

THE GOVERNOR *Weekly*

Bomet East | Bomet Central | Chepalungu | Kericho | Solik

Barchok, Barmaki flag off first batch of Bomet tea to Iran



Governor Dr Hillary Barchok and the Iranian Ambassador to Kenya Jaffar Barmaki flagged off 84 tons of Bomet tea to Iran on Friday, June 25, 2021.

Speaking during the auspicious ceremony, Dr Barchok said that the move spells a new dawn to small scale tea farmers, cooperative societies and even privately owned tea factories in Bomet who will now export their produce directly to Iran.

“We are creating an enabling environment for all players to get better deal for their investment as

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long as they comply with the conditions given” Dr Barchok said.

On his part, Barmaki reaffirmed the commitment to actualize the export deal saying it was just the beginning and promised that more partnership opportunities were in the offing. He also encouraged Kenyan farmers to adopt modern farming practices such as the use of nanotechnology to enhance their yields.

The flagging off comes after the High Court in Bomet suspended sections of the Tea Act that barred direct tea exports.

In August last year, Governor Dr Barchok paid a courtesy visit to the Iranian Embassy

where he met the Ambassador, Jaffar Barmaki and mooted bilateral relationship.

The following month in September, The Governor then hosted the Ambassador on a return visit to Bomet which culminated into the Governor's visit to Iran. Bomet produces 350,000 metric tonnes of best quality black tea in the Country and generates approximately sh 9 Billion annually.

Besides tea, Bomet County Government and the Islamic Republic of Iran are going to partner in horticultural produce, medical research, innovation and exchange programmes.



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Bomet Targets 100,000 children in Measles and Rubella vaccination campaign



Governor Dr Hillary Barchok, Saturday officially launched Measles and Rubella Vaccination campaign in Bomet Health Centre.

The exercise targets 100,000 children aged 9-59 months in Bomet. Bomet is rated among the 22 high risk Counties in Measles-Rubella cases.

Nationally, the campaign targets to increase immunization coverage from the current 85 percent to 95 percent. Bomet stands at 84 percent of fully immunized. Speaking during the launch, Dr. Barchok said that the county government has taken deliberate steps to ensure that children do not contract these deadly diseases. He urged parents to present their children to the nearest health facilities to be vaccinated. "We target to upscale vaccination coverage of children from 85 percent to 95 percent in the county". He added that 151 static health station have been identified as immunization centers. Mobile units will also be availed for the exercise. Dr Barchok also rolled out Transformative Health System (THS) program which seeks to improve maternal, child, healthcare service through strengthening and reducing maternal and child mortality rates. Mothers will receive packs bearing baby wrappers/shawls, caps and socks, slippers and sanitary pads when they visit health centres for delivery and also maasai shuka for the fathers.

Relief for residents as county receives water projects

The County Government of Bomet has received two borehole water projects from philanthropist Mukesh Akshar, serving over 1,300 students in Chemagel and Rongena-Manaret Wards.

Kipajit water project, producing 40,000 litres, will serve Akshar Secondary School-Kibori as well as over 500 community households while Kipng'osos project, producing 30,000 litres, serve Kipng'osos Primary and Secondary schools daily.

Speaking on behalf of Governor Dr Hillary Barchok, Water CEC Peter Tonui, thanked Akshar saying that the projects will now offer relief to students and local residents who have been trekking long distances to fetch water. He added that the county government will integrate solar systems into the existing projects to reduce electricity costs. On his part, Mr. Akshar thanked the county government for creating an enabling environment for development partners and well-wishers to improve the livelihoods of Bomet residents.



Farmers receive beehives to boost honey production



Eighteen farmer groups across the county have received 100 beehives and a centrifuge machine to boost honey production from the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Programme (KCSAP) under the Department of Agriculture.

Among the beneficiary groups include Imara Daima, St Paul's Mabwaita, Mogoma and Monire Honest.

Agriculture and Livestock Executive Member Dr Kipchumba Toweett challenged farmers to diversify farming activities and urged them to join bee keeping cooperative societies as the county has laid down programmes geared towards direct market for honey produce thus improving the livelihoods of the residents of Bomet.



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, concerned citizens can change world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has. - Margaret Mead