



CITY FLOODS

Stranded

Motorists and boda boda riders wade through a flooded section of the Queens Way in Kampala after a downpour on Tuesday. Whenever it rains, pedestrians and motorists on this road and other parts of the city are left stranded. Fatalities have been reported, which has been attributed to poor drainage in Kampala City. PHOTO BY COLLEGE MUGUME

Vendors remain uncertain as Nateete Market land is sold off

Controversy. Hundreds of vendors remain stranded after reports that Nateete Market was sold off to a private developer. They accuse KCCA of failing to defend their interests as sitting tenants.

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KAMPALA. A row has erupted over the sale of Nateete Market, leaving hundreds of vendors stranded with many accusing Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) of failing to defend their interests as sitting tenants.

The market at the centre of controversy measures one acre of mailo land in Kyadondo-Mengo, Rubaga Division. It is managed by KCCA.

According to the sale agreement dated October 22, 2015, a copy of which *Daily Monitor* has seen, the market was sold to R.R Family Transporters Ltd by the proprietors of the contested land.

The proprietors are: Mr Musa Ddamulira, Ms Madina Nassejje, Mr Juma Lutwama, Mr Suleiman Nsimbe and Mr Ismail Sebugwawo.

Documents show that they had acquired a loan of Shs250m from a one Mr David Bukalameye which they failed to repay, forcing them to sell the Nateete Market land.

However, by the time it was sold, vendors under their umbrella of Nateete Vendors Company Ltd, still had a lease running for the next 46 years.

According to documents, after buying the land, R.R Family Transporters Ltd then asked the proprietors to cancel the lease which had been given to Nateete Vendors Company Ltd to guarantee them full ownership to mitigate further encumbrances.

Vendors told *Daily Monitor* that their leaders connived with the proprietors of the land to sell it off by cancelling the lease without seeking their consent.

On May 17, the leaders of Nateete

KEY ISSUE

"It's on record that we have been running Nateete market as KCCA and there is no way the legal department could say that they don't have any interest in that land."

ERIAS LUKWAGO,
KAMPALA LORD MAYOR



Vendors Company Ltd surrendered the lease to the proprietors of the land, saying that they don't have any interest in the lease.

"...At the moment, we have no interest in the existing lease and however, do hereby recommend the cancellation of the existing lease in the names of Nateete Vendors Company Ltd to the owner of the Mailo Land," their letter reads in part.

The three directors who surrendered the lease are: Mr Stephen Ntanzu, Mr Dirisa Ndugwa and Mr Joseph Zziwa.

Vendors have since protested the transaction, alleging that the market land was fraudulently sold off.

They have also tasked KCCA to explain why they approved the sale of the land on which they have permanent structures which were constructed with funding from World Bank.

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briefly

Four students for Zambia

KAMPALA. Four secondary school students have been selected to represent Uganda at the forthcoming Africa Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) competitions in Zambia on August 23. Praise Aturinda and Joan Wakisa of St Maria Gorret Katerende plus Monica Nabwire and Monica Nambwayo of Mount of Olives College Kakiri, will present two projects: Mechano Sprayer, used in agricultural processes, and a multi-purpose solar heater at the continental contest. The four emerged the best during the national STEM competitions at Kitante Hill School in Kampala recently. [Jalira Namyalo]

Kaweesi case adjourned

KAMPALA. Nakawa Chief Magistrates Court on Wednesday adjourned the case in which 22 men are accused of being behind the brutal murder of former police spokesperson Andrew Felix Kaweesi, his bodyguard and driver. The prosecution led by Christin Opija, informed court that the investigations are still ongoing before asking for an adjournment to another date. To that effect, presiding Grade One Magistrate Noah Ssajabi, adjourned the matter to August 24 this year to enable the police carry on with their investigations. [Juliet Kigongo]