

TALKING POINTS OF H.E RIGATHI GACHAGUA, EGH, DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA, DURING THE LAUNCH OF MAKUTANO HUDUMA CENTRE, IN LAIKIPIA EAST, LAIKIPIA COUNTY, ON MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024 AT 10:00AM

Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Performance and Delivery Management Moses Kuria;

Principal Secretary, State Department for Public Service, Amos Njoroge Gathecha;

Principal Secretary, State Department for Performance and Delivery Management Veronica Nduva;

Our Host, Governor Joshua Irungu;

Laikipia Senator John Nderitu;

Laikipa East MP Mwangi Kiunjuri;
Other Members of Parliament;
Woman Representative Jane Kagiri;
MCAs and other Leaders;
Ladies and Gentlemen;

1. It is a pleasure joining you, the People of Laikipia County, as we officially launch the Makutano Huduma Centre, today.

With this Fifty-Third such facility, we are devolving a people-centered service to the doorstep.

2. We are reaching over 60,000 customers per day through the Huduma Centres in 33 Counties across the country.

Opening of this facility in Laikipia County increases our reach to the people of Ngobit, Tigithi, Thinguthu, Umande, among others.

- 3. Indeed, the Makutano Facility is strategic. It will serve over 500,000 residents of Laikipia and the bordering Counties, whose Huduma Centres are far away.
- 4. It will complement and ease the demand for service at the other facility in Nanyuki Town.

Residents of Nyeri County near the Huduma Centre will no longer have to travel 78km to Nyeri Town for service.

We have cut down the travel for 61.1km to Nanyuki or 76.1km to Nyandarua.

5. The fact that the facility has offered in-person assistance to over 1,100 customers since February 1, 2024, means there is dire need for service.

The Cabinet Secretary and the relevant agencies are working to ensure all services as per the demand, are available.

6. A Vision 2030 Flagship Project, Huduma Centres across the country have transformed how the public receives services from various agencies of the National and County Governments.

- 7. The National Government has moved services online, making them available, with technical support from Huduma Centres and other relevant agencies.
- 8. I call on the Counties to consider moving all their services online as a priority, for better service delivery. In limiting human interaction through technology, we also make service delivery cheaper and free from corruption and other vices.

- 9. Based on the experience of the last 10 years, the Huduma Centres have proved an essential component in not only service delivery, but also a support system for employment.
- 10. It is for this reason that the Ruto Administration is keen on working with Members of Parliament in establishing Huduma Centres in the 290 Constituencies across the country.

This is through 'Huduma Jitume Digital Centre', which incorporates the Jitume Hubs for youth empowerment in digital jobs.

11. I invite Members of the National Assembly to take advantage of the co-funding model to establish Huduma Jitume Digital Centres in their constituencies.

We must create jobs for these young men and women.

- 12. As we also work to set up 30 Huduma Jitume Digital Centres in the next 12 months, it is our determination that the same investment in Educating our youth is applied in creating employment opportunities for them.
- 13. Our President, H.E Dr William Ruto, has been traversing the globe looking for jobs for our youth. The immense digital skills and expertise are the Passport to these digital jobs.

Creation of 1,450 Digital Hubs- One in every Wardis the Visa to the foreign jobs that the President has negotiated for the youth.

14. Even as we connect the country with free Wi-Fi hotspots and laying the 100,000km fibre optic connectivity network, the future- which is Now- is Digital.

We must be prepared.

15. On this note, it is now my pleasure to declare the Makutano Huduma Centre Officially Open.

ASANTENI SANA