

Tycoon sold controversial Lamu land for Sh870m

By GEOFFREY MOSOKU

Mombasa businessman Ali Punjani has been mentioned adversely over the Lamu land saga, after documents showed that he sold one of the controversial parcels for approximately Sh870 million (\$10 million).

The buyers allegedly never set foot on the land before buying it, but only surveyed it by helicopter.

Mr Punjani, whom the police cleared of drug trafficking allegations — alongside Mombasa Governor Ali Hassan Joho, Nairobi Senator Gideon Mbuvi alias Sonko and Kiambu Governor William Kabogo — and a Gulbani B. Punjani, are allegedly directors in Rising Star Commodities, which transferred 40,140 acres (16,200ha) to Calyon Enterprises.

Owners of Calyon then used the document to secure Sh870 million from Diamond Trust Bank to pay Rising Star.

Details of the bizarre transaction emerged yesterday in Nairobi on the first day of a public inquiry by the National Land Commission (NLC) into the controversial allocation of 500,000 acres of public land in Lamu to 22 private companies that President Uhuru Kenyatta ordered revoked, citing the deals as irregular.

The charge on the property by the bank was registered at the Ministry of Lands on the November 21, 2013. Calyon's directors who signed the transfer agreements are listed as Nazlin Mohamed and Aisha Nathoo.

The parcel was earlier allocated to Rusken International Limited, who then transferred it to Rising Star on February 8, 2013. Calyon's lawyer Aisha Abdallah told the NLC that her clients had purchased the property after conducting due diligence.

Asked by the commissioners if the buyers physically visited the site before purchasing the land, she replied that her clients made an aerial surveillance using a helicopter. She also indicated that she was not sure if a current valuation had been done to ascertain the price of the property and if she was aware whether there were people living there.

"I have not been there and I don't want to mislead the commission, but if you won't mind, my client is flying in from Mombasa and can come to respond to some of those questions," Ms Aisha told the commission at the Kenyatta International Convention



Centre.

Rusken International limited was registered on 2nd July 2007 with Farouk Hamid and Hussein Hamid as directors. It has never filed returns to the registrar of companies' since then.

Documents presented from the Ministry of Lands indicated that the Office of the President and Lamu West MP Julius Ndegwa at one stage of the process approved the allotments.

PUBLIC APOLOGY

Former Lamu County Commissioner Samuel Ikua chaired a District Development Committee meeting that recommended the allocation to Rusken and wrote the Commissioner of Lands to inform him of the resolution.

Ndegwa, who was then a councillor, seconded minutes of the council meeting that resolved to allocate the land originally given to Mat international to three other companies which include Rusken. "Resolution No. 51CCL/2011 resolved as follows; the land be leased to three companies," reads part of the minutes forwarded to the then Minister for Lands James Orengo.

Yesterday, one of the firms adversely mentioned, Brick Investment, through lawyer Wangui Kimani, demanded a public apology from the commission after she denied her clients had been allocated part of the 500,000 acres under investigation.

However, NLC chairman Muhammad Swazuri (above) said the commission will investigate the directorship of three companies which share a similar name and may have led to the confusion.

They are: Brick Investment, Brick Investments and Bricks Investments, who will appear before the commission next Thursday.

Ombudsman requests office space in counties

By MAUREN ODIWUOR

Commission on Administrative Justice (CAJ) has appealed to county governments to allocate them office space in their regions. The commission, also known as Office of the Ombudsman, says the move will help decentralise their services.

CAJ Chairperson Otiende Amollo said Treasury has not allocated enough resources to the commission, preventing immediate decentralisation of its services. "So far, we are in talks with county gov-

ernments to offer us space so that we do not have to pay rent. Fifteen of them have so far shown interest," he said.

CAJ also intends to second 15 lawyers to work at Huduma centres across the country in two months time. Mr Amollo said they will ensure that out of 25 centres across the country, 15 will have one lawyer each. "We want to rationalise our services to Huduma centres as a way of coming closer to the people because currently, we only have offices in three counties," he said.

Amollo said they will however not put

lawyers in Huduma centres in Mombasa, Kisumu and Nairobi to avoid duplication as they already have offices operating there.

"For places with offices, lawyers will be periodically required to visit the centres," he said, adding by end of the year, they expect representation in a minimum of 20 centres countrywide.

Amollo was speaking during the opening of a sensitisation forum for radio journalists where he agreed to work hand in hand with them to address critical issues raised by their audience.



Kenya Meat Commission

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INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR MODERNIZATION OF KENYA MEAT COMMISSION

TENDER NO. KMC/INT/01/2014-2015

Kenya Meat Commission intends to modernize its plant and machinery to be in tandem with the best standards in global meat processing through upgrading and automating the following:

- Slaughter facilities to increase efficiencies and throughput;
- Refrigeration infrastructure to improve on cost efficiency;
- Energy infrastructure including steam generation and distribution system, and electricity usage to improve on efficiency;
- The canning infrastructure;
- The rendering and by products processing facilities;
- The value added products' lines and packaging technology to be in line with modern technologies and current market trends;
- The enterprise resources planning (ERP) system for meat and meat products to enhance accountability and traceability; and
- General infrastructure including structural design, water supply and waste management systems.

KMC invites suitable firms experienced in the field of abattoir design, construction and equipping with over 20 years experience to upgrade and modernize KMC.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from KMC's Head Office at Athi River, and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 08.00 Hours to 16.00 Hours, East African Time from Monday to Friday except during lunch hours (13.00 Hours to 14.00 Hours), weekends and public holidays. Bidding documents are available in both hard and soft copies. Interested eligible bidders may also view and/or download the Bid Documents from www.kenyameat.co.ke. **However, submission of the Bids will be in hard copy only as electronic bidding will not be allowed/accepted.**

Qualification requirements include:

1. **Financial capability:** bidders shall include a letter from a reputable commercial bank indicating the financial status which will indicate their ability to perform the contract of the magnitude equivalent to quoted bid price. This evidence should be submitted with the bid.
2. **Experience and technical capacity:** bidders shall provide documentary evidence to demonstrate having executed at least 5 contracts of similar magnitude.

Additional information is provided in the bidding documents.

A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested eligible bidders from the address below upon payment of a non refundable fee of KES 1,000 or USD 13. The method of payment will be in cash or bankers cheque payable to Kenya Meat Commission Account No. 01120065670804 (in KES); or Account No. 02120065670800 (in USD); Bank Code 110033; Swift Code KCOOKENA; The Cooperative Bank of Kenya; Athi River Branch.

Bidders may also download the document free of charge, but they will be required to register with KMC at procurement@kenyameat.co.ke immediately on downloading. **Bidders who download the document and fail to register with KMC may have their bids not opened and/or evaluated.**

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **Wednesday 17th September, 2014 at 12.00 Noon East African Time**. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders or their representatives who choose to attend, at the KMC's Boardroom immediately thereafter. Late bids will be rejected. All Bids must be accompanied by Bid Security in USD as stipulated in the Bid Document and must be valid for 120 days from the date of closing the Bids.

The tenderer shall seal one (1) properly bound as original copy, one (1) copy of the bid document in a separate envelope duly marked **"Tender for the Modernization of Kenya Meat Commission, Ref No. KMC/INT/01/2014-2015"** and financial must be put in a separate envelope marked **"Financial"**. All the three envelopes shall be sealed in the outer envelope and be deposited in the tender box situated at KMC's main reception office on or before **Wednesday 17th September 2014 at 12.00 Noon East African Time**.

The Commission reserves the right to accept or reject any tender and does not bind itself for its action.

**THE MANAGING COMMISSIONER
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