December 17

The Star | David Mwere | 17th December 2015

MPS WANT CAVEAT ON GRABBED PUBLIC LAND

A parliamentary watchdog committee wants Lands CS Jacob Kaimenyi and the National Land Commission to put caveats on all state corporations' land illegally acquired by individuals. The Public Investments Committee wants, for instance, former Kenya School of Law director Leonard Njagi held accountable and barred from holding public office for misuse of public property. Read More.

December 16

The Star | Constant Munda | 16th December 2015

THE PROJECTS THAT SHAPED REAL ESTATE SPACE IN 2015

Retail space is at the centre of new real estate developments in the country. This year tens of billions of shillings have been sunk into the retail space, much of it during the first half of the year. Although the growth in construction is slowing, supply of commercial space continues to rise. In Nairobi alone, building plans valued at Sh168.76 billion were approved by the city county in nine months to September, a growth of Sh9.94 billion or 5.89 per cent over Sh158.82 billion in the same period last year. Read More.

The Star | Brian Otieno | 16th December 2015

MTWAPA'S BILLIONAIRE HEIGHT TARGETS LOW-INCOME BUYERS

GOLDWYNE Consult has broken ground for a multi-million development in Mtwapa, Kilifi County. The construction of the project which include a 10-storey apartment building with a shopping mall on the ground floor started this week. The company's chief executive Benedict Mutuku said the block will have 20 studio apartments, 60 one-bedroom and 70 two-bedroom units. Sitting on half an acre, the project - dubbed the Billionaire Heights- will cost the firm an estimated Sh350 million. It is expected to be completed in two years. Mutuku said 77 units, including 30 one-bedroom units, have been sold largely to buyers from Nairobi. Read More.

The Star | Aly Khan Satchu | 16th December

SHARES OF CEMENT MANUFACTURERS ON THE RISE

Trans-Century slumped a further 5.48% to another fresh all-time low of 6.90. Trans-Century's share price has seemingly entered a death-spiral slumping. The cement stocks caught a small bid with Bamburi Cement firming +1.744% to close at 175.00 and ARM Cement rallied +1.92% to close at 39.75. Read More.

The People's Daily | Kirera Mwiti | 16th December 2015

FRAUDSTERS CASH IN ON SGR LAND IN NAIVASHA

The government has raised the red flag over an increase in the cases of fraud relating to compensation for land to be used for the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) project.

Naivasha sub-county commissioner Abraham Kemboi warned members of the public to be wary of a group of individuals going round asking for money to register beneficiaries of the SGR land compensation kitty. Read More.

Standard | Dominic Omondi | 15th December 2015

BAMBURI CEMENT: HOW WE CLINCHED SGR SUPPLIES DEAL

Bamburi Cement has a tight grip on the country's cement market, and according to country CEO Bruno Pescheux, the firm is not about to relinquish its position as the country's largest producer. This is part of the reason the company was willing to change its standards to secure a supplier deal with China Road and Bridge Corporation, the contractor for the standard gauge railway (SGR) project. Mr Pescheux adds that his firm — a subsidiary of France's Lafarge, one of the world's largest suppliers of building materials — is secure enough in its investments to face off competition from Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote, who has in the past announced plans to put up a cement plant in Kenya. Read More.

The Business Daily | Simon Ciuri | 15th December 2015

LAND ROW WITH DEL MONTE THREATENS MUNGA SCHOOL

Del Monte in a notice says the tycoon has encroached on its land, adding that the matter was the subject of a court fight. Mr Munga expected the girls' secondary school known Pioneer Girls Thika to have its first intake in January next year. "This property is the subject of court proceedings instituted by Del Monte Kenya against the Pioneer International School Limited for an unlawful trespass onto its property," says Del Monte in notices published on Wednesday. "Pioneer Group's plan to start the school have come under question as result of the legal proceedings." Read More

December 14

The Business Daily | Annie Njanja | 14th December 2015

140MW TURKANA GEOTHERMAL PLANT AT STAKE OVER LAND ROW

The acting executive for Energy, Environment and Natural Resources accuses Olsuswa Energy of seeking to exploit geothermal resources without first signing a memorandum of understanding with the county government.

Olsuswa published a notice on November 16 calling on firms to tender for various services in relation to geothermal exploration in Turkana County. Read More

The Business Daily | Geoffrey Irungu | 14th December 2015

PRIVATE SECTOR CREDIT EXPANSION OVERSHOOTS CBK TARGET AT 21 PC

As at the end August, the total credit to the private sector stood at Sh2.15 trillion compared to Sh1.78 trillion the same time last year. This represents an increase of Sh373 billion in 12 months. The largest growth - 50.5 per cent - was in the credit to the financial and insurance sector. The sector saw its loans move up to Sh58.3 billion in August from Sh38.7 billion in the same month last year. Read More.