**SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT AS AT 280530 FEBRUARY 2025**

1. **Introduction**

During the day under review, the following were trending report on Kenyan social media platforms:

**Most discussed Topics:**

1. Martha Karua on RSF Presence in Kenya
2. Public Perception of the Government
3. Tribal Bias in Resource Allocation
4. Kimani Ichung’wah’s Al Jazeera Interview
5. Martha Karua’s New Political Party
6. DRC Conflict Escalation

**Key Issues and Sentiments:**

1. **Martha Karua on RSF Presence in Kenya** – Karua's remarks questioning the government's relationship with the RSF and linking them to an alleged abduction squad received significant support online. However, concerns were raised that her statements could undermine government diplomacy.
2. **Public Perception of the Government** – A young Kisumu resident’s remarks about limiting the current government to one term resonated widely, signaling growing dissatisfaction. The excitement around Raila Odinga's collaboration with the president was also noted.
3. **Tribal Bias in Resource Allocation** – Discussions emerged on the dominance of a particular ethnic group in city businesses and government, citing historical data indicating favoritism in resource distribution. The conversation carried strong ethnic undertones.
4. **Kimani Ichung’wah’s Al Jazeera Interview** – His portrayal of Kenya Kwanza’s governance and democracy was met with skepticism, with critics labeling him as biased and dismissive of the country's political challenges.
5. **Martha Karua’s New Political Party** – The launch of the *People’s Liberation Party* drew comparisons to South Africa’s EFF. Gen Z voices widely endorsed her political commitment and reformist stance.
6. **DRC Conflict Escalation** – A rally held by M23 rebel leader Cornielle Nangaa in Bukavu, eastern DRC, turned deadly as heavy gunfire broke out, causing multiple fatalities and widespread panic. The incident has intensified concerns over the region's worsening security situation, with online discussions questioning the effectiveness of ongoing peace efforts.
7. **Overall Assessment:**

Sentiments reflect deepening political polarization in Kenya, with support for opposition figures growing among youth while criticism of the government intensifies. Ethnic-based narratives on economic control pose a risk of further division. Regionally, the escalation of violence in the DRC raises security concerns. **Misinformation risk:** High, particularly around RSF allegations and ethnic resource claims. **Security Implications:** Rising political agitation could fuel unrest, necessitating close monitoring of online discourse. **Recommendation:** Authorities should prioritize clear government communication on RSF concerns and counter divisive narratives through factual engagement.

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