Protests have erupted in Kenya as people mark the anniversary of last year’s deadly demonstrations against tax hikes. In response, the government has taken extreme steps to control the situation, including shutting down live news coverage.

On Tuesday, June 25, 2025, Kenya’s Communications Authority ordered the shutdown of live broadcasts from major TV stations KTN News and NTV. This move was meant to stop live coverage of the anniversary protests. The government says it’s trying to prevent violence and chaos, but many Kenyans and press freedom groups are outraged.

Demonstrators took to the streets of Nairobi to remember the events of June 2024, when citizens stormed Parliament to oppose a controversial finance bill that raised taxes. At that time, the protests turned deadly, and the government later withdrew the bill.

Now, one year later, many people are protesting again—calling for justice, police accountability, and government reforms. Protesters say their voices are being silenced, especially with media coverage being blocked.

Authorities have blocked roads leading to Parliament and the State House, Kenya’s presidential office. Police and soldiers are guarding key locations, and checkpoints have been set up across the capital. Some streets are closed completely.

The ban on live TV coverage has sparked anger among journalists and human rights organizations. They say shutting down the media is a serious threat to freedom of expression and democracy.

Media watchdogs are calling for the government to allow free reporting. “Let the people see what is happening,” one journalist said. “Hiding the truth only makes things worse.”

So far, there have been no reports of deaths, but clashes between protesters and police have been reported in some areas. Tear gas was used to break up crowds, and several people have been arrested.

Kenya is once again facing tension between the government and the public. Many fear that restricting the media and using heavy police force could lead to more unrest and weaken public trust.