

Chinese experts arrive for a ship excavation project

BY MAUREEN MUDI

THE second phase of the historical underwater ship excavation in a Sh300 million partnership project in the Coastal region is set to commence this November with the arrival of Chinese archaeologists in the country.

A 13-member delegation has been in the country since two weeks ago to conduct surveillance over the expected archaeological sites in Mombasa and Malindi-Mamburi/Ngomeni area, according to the National Museums of Kenya assistant director, Coastal region, Athman Hussein.

The excavation will, however, this time be unique since for the first time in the history of African archaeology, it will be beamed live all over the world, with a team of 25 archaeologists in

Mombasa and Mamburi, simultaneously conducting the exercise.

"A team of 80 Chinese experts including those from CCTV will be around to ensure the historical event is filmed and transmitted to the whole world as a way to help market Kenya as an underwater cultural heritage hub," Athman said.

The Mamburi wreck, according to Athman, is a local ship believed to be between 150-200 years old, while the Mombasa channel has two wrecks, both assumed to have been ships from the Portuguese which sunk in the 17th century and are near Fort Jesus.

"The ship had begun being excavated in the 1980s but due to shortage of funds, the process was stopped, but now its back, with the assistance of the Chinese," Athman said.



DISCOVERY: Chinese researchers and Kenyan archaeologists with National Museums of Kenya officials at the excavation site in Mamburi in September last year.

British kidnap case in Lamu court today

BY MAUREEN MUDI

A Lamu court has issued a production order for a suspect charged with the kidnap of a British tourist last year ahead of the trial today.

The order was to be served on prison authorities at Hindi by yesterday afternoon after it was confirmed that the forensic evidence and exhibits that had been flown to Britain for further analysis had arrived back in the country.

The prosecution led by Caleb Mutonye had applied that the British witnesses in the case against Ali Babito, give their evidence through video to cut on costs. The application was allowed.

If the technology works, it is expected that the British witnesses will give their evidence from their country. The machine set up will be tested before the due date.

2,500 children vaccinated against measles in Kwale

BY MARTIN MWITA

THE measles outbreak in Kwale county has been contained, Kwale district disease surveillance coordinator Hannah Kache said.

The outbreak had been reported at Mbuguni, Mwalubamba and Mkomani areas which later spread to Kombani in Waa location.

Speaking to the Star, Kache said the health department took immediate action to ensure the disease does not spread further.

"We had three cases of measles and we observed 18 children who came with the same symptoms before declaring an outbreak. We then immediately took the initiative to launch a vaccination campaign which mothers and their children cooperated well,"

Kache said.

She said the vaccination outreach programme initiated to control the disease has so far reached more than 2,500 children of six years and below who were in danger of being affected.

"We took immediate action and mobilised

parents in affected areas to bring their children for the vaccine. This has enabled us control the disease and avoid further spreading," he said.

"There are no more threats unless the child had already been affected and was in the incubation period," he said.

Photo/ EL KANA JACOB



GET WELL: Jackson Ndio immunises children against measles in Changamwe in September last year.

Two men lynched in Mombasa

BY MARTIN MWITA

TWO men suspected to be thieves were yesterday lynched by a mob and one escaped narrowly at Jitoni area in Jomvu, Mombasa.

The three, among them a preacher and a doctor, are said to have broken into a residential house belonging to Ntana Nyando, a resident at Jitoni village in Jomvu area at around 3pm.


Confirming the incident, Changamwe police boss Awuor Otieno said the men are reported to have stolen Sh5,000 and

goods of unknown value.

He said investigations are ongoing to establish from which church the preacher was and also details of the medical practitioner.

It is said the three; Jackson Kioko, Benjamin Juma and Edward Wanjugi broke in when the owner was not in the house and ransacked the house making away with the cash and goods.

According to an eye witness, Nyando's daughter who was playing a few metres from their home noticed the movement and started screaming alerting the public.



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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED PEKENYA GAS SUPPLIES LIMITED ON PLOT L.R. NO. THIKA MUNICIPALITY/BLOCK 13/308, THIKA MUNICIPALITY IN THIKA WEST DISTRICT

Pursuant to regulation 21 of Environmental Impact Assessment and Audit regulations, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has received an Environmental Impact Assessment Study Report for the implementation of the proposed Pekenya gas supplies. The proposed project entails development of a gas filling and packaging station on plot L.R. No. Thika Municipality/Block 13/308 in Thika's Industrial Area, Thika West District approximately 4km from Thika town.

POSSIBLE IMPACT	MITIGATION MEASURES
Dust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water the ground before excavation Provide workers with nose masks and transparent goggles Exclosure the proposed site with an iron sheet perimeter fence
Noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of ear protection by workers Recondition engine exhaust systems Ensure proper engine tune-up Establish inspection program for equipment All noisy operations to be restricted to day time hours and meet the maximum permissible noise levels Workers to wear ear muffs if working in a noisy section Silencers to be installed on
Water resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish spillage prevention procedures & response plan Procure spill control kit Train staff on management & response to spillage incidents Machinery shall be well maintained to prevent of leaks on the ground All oil products shall be stored in a site store and handled carefully Spill prevention procedures & response plan Procure spill prevention Install a gas trap as shown in the site plan Establish program for skimming gas traps Obtain spill/leak control kit Train staff on spill prevention Construct a well/drainage with constant flow of water for leak detection Implement a program of inspection Connect the toilets to the sewer line Effective maintenance of plumbing and drainage system
Soil contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spill control procedures Training Procure spill/leak control kit Connect the toilets to the sewer line Effective maintenance of plumbing and drainage system
Biological Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscaping Vegetation that does not interfere with sitting should be left intact During the decommissioning stage the proponent shall rehabilitate the land by removing any unnecessary materials that shall be covering the land and preventing natural biodiversity After completion of the project the proponent will rehabilitate the land by planting trees and ornamental flowers on the disturbed areas
Transportation (Traffic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All vehicles delivering bulk materials to the site not to exceed the regional weight limit comply with traffic rules
Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide first aid kit Observe safety procedures Provide personal protective equipment Implement fire prevention plan Avoid fire equipment Training of workers

The full report of the proposed project is available for inspection during working hours at:

- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources, NJO Building, Community, P.O. Box 30521, NAIROBI
- Director General, NEMA, Papo Road, off Mombasa Road, P.O. Box 67829-00100, NAIROBI
- Provincial Director of Environment CENTRAL PROVINCE
- District Environment Officer THIKA WEST DISTRICT

A copy of the EIA report can be downloaded from www.nema.go.ke. NEMA invites members of the public to submit oral or written comments within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice to the Director General, NEMA, to assist the Authority in the approval process of the project. EIA/5/24/19. Comments can also be e-mailed to ecia@nema.go.ke

Signature
ENG. A. M. KARIUKI
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