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Criminal justice system reforms, needy groups in ministry's focus

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

EXPANDING legal aid for vulnerable groups, reforming the criminal justice system, enhancing dispute resolution and raising public awareness on the constitution are key areas of work for the Constitutional and Legal Affairs ministry in the coming financial year.

Dr Damas Ndaburwa, the minister, made this observation when presenting the ministry's estimates, asking for approval of 600/000/-, where 22 specific work areas were listed for fiscal 2025/26.

The ministry will also promote the national language in court proceedings and seek to elevate the country's

human rights framework with international standards, he said.

Further priorities include better contract oversight in natural resources, legal drafting changes, investments in ICT systems and boosting ethics in the judiciary, he said.

The presidential legal aid campaign will be maintained, along with civic training in 100 local authorities, aside from public outreach on the national criminal justice policy framework, he stated.

Legal research will be conducted to address regulatory issues on independent lawyers, carbon credit trade as well as AI regulation, administrative appeals and laws governing national

wealth, he stated.

Businesses are also planned for vehicle insurance law, the Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Anti-Corruption Act, he said, pointing at a new electronic case management system to be launched to increase transparency.

The government will build new offices for the Solicitor General in administrative regions with High Court registries while expanding prosecution facilities, he said.

The minister hinted at a draft of the Second National Human Rights Action Plan (2025-26-2028/29), which focuses on the rights of women, children, persons

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A resident walks next to rotten oranges dumped at roadside near Buguruni Market in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent, Zaidi Juma

Labour Day: Drivers seek wage security

● Casual labour prevails in private transport sector

By Guardian Correspondent

LABOUR leaders believe that the government needs to intervene in the private transport sector to end the widespread use of informal employment practices that leave drivers vulnerable.

Ally Kimani, the Tanzania Drivers Union (TADU) secretary general, said in an interview ahead of the May Day event that the absence of formal agreements leaves drivers without legal protections, social security or fair compensation.

He pointed at the lack of written contracts and the prevalent use of mobile money payments for salary payments, which lacks transparency and skips proper tax deductions.

TADU asserts that only four out of approximately 300 private transport firms comply with national labour laws—leaving the vast majority of drivers without essential benefits such as return mileage and overtime allowances.

The latter issue applies especially for long-distance and cross-border routes to countries like the Democratic Republic of Congo, he specified.

As Tanzania joins the rest of the world in marking Labour Day, workers across the country are using the occasion to reflect on progress, voice persistent concerns and renew calls for stronger protections and improved working conditions.

This year's national level event taking place in Singida comes amid rising costs of living and lower expectations of accessing essential medicines.

Unlike previous years, Labour Day is now a moment for serious reflection—assessing what has been done, what hasn't

Thimote Ntamboya, the Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) chairman, urged stakeholders to treat Labour Day not just as a celebration but as a moment for accountability and meaningful reflection.

"Unlike previous years, Labour Day is now a moment for serious reflection—assessing what has been done, what hasn't, and identifying the way forward," he said.

TUCTA has submitted unresolved concerns to the government but declined to reveal specifics in advance of the union's official address.

"We've already communicated our issues to

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Simba's corporate rebirth powers CAF final return after 32 years

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NBA roundup: Pacers eliminate Bucks after Tyrese Haliburton's late layup

CHRAGG: Think of leaders who respect labour rights

By Polygraph Mwakima, Dodoma

THE Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG) has called on workers across the country to take part in the upcoming 2025 General Election by electing leaders who are committed to labour rights, justice and good governance.

Judge (Rtd) Mathew Mwalimu, the commission chairman, said at a media event here ahead of the

International Workers' Day, that workers across the country need to mark the day with determination to elect good leaders in the coming election.

Stressing the vital role that workers can play in shaping leadership that respects dignity, equality and the rule of law in the world of work, he echoed this year's national theme, 'Let the 2025 general election bring forth leaders who prioritise workers' rights and welfare,

Let us all participate.'

Electing leaders of integrity leads to fewer grievances related to labor rights, and more equitable and effective responses to their personal and professional needs, he stated.

He commended the government for its ongoing efforts to promote the selection of ethical, non-discriminatory and patriotic leaders who uphold human rights. They need to uphold principles of good governance, prioritise

for sustaining peace and development across the country, he said in a message to employers, where CHRAGG underscored the need to respect human rights in labour administration.

Employers must ensure fair treatment, improve working conditions, avoid discrimination, and eliminate harassment and verbal

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LATRA set to certify tourist vehicle drivers

By Correspondent Pius Khamusu, Arusha

DRIVERS of tourist vehicles all over the country will soon be required to undergo tailored examinations and register anew under revised regulations.

Habib Juma, the Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) director general, said at a stakeholder engagement forum with tour operators that the move is aimed at in-

creasing safety, professionalism and service standards in the tourist transport sub-sector.

The meeting focused on amendments to existing transport regulations that directly affect the tourism industry, by setting up special designations for tour drivers.

LATRA is recommending that the police force assign dedicated police officers to the tourism sector, due to the need for drivers to be certified

and registered in compliance with the new regulations.

The new framework also mandates that all vans and trucks transporting tourists be clearly branded with the label 'Tour Services' on the vehicle's side panels. This applies to vehicles accessing national parks, game reserves and those used for airport transfers, he said.

Moreover, LATRA requires that tourist vehicles be used exclusively

for transporting tourists, about which tour operators raised concerns that the same vehicles are sometimes used to transport staff and commodities, stating that the guidelines be more flexible.

LATRA is currently collecting feedback on the proposed changes through the Tanzania Association of Tour Operators (TATO) to ensure

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