby in Dar es Salaam petrol is sold at 3,410/- but in Kyerwa (Kagera) is at 3,647/-. Diesel is sold at 3,322/- and 3,560/- respectively.



Good Neighbours Tanzania senior programme manager John Massenza (with microphone) briefs Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi yesterday during a display of science books for use in secondary schools. The agency is executing a US\$5 million education scheme in the Isles. Photo: State House

Clerics encourage Tanzanians to take full part in the forthcoming National Population and Housing Census lined up for August 23

By Correspondent James Kandoya

RELIGIOUS leaders have been challenged to promote peace and encourage Tanzanians to take part in the forthcoming National Population and Housing Census slated for August 23 since the exercise is crucial for the country's development.

Tunu Pinda, wife of Former Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda made the appeal yesterday in Dar es Salaam when opening the international leadership conference that was organized by the Universal Peace Federation (UPF).

The conference themed: 'Analysis and Strategies for Peace on the Korean Peninsula and its relevance for Africa region' was attended by 150 participants.

She said clerics play a vital role in promoting peace and solidarity, hence the need for them to use their congregations to inform and educate people on the importance of the census.

"Religious leaders have been in the forefront in promoting peace and security in our country; it is my hope that they will also play their part in the forthcoming census to be conducted a few weeks to come," said Tunu, noting their role is to ensure the exercise becomes a success.

"Let us spread the message to Tanzanians that everyone has to be counted. This will help the government to come up with good development plans," she said.

Tunu commended the government's efforts in making sure every citizen is counted on August 23rd, 2022.

Dar es Salaam Regional Sheikh Alhadi Mussa Salum said clerics have a role to spread messages of peace and solidarity. He said without peace, it will be difficult for the government to achieve its targeted goals in provision of social services such as healthcare, water and construction of schools.

"The conference is good platform for religious leaders to discuss and retreat to ensure the messages of love reaches people across the country," he said.

Dr Stylos Simbamwene, National leader of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) said without knowing the principle of peace it won't be easy to realize it.

"We are teaching our people to know the principles of obtaining and maintaining peace among themselves," he said.

According to NBS, the 2022 census is expected to register 64 million people on the basis of current estimates and it will be done at an equally estimated cost of \$2.16 per person.

Tanzanians told to continue with Covid-19 vaccinations to reach national goal by Dec

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

TANZANIANS have been called to continue with COVID-19 vaccination in order to attain the national goal in vaccinating 70 per cent of the people by December, this year.

The remarks were made yesterday in Dar es Salaam by the community education and mobilisation coordinator of the Ministry of Health, Peter Mabwe when launching "Tanzania Iko Tayari" campaign aimed at mobilising people to vaccinate.

The campaign is expected to be conducted simultaneously with various NGOs including Africa Union, Access Challenge, African CDC, Jakaya

Kikwete Foundation and Clouds Media Group (CMG).

"The national Covid-19 vaccination goal is to attain 70 per cent of those targeted - Tanzanians of 18 years of age upwards to get vaccinated by December this year," said Mabwe.

He said Ministry of Health experts will work together with other stakeholders in the campaign to make sure the national goal is attained.

He added that the main aim of the government is to make sure the country is safe against diseases and other emergencies regarding health, hence, he added, the people have to get the right information on the issue and in time.

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economic damage of about \$3.64trn from 1970 to 2019.

Impacts of climate change like flooding and droughts have increased in Tanzania in recent years, with considerable impact on human lives, livelihoods and properties, he stated.

"Floods and droughts in 2020 and 2021 were reported to cause damage of infrastructure, destruction of housing and belongings, affecting transportation, deaths of livestock and a number of individuals in some regions, he elaborated.

In view of the risk that weather and climate pose to communities, specific

Regional project to enhance weather forecasting - TMA

sectors and the economy generally, it is vital to improve weather prediction accurately, he said. Weather early warning to needy communities must be provided in a timely and cost effective manner, he stated.

"Accurate, timely weather and broader climate information will support effective planning of socioeconomic activities," he further affirmed.

The Finnish Meteorological Institute will support the customization of weather forecasting for end-users of partner organizations, that is, the national weather agencies.

Dr Agmes Kijazi, the TMA director general, said that reaching end users, particularly the more vulnerable communities and sectors is the ultimate goal of early warning services.

The key objective in this regard is to ensure that quality weather and climate services reach needy communities timely and in a cost effective manner, she asserted.

Riitta Swan, the Finland ambassador, said the project has a bilateral cooperation aspect and development activities between Finland, the end-users in each country and activities involving all the partners together.