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Today, everyone in PF is a President because... LUNGU IS WEAK

- MASEBO

By Daniel Chansa

UPND Chairperson for Mobilization and Strategy Sylvia Masebo says she feels sorry for President Edgar Lungu because he is a weak Head of State.

And Masebo says the Copperbelt is now 90 percent opposition, which is an indication of victory in 2021.

Story page 7

Zambia records 306 new COVID-19 cases, 2 BIDs

By Mirriam Chabala

MINISTRY of Health Permanent Secretary for technical services Dr Kennedy Malama says the shortage of COVID-19 testing reagents and consumables is a global challenge which the Zambian government is doing its best to address.

And Dr Malama has announced that the country has recorded 306 new COVID-19 cases out of the 1,243 tests conducted in various testing centres in the last 24 hours.

Story page 10

Fire parastatal CEOs who've failed to stop theft, CSOs urge govt

By Natasha Sakala

TRANSPARENCY International Zambia (TIZ) and ActionAid have called on the line Ministries responsible for parastatals found wanting in the Auditor General's report to fire all chief executive officers to send a strong signal to would-be offenders to desist from abusing public funds.

Story page 2

Speed camera contract was terminated because proceeds went to private account - Kafwaya

Story page 3



Luapula Province Minister Nixon Chilangwa (c) yesterday visited former General Education Minister David Mabumba (l) to encourage him to stay strong.

Explain difference between Mabumba, Sichalwe, TIZ challenges Lungu

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

T R A N S P A R E N C Y International Zambia (TIZ) Chapter president Rueben Lifuka has expressed concern over President Edgar Lungu's double standards in treating erring ministers.

And Lifuka says if President Lungu's intention

was to protect government's image, he should also dismiss his corruption-accused ministers.

In a statement to News Diggers, Thursday, Lifuka said the offence which former General Education Minister David Mabumba committed was nothing different from what his Chiefs and Traditional Affairs counterpart

Lawrence Sichalwe did when he circulated a pornographic video last year. Story page 5

Inflation marginally drops to 15.8% Story page 2



Home of investigative journalism in Zambia



By Natasha Sakala

T R A N S P A R E N C Y International Zambia (TIZ) and ActionAid have called on the line Ministries responsible for parastatals found wanting in the Auditor General's report to fire all chief executive officers to send a strong signal to would-be offenders to desist from abusing public funds.

And the organisations say they will directly engage the relevant line Ministries to put a stop to the continued abuse of public resources.

In a statement, Wednesday, TI-Z executive director Maurice Nyambe and ActionAid country director Nalucha Ziba urged responsible line Ministries to dismiss all parastatal chief executive officers, whose companies were cited in the Auditor General's reports, to ensure that those found wanting were prosecuted and dealt with in line with the Public Finance Management Act of 2018.

"It is our considered view TI-Z and ActionAid that the time has come for us, as a country, to put a stop to the recurring irregularities revealed in the Auditor General's reports. We would, therefore, like to demand that the respective line ministries under which the different parastatals whose irregularities have been highlighted fall, take immediate action to investigate the circumstances under which the anomalies occurred, and that the culprits be made to account for their actions. In this vein, we demand that all chief executive officers of erring parastatals be relieved of their responsibilities in order to send a strong signal that such blatant disregard of principles of sound financial management will not be tolerated in any way, shape or form. We are convinced that it is only by taking such punitive visible actions against the culprits that such irregularities will start to reduce. As it is, now, culprits repeatedly commit these offences and see no action taken against them, so they continue with impunity and the cycle goes on, making a mockery of the work of the Auditor General in highlighting all these anomalies. We further call for all the culprits to be prosecuted for abuse of office and resources in line with the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act of 2018," they stated.

"As TI-Z and ActionAid, we are both horrified by these revelations, which undoubtedly show a blatant disregard, not just for principles of good public finance management, but also for different provisions of the law. We have observed that over the years, the Auditor General's reports have continued to reveal such blatant examples of mismanagement of public resources, and yet the practice appears to be getting worse. We are concerned that the continuation of these anomalies seemingly unabetted is costing Zambia billions of kwacha the country can ill-afford to lose, while social service provision continues to be poor. In addition to this, the country's image, both domestically and internationally, has continued to take a battering as a result of our apparent failure to put a stop to financial management irregularities that are revealed in the Auditor General's reports on a regular basis. It is also not lost on us that there have

Fire parastatal CEOs who've failed to stop theft, CSOs urge govt

long been suspicions of high levels of political influence in the running of most of these parastatal institutions, and this, coupled with poor involvement of oversight bodies such as Parliament in the operations of these parastatals, has created a fertile breeding ground for such irregularities to not only occur, but to also take root."

The organisations stated that parastatals needed to be examples of good governance and financial management as opposed to them being found wanting in every Auditor General's report.

"TI-Z and ActionAid would, therefore, like to condemn in the strongest possible terms the continued mismanagement of funds by parastatal bodies, who keep flouting financial management regulations seemingly with impunity. It is our contention that parastatals, government-owned being should be among the best examples of adherence to the law and to the principles of good financial management, and the fact that they are not places an indelible stain on government's professed commitment to address corruption and promote accountability and transparency in the management of public resources. We also call upon respective line Ministries to ensure that all parastatals have credible and functioning boards that are comprised of professionals rather than boards packed with cadres for purposes of political expediency! We urge government to work closely with the Institute of Directors in this regard to facilitate improvements in the performance of parastatal boards," they urged.

They asked government to redefine the manner in which resources were invested in the agricultural sector.

"For the agricultural sector in particular, we call on government to redefine the manner in which resources are being invested in the sector as the current scenario where huge amounts are investment towards FRA (Food Reserve Agency) as opposite extension services and research continues promoting food insecurity in the country due to low rates of investment increases the potential for mismanagement of financial resources by FRA," they stated.

And the organisations pledged that they would directly engage respective line Ministries to put a stop to the anomalies once and for all.

"As TI-Z and ActionAid, we have taken keen interest in the revelations from the Auditor General's reports, and we will incorporate in our activities public sensitisation to enable the Zambian citizenry know how their resources are being abused, seemingly with impunity and how this ultimately affects their livelihoods. In addition to this, we will also seek direct engagements with respective line Ministries, not only to remind them of their obligation to address these concerns, but also to mutually seek solutions that will put a stop to these anomalies once and for all. We believe that it is in the interest of all well-meaning Zambians that such anomalies be eliminated in order for the country to have the full purse of resources at its disposal for the advancement of its development prospects," stated the organisations.

The Auditor General's Report on the Accounts of Parastatal Bodies and other statutory institutions for the financial year ended December 31,2018, revealed that the Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA) spent over K14 million on payment of personal emoluments, which was originally meant for construction of an office block.

It cited several other examples of irregularities and fraud, such as how the Lusaka South Multi-Facility Economic Zone Limited (LS-MFEZ) allocated fuel worth K105,478 to a non-runner vehicle.

By Stuart Lisulo

THE annual rate of inflation has marginally decreased to 15.8 per cent in July, down from 15.9 per cent recorded in June, mainly induced by price decreases in food items, according to the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZSA).

Announcing Zambia's annual rate of inflation for the month of July, ZSA Interim Statistician General Mulenga Musepa said the reduced inflation this month was largely attributable to decreased food prices.

"The year-on-year inflation rate as measured by the all items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for July, 2020, decreased to 15.8 per cent from 15.9 per cent recorded in June, 2020. This means that on average, prices of goods and services increased by 15.8 per cent between June, 2019, and July, 2020. The decrease in the annual rate of inflation was attributed to price decreases in food items." Musepa told journalists via video conference in Lusaka, Thursday.

He said the decline in the annual food inflation rate, which dampened the overall

Inflation marginally drops to 15.8%

annual rate of inflation, was largely driven by price reductions in mealie meal and vegetables.

"The year-on-year (annual) food inflation rate for July, 2020, was recorded at 16.1 per cent compared to 16.3 per cent recorded in June, 2020, indicating a decrease of 0.2 percentage points. This development was mainly attributed to reductions in prices of food items, such as cereals (Breakfast mealie meal, Roller meal, maize grain, samp) and vegetables (rape, tomatoes, cabbage, onion)," said Musepa.

"The year-on-year non-food inflation rate for July, 2020, was recorded at 15.4 per cent compared to 15.5 per cent recorded in June, 2020, indicating a decrease of 0.1 percentage points. This means that on average, prices of non-food items increased by 15.4 per cent between July, 2019, and July,

2020."

Of the total 15.8 per cent annual inflation rate recorded this month, food and non-alcoholic beverages accounted for 8.6 percentage points, while non-food items accounted for 7.2 percentage points, according to Musepa.

ZSA data shows that Zambia's annual rate of inflation of 15.8 per cent recorded in July, 2020, peaked to a near four-year high since September, 2016, when inflation was at 18.9 per cent, reducing to 12.5 per cent in October, 2016, before it dropped to close that year at 7.5 per cent.

The BoZ has projected that the country's annual rate of inflation will remain high over the forecast period of eight quarters up to the end of next year, mainly driven by high food prices, but is due to slow down on the back of a maize bumper harvest produced this year.





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By Sipilisiwe Ncube
TRANSPORT and
Communications Minister
Mutotwe Kafwaya says

Mutotwe Kafwaya says the speed camera contract between RTSA and IMS was terminated because the online account in which the funds were being deposited was not authorized by the Ministry of Finance.

And Kafwaya says Zambia Airways is already operational as employees are there, adding that government will soon issue an operation license so that flights can commence.

Speaking when he featured on Hot FM's Hot Seat programme, Thursday, Kafwaya said the contract between the Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA) and Intelligent Mobility Solutions (IMS) had to be suspended because of allegations of misappropriation of funds.

"There was money that was deposited in a wrong

Kafwaya explains why speed camera account and there was a report that some of that money could have been misappropriated. Contract was terminated

that some of that money could have been misappropriated. A reconciliation was made on that account and I think the Ministry of Finance should be happy with that reconciliation. And money should have been recovered. It was an online account, which was made to make it easier for those people who were paying online. But vou know, in government, we work with protocols and procedures and nobody is allowed to open an account without the authorization of the Secretary to the Treasury. In other words, nobody can open a government account without the Ministry of Finance's involvement. So, the wrong there was that the

account was opened without the authorization from the Ministry of Finance," Kafwaya said.

He said a lot of people thought it as a bad contract from the onset.

"We had to transfer the contract to the Ministry of Finance because there were financing clauses in that contract. So, that could not sit with RTSA. We demanded that the contract be reviewed even by the council and feedback be given. Yes, a lot of people feel it was a bad contract [and] this is why we demanded for its review,

this is why we suspended the operation because if the basis of the operation is reasonable by many standards, you have to make sure that you clarify it," Kafwaya said.

"So, we have a very strong recommendation, which we put through to terminate the contract. But since we moved it from the Ministry of Transport and Communications or RTSA, basically, and we transferred it to the Ministry of Finance, we are waiting for our recommendation to be worked on. And it's not us because that was a PPP (Public-



Private Partnership) contract, meaning that the PPP council has to review it. But when we sat, as stakeholders, the recommendation was that we need to terminate the contract."

And Kafwaya said preparations to launch Zambia Airways had reached a final stage as his Ministry would soon issue an operation license.

"Zambia Airways is a joint-venture between the IDC of the Republic of Zambia and Ethiopian Airlines. There is a lot of work that has happened so far. Our role, as Ministry of Transport, is to give them an Airway Operating Certificate (AOC). And that has five stages and we have covered even the fourth stage, which is the longest stage. And the test flights have already happened. Very soon, through the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), we will be able to issue that Airway Operating license. And when we issue the Airway Operating license, it's not the end because we are not Zambia Airways. Zambia Airways will make a determination in terms of when they think it is good for them to begin the flights," he

He said the fact that flights had not commenced did not mean that the airline did not exist.

one count of assaulting a child.

which hit him on the forehead.

up for sentencing.

"Zambia Airways already in existence as we speak. When Zambia Airways undertook to employ those people and take them for training, they were already in existence. For the fact that Zambia Airways is not flying does not mean that the company is not there, it is there. What COVID-19 has done to Zambia Airways is exactly what COVID-19 has done to all other businesses because customers reduced, people are being urged to stay home, so the business environment has just come down. So, COVID has not specially affected Zambia Airways, but the same way Mahogany (Airlines) has been affected, and the same wav South African Airways (SAA) has been affected. So, we are talking about a situation where it is uniform everywhere," said Kafwaya.

"Since now we are in the new normal, Zambia Airways must determine when it will launch. But the condition is that we should give them an operating license. And I can tell you that we are near to giving them an operating license because the phase four of the assessment was the longest and the most detailed and we have gone past that. We only have one last part, which is the issuance of the license."

IS THIS WHAT WE WANT TO CONTINUE?

LAWYERS WHO STEAL CLIENTS' MONEY HAVE

NO PLACE TO BE IN ANY OFFICE, LET ALONE IN

HIGHEST PUBLIC OFFICE.

In April 2018, Chief Justice Irene Mambilima said,

"a dishonest lawyer is a disgraced lawyer

and the profession has no place for such a lawyer"



PUBLISHED BY FRIENDS OF THE UPND

When the matter came up for sentencing before Magistrate Changa Chitabo, Numwa was found guilty of assaulting the boy and was convicted accordingly.

In mitigation, Numwa told court that she was a first offender who was remorseful for her actions and that she was

Ndola woman gets 5

years for stoning boy

By Daniel Chansa

AN MTN employee in Ndola who assaulted a neighbour's child on New Year's Day has been sentenced to five years.

This is in a case where Madrine Numwa, 40, was facing

Numwa was found guilty after trial and the matter came

Particulars of the case were that on January 1, 2020, in Ndola, Numwa of Ndeke Township assaulted the boy who was playing with other friends by throwing a stone at him

offender who was remorseful for her actions and that she was a bread winner who also had a child to look after.

Passing judgment, Magistrate Chitabo said that he had taken note of the mitigation and that she was a first offender.

"However, this offence carries a mandatory minimum sentence of five years for which the court has no option but

to impose that since it is assault on a child," said Magistrate

By Mirriam Chabala

NATIONAL Action for Quality Education in Zambia (NAQEZ) executive director Aaron Chansa says there is need for more investment in the country's education infrastructure to make it more accommodative of learners with special needs.

And Chansa says government should construct

OCIDA demands equal

COVID-19 regulations

By Mirriam Chabala

OUR Civic Duty Association (OCIDA) management

committee chairperson Gilbert Temba says the Zambia Police

Service should be magnanimous enough to stop the upcoming

PF intra-party elections if COVID-19 preventive guidelines will

selectively during the pandemic, saying COVID-19 is serious

and does not choose who gets infected based on political

attempted to hold intra-party elections on the Copperbelt and

the subsequent announcement by PF secretary general Davies

Mwila that his party would still hold its intra-party elections

amid COVID-19, Temba said police must ensure everyone

abides by health guidelines, regardless of their political

the opposition or ruling party because it's very dangerous to

expose people to COVID-19. This disease does not care what

political party one belongs to, anyone can get it if they are

exposed to it. We saw what happened in America when they

tried to open up and President Trump was in the forefront of

encouraging people to attend his rally, what happened in that

area? There was huge spike in the number of COVID cases and

those who died from it. So one hopes that the ruling party led

by President [Edgar] Lungu should be the very first to never

undermine or defy the regulations of COVID-19 prevention.

If they want to hold their convention and they observe all the

strict requirements of the COVID-19 guidelines in Zambia, then I commend them but if they just want to go ahead because they are in the ruling party, then they are risking their lives as

Temba challenged the police to be magnanimous enough

"I hope the police did not just stop the UPND officials from holding the elections after following all the guidelines of meeting under COVID-19 conditions. If the police did that, then they

to stop the ruling party upcoming intra-party elections if

were wrong, they should similarly then do the same to the PF. If

the PF don't follow the rules, they must be stopped. The police

must be magnanimous enough to stop the ruling party from

holding its elections if the guidelines won't be followed. There

must be sanity in the governance of the country, what applies

to the opposition should apply to the ruling party as well. We

should not have rules specifically for those in government and

they follow the rules and are denied permission to conduct their

activities when on the other hand, the ruling party is allowed

because that is very bad. We want good governance to prevail

"And people should be able to challenge the government if

well as those of their supporters," Temba said.

COVID-19 guidelines would not be adhered to.

others for those in the opposition," Temba said.

"We should take this pandemic serious whether we are in

And Temba has cautioned the police not to apply the law

Commenting on the recent arrest of UPND officials who

application of the

NAQEZ calls for increased funding towards special education

more colleges to train teachers in special education and ensure that there is specialisation among teachers

to make education for learners with special needs a lot easier.

The latest Auditor General's report on the Provision of Special Education in Zambia revealed that the current school infrastructure in most schools is not accommodative of learners with special needs, and that the teachers handling such learners were not well specialised.

Commenting on these revelations in an interview, Chansa said that education in Zambia could only be inclusive if government was mindful of the needs of learners who were differently-abled.

"We haven't invested much in the area of special education, and infrastructure also is not so good. Although we have this concept of inclusive education, you will discover that some of the disabilities cannot be able to be handled in mainstream schools. So, we need specific schools for special education. Then the other aspect is the issue of equipment: you know, when you look at the current schools for special education we have as a country, most of them are lacking so much equipment like wheelchairs. Even the enabling infrastructure in most schools, it's not there. Most of the schools were built without the consideration of disabled people. It's just as if government has not paid attention to special education and the learners with special education needs," Chansa said.

Chansa called on government to consider constructing more colleges for special education training so that children with special education needs could be taught by specialised teachers.

"We don't have enough

teachers specifically trained to handle learners with special education needs and even those that are trained as special education teachers, most of them are not teaching this subject because the environment in most schools is not motivating. And what we've always said is that these teachers that are trained in special education should always receive special incentives so that they are motivated and allow them to handle these children effectively. Most of the teachers who specialise in special education are not given any incentives and they just leave, which, in-turn, leaves learners without anyone to attend to them," Chansa said.

"So, we would want to have another school or a college or two that should be there specifically to train more teachers in special education. Right now, the main school is ZAMISE and it is the only school, which trains teachers in special education. So, we need more training colleges for teachers who can handle these children. We have neglected this important component of education; we have a lot of learners needing attention by special teachers, we need infrastructure, we need much more funding, we need more equipment and all schools in our view must have that sensitivity to learners with special education needs, it's very important that we accommodate these learners."

He emphasised the need for increased funding towards education and training, together with more teachers qualified in special education.

"What must happen is that the spheres of competence or specialisation must be the norm. We need to have a lot of teachers, who are going to specialise, just like the way

doctors do; after doing general medicine, they then start specialising. So, before these teachers graduate, we want to see them specialising so that we have experts in these specialties of special education. Most of our teachers, who have done special education, are not really experts in the field, they are just general teachers. But that is not good enough to handle specific disabilities. We would really want to see that specialisation, even as teachers, train to handle these learners," said Chansa.

"There is need funding increased and building more schools and also appealing to the parents not to keep children with special needs at home. Those children have the right to learn and so they shouldn't be kept at home. Then, to community and church leaders, they must be able to support the education of these children and they should be able to encourage parents to take such learners to school. Who knows...some of these learners could become very important learners in future? So, let us not deny children with special needs a chance to learn."



NAQEZ executive director Aaron Chansa

Former City Market manager loses injunction against Sampa

By Zondiwe Mbewe

LUSAKA High Court Judge Wilfred Muma has vacated an ex-parte order of interim injunction that was granted to former City Market manager Mwenya Matafwali restraining suspended Lusaka Mayor Miles Sampa and Zambia Daily Mail newspaper from further publishing words allegedly defamatory to him.

Justice Muma discharged the exparte injunction after noting that Matafwali was claiming damages for libel and in the same vein, had made a claim for an injunction to restrain Sampa and the Zambia Daily Mail from further publishing defamatory words against him.

"The case of Kekelwa Samuel Kongwa VS David Nkhata, Appeal, is very instructive. The Supreme Court herein held; (i)That pleading for damages as a relief in the Originating process is acknowledgement that damages would serve as adequate compensation and that there is in such event no irreparable injury to be suffered without injunction and; (ii) That where there is such a plea, the burden is on the applicant for an injunction to prove that the respondent has no financial capacity to pay damages," he said in his ruling dated July 20, 2020.

"In casu, I note from the endorsement that the plaintiff (Matafwali) claims for damages for libel and in the same vein the plaintiff had made a claim for an injunction to restrain the defendants and each of them by themselves, their agents or servants or otherwise from further publishing the said or similar libels. The endorsements invariably flies in the teeth of the holding of the Supreme Court in Kekelwa Case as cited herein. It is on the aforegoing that I now vacate the order of Interim Injunction granted on April 30, 2020."

In this matter, Matafwali has sued Sampa and the Zambia Daily Mail newspaper in the Lusaka High Court for defamation of character for alleging that he had stolen K12 million which was meant to be deposited in the Lusaka City Council account.

However, Sampa has also countersued Matafwali for defamation of character, alleging that Matafwali defamed him when he accused him of asking for K20,000 from the City Market money for his personal use.

Sampa also asked the court to discharge the ex-parte order of injunction that was granted to Matafwali restraining him and the Zambia Daily Mail newspaper from further publishing words allegedly defaming him.

He contended that the situation did not reveal or justify an urgent basis upon which the injunction was granted.

Sampa in his submission in opposition to the injunction granted, argued that the law relating to the grant of injunction had been extensively adjudicated upon by the court and the rules that apply to the grant of an interim or interlocutory Injunctions were trite.

"The plaintiff (Matafwali) seeks to create favourable conditions only to himself. It is the first defendant's prayer that the court should discharge the ex-parte order of injunction with costs," he stated.

Matafwali in his defence to Sampa's counter-claim, insisted that Sampa had on several occasions asked him to give him 'offerings' for personal use and that he (Matafwali) had told him to request for those 'offerings' officially which he has never done to date.

He also denied that the money had been mismanaged as claimed by Sampa.

"The plaintiff will aver at trial that he has not failed to account for the monies collected at the Lusaka City Market for the financial year December 31, 2019. The plaintiff will aver that he has not put the name of the mayor of Lusaka into disrepute or public scandal but that Sampa is the one who put the name of the plaintiff into disrepute," he

Matafwali had stated in his statement of claim that by letter dated April 2, 2020, Sampa wrote to the Lusaka City council town clerk and stated in part that City market generated a total revenue of K13, 626, 242.12 but only a total of K60, 000.00 was remitted to the Lusaka City council main accounts at Civic Centre.

He added that the Daily Mail published on its Page of April 4, this year, a story under the heading "12 million vanishes from the Lusaka City Market account".

Matafwali submitted that the actual words stated that, "K12,000,000. 00 was not deposited into the Lusaka City council account and that Sampa learnt of this disappointment."

He lamented that the said words uttered by Sampa and the Zambia Daily Mail meant and were understood to mean by an ordinary member of society that he stole K12 million.

in the country and good governance requires observation of the law by not just the opposition but the ruling party as well. But you see the beauty with COVID-19? It doesn't choose who is PF and who is not PF, I just told you about what happened in America when Mr Trump wanted to hold his first biggest rally and all his supporters went there without masks and they were celebrating, what happened next? Massive outbreak of COVID-19. So if PF will defy the logic, then fine, they will pay the price and their members will be foolish to go and attend the PF elections without observing the guidelines and good luck to them. But consequences will follow, they will get COVID-19. So this one ironically if I was UPND or any other opposition parties and I am being stopped to gather, I wouldn't mind, maybe it would be for the best because in the end who is going

logic. But in any case, the law must apply fairly."

Meanwhile, Temba asked Deputy Inspector General of Police Bonny Kapeso to stick to his word and find PF's Eastern Province youth chairperson Emmanuel Banda commonly known as Jay Jay.

to get COVID-19 or die? It is their colleagues who are defying

"I was reading Mr Kapeso's statement saying they will not apply the law selectively and he said even this guy called Jay Jay Banda has to be arrested, he even challenged the PF to find him. That sounds good but is it sustainable? I hope Mr Kapeso will stick to that position and do his best to exonerate himself from this selective application of the law. There has to be equity across the board, that's what we even said last week at our press briefing," said Temba.

CONSTITUTIONAL MAKING IN ZAMBIA: A MYTH OR REALITY? PART THREE

1.7 IN DEFENCE OF THE CONSTITUTION AND CONSTITUTINALISM

Article 2 of the Constitution of Zambia places a duty and responsibility of "every person" to defend the Republican Constitution. The said provision states that:

Every person has the right and duty to—

- (a) defend this Constitution; and
- (b) resist or prevent a person from overthrowing, suspending

or illegally abrogating this Constitution. Further, Article 3 provides that:

The operation of this Constitution shall not be affected by

an unlawful act to overthrow, suspend or illegally abrogate its

provisions.

What recourse do citizens have to exercise their duty and right to defend the Constitution in the wake of the courts of the land abdicating its responsibility and the political players either colluding or weak to oppose such maneuvers? Can it be said that in light of Article 3, the unconstitutional change of a constitution makes such change otiose? In the face of an uncommitted judiciary and a partisan parliament, can citizens legally defend the constitution? The answer lies in the observation by Abraham Lincoln who once retorted that:

We the people are the rightful masters of both [Parliament] and the Courts, not to overthrow the Constitution but to overthrow the men [and women] who would pervert the Constitution.

1.8 THE MYTH OF CONSTITUTIONAL MAKING AND THE REALITY OF THE **UNMAKING OF GOOD CONSTITUTIONS**

Many African countries, the list which include Zambia, Rwanda, Zimbabwe and Uganda, had good and progressive

constitutions which have ended up being changed in order to prolong the rule of an individual or a political party. The changing of these good constitutions has been motivated by nothing other than sectional or individual interests at the expense of national and public interest. All this has happened with the courts and citizens colluding silently in the hope that God the Almighty will intervene during judgement day.

Zambia has made and unmade constitutions a number of times since the birth of the country in 1964. Professor Muna Ndulo notes that:

Since Zambia gained independence from Great Britain on 24 October, 1964, it has had the following Constitutions: 1964 Constitution provided for in Schedule 2 to the Zambia Independence Order, 1964, promulgated by Her Majesty in Council under the provisions of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890; The Constitution of Zambia Act, 1973; The Constitution of Zambia Act, 1991, and The Constitution of Zambia (Amendment) Act, 1996, which, even though it did not repeal the whole of the 1991 Constitution, introduced such significant changes as to render the resulting document a new Constitution.

It must be added that to the list we have The Constitution of Zambia (Amendment) Act, 2016 which is about to be amended by Bill No. 10. What could be the motivation to this insatiable appetite in changing constitutions? Are all these changes reflecting the will of the people and the national interest? To some extent yes, there is at first a genuine desire to put in an allinclusive and people-driven process to make a durable constitution and the contents thereof reflecting peoples' submissions. But alas, history has shown that the people's wishes are discarded along the way, national interest betrayed and a partisan or sectional document

sneaked in. The following is the summary of Zambia's myth of constitutional making and the reality of unmaking good constitutions:

- Zambia's constitutions are too talkative and long and contain unnecessary issues forgetting that Constitutions, As Napoléon Bonaparte warned, should be short and
- The agenda of constitutional-making is deeply contentious from the start due to mistrust and absence of consensus building hence lacks legitimacy and ownership among citizens;
- The process is usually flawed as mostly the processes themselves are unconstitutional and lack the backing of the law;
- The failure or perception of it by the Courts to hold state institutions accountable forces citizens and stakeholders to oppose anything due to mistrust;
- Lack of experts in the process as those who are deemed anti-establishment are sidelined; and
- Lack of sensitization and education of stakeholders on the merits of the proposed amendments.

1.9 CONCLUSION

It is important to note that the Constitution was meant to limit government, and not to limit the freedoms of the governed. It is also important to note, in quoting B.R. Ambedkar, that however good a constitution may be, if those who are implementing it are not good, it will prove bad. However bad a Constitution may be, if those implementing it are good, it will prove to be good. As Thomas Jefferson opined:

The two enemies of the people are criminals and the government, so let us tie the second down with the chains of the Constitution so the second will not become the legalized version of the first.

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

TRANSPARENCY International Zambia (TIZ) Chapter president Rueben Lifuka has expressed concern over President Edgar Lungu's double standards in treating erring ministers.

And Lifuka says if President Lungu's intention was to protect government's image, he should also dismiss corruption-accused ministers.

In a statement to News Diggers, Thursday, Lifuka said the offence which former General Education Minister David Mabumba committed nothing different from what his Chiefs and Traditional Affairs counterpart Lawrence Sichalwe did when he circulated a pornographic video last year.

Lifuka, however, said Mabumba's actions could not be excused as he should have known the consequences of involving himself in production of obscene materials.

Transparency International Zambia (TIZ) has noted with interest the decision by President Edgar Lungu to dismiss Minister of General Education Hon David Mabumba in the aftermath of the obscene video that was circulated on social media

yesterday, allegedly featuring the then Minister. As TIZ, we would like to first stress that Hon Mabumba's actions cannot be excused and he ought to have known that as a senior government official, he has an obligation to exemplify high moral behaviour at all times and to be an example in that regard. We therefore understand why the Head of State has taken the decision to relieve Hon Mabumba of his ministerial portfolio," Lifuka said.

why Lifuka wondered Sichalwe was not dismissed.

"TIZ is concerned at the apparent double standards that President Lungu is exhibiting in the manner he deals with issues of public interest. To begin with, we recall that in January 2019, Minister of Chiefs and Traditional Affairs Hon Lawrence Sichalwe circulated pornographic material via social media, and Zambia Police Spokesperson Esther Katongo even issued a statement confirming that Hon Sichalwe had committed an offence. We note that neither the President nor the Zambia Police took any action over that incident and Hon. Sichalwe remains a serving Minister today. We would like the President to explain to

the Zambian people what the difference is between these two detestable acts," Lifuka stated.

"We do not understand why Hon Sichalwe got away with a more serious offence than what Hon Mabumba has apparently been dismissed for. The point that should not be glossed over from these actions and probably many that are yet to be exposed, is that some of our elected leaders seemingly have so much time to waste on such unbecoming behaviour instead of focusing their energies on finding solutions to the myriad of development challenges that the people face. And these persons are appointed by President Lungu, and therefore such misconduct reflects negatively on his sense of judgement as the appointing authority."

And Lifuka challenged President Lungu to fire his corruption-accused ministers, saying graft actually had a higher potential to tarnish government's image.

"In addition to this, we

are particularly troubled by the President's inconsistent approach in dealing with issues of corruption, which have remained a key feature of his administration over several years now. If the President's intention in dismissing Hon Mabumba is to protect the reputation of his government, TIZ would like to put it to the Head of State that the persistent allegations of corruption that have engulfed administration have greater potential to tarnish his government's reputation. The President's continued insistence not to dismiss or suspend Minister of Health Dr Chitalu Chilufya in the wake of his ongoing court case on allegations of corruption negates his administration's professed commitment to the fight corruption," he stated. Lifuka stated that President

Lungu's insistence to keep Health Minister Dr Chilufya in Cabinet was not helping both the office bearer and the Head of State himself.

the accusations against a serving ministers are mere malicious rumours, then the President might be justified in retaining his Ministers in office. What we find unfortunate is the President's inaction even when such accused Ministers are formally arrested and charged by the Anti Corruption Commission. In our considered view, the Head of State's decision to keep Dr Chilufya in Cabinet does not help the Minister nor the President himself because in the event that the Minister gets cleared by the Courts of Law. it might be construed in some quarters that this was because he had exerted some influence in some way while holding on to his office as Minister. In that regard, the President's continued inaction threatens to erode public confidence in the judicial process and is in essence, a stumbling block to the fight against corruption," Lifuka stated.

"TIZ is convinced that

"TIZ contends that if corruption affects many more people's lives than what Hon Mabumba has been dismissed for, reprehensible as it is, and we are gravely concerned that the President's inconsistent approach in dealing with these issues renders corruption to be considered as a low risk and inconsequential crime by those in public office. We want to see timely and urgent action against perpetrators of corruption. We therefore reiterate our call for President Lungu to dismiss or suspend the Minister of Health in order to give the Minister time to focus on his defence in Court. We also call on the President to explain to the Zambian people his difference in approach over the cases of Hon Mabumba and Hon Sichalwe. Lastly, we call on the Zambia Police Service to gives the Zambian public a comprehensive update on their investigations into Hon Sichalwe's case, including an explanation of why no action has been taken against him to

Explain difference between Mabumba, **Sichalwe, TIZ challenges Lungu**



PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE FOR CHANGE

(PAC)
Viva New Zambia!!!

Why we deserve your vote



Government Contracts!

By Andyford Mayele Banda AST week we talked about the challenge of governance and how when people are elected into office the ■ first thing is appoint relatives in various key positions. We did indicate and we quote from last week's article that "The biggest problem with governance is appeasement. When most Presidents are elected, the first thing they think about is to appease people who were campaigning with them on the stage. They would give key cabinet positions, permanent secretaries, key positions in government, parastatals, contracts and employee relatives of those in power and their associates. And then there is a race to be rich by all those who are in power and their associates".

Appeasement goes on to go the government contracts. When people in power award their friends contracts, we see a lot of things happening such as overpricing of goods and services, below standard delivery, misappropriation, undelivered materials and failure to follow procurement procedures. So, most of the problems we face in this country come from the abuse of the government supply chain system. Lack of medicine in hospital is because the medicine being supplied is overpriced or not delivered. Farmers can't buy fertilisers because the middlemen in the buying of fertilisers have to get their cuts and share with people in government. Construction projects being abandoned because contracts were awarded to cadres who could not finish their works. They used up the money for other purposes and they know nothing will be done to them.

We can't continue a path where goods and services supplied to the government should cost ten times the market price. We cannot continue a path where construction projects should cost more than anywhere in the region. This is the reason why the government is broke. We need a leadership that will stop all this if we are to pay our debts and have some money in the government coffers.

In its 2018 trends report, the Financial Intelligence Centre analysed 176 suspicious transaction reports, of which 80 were circulated to law enforcement agencies because of suspicions such as tax evasion, fraud, corruption and money laundering. The total value of the suspected offences in the cases sent to law enforcement agencies was estimated at ZMW 6.1 billion (or about USD 520 million) Half a billion dollars! Of

interest was the observation that during the period under review, there was high usage of gatekeepers such as law firms and accounting/audit firms to facilitate corrupt activities. The specific activities included using accounts of law firms to layer transactions, purchase property and to distribute cash to beneficial owners. In a lot of cases, the perpetrators were holders of public office, and part of their responsibility was to regulate members for anti-money laundering purposes.

Corruption seems to be an acceptable practice in politics around the world, but it has heavily affected Africa whose leaders portray special skills for greediness. In many developed countries political leaders who abused public offices during their tenure are prosecuted while in Africa many go scot free, causing future leaders to continue the same path of looting. In 2019 in Brazil, the former President of that country Luiz Inacio da Silva was sentenced to 12 years in prison on charges of money laundering and passive corruption.

Corruption has caused many challenges for governments around the world including Zambia. People who are connected to the system end up getting deals with inflated pricing. Resources that are supposed to be channelled to key issues such medicine and facilities for schools end up in the pockets of a few greed politicians and their business associates. State owned companies such as Zesco fail to operate not because they can't make a profit but because the supply chain system has been invaded by corrupt politicians and their connections.

There just seems to be no care whatsoever of the consequences of such acts from heartless political leaders and their business associates. They don't care that people are dying in hospitals because of lack of medicines and equipment. They don't care that children fail to learn in proper environments due to lack of facilities. Farmers fail to get their adequate supply due to the corrupt system.

Normally government contracts are only accessible to a few privileged people who are connected to the system. Successive governments have not realised that this kind of system is what has left the majority Zambians in poverty, slowed consumer spending and denied the creation of jobs and promoted corruption. The PAC will put an end to this

All non-special skills contracts will

be exclusively shared among numerous Zambians. This is in a quest to break current systems that are designed to support a few individuals as opposed to supporting the majority of Zambians. A contract that would make one individual wealthy can make 100 people significantly improve their lives. This is also to ensure that the Zambian buying population is boosted and spur a chain reaction of waking up sleeping industries. As a committed PAC government, we will also guarantee such contracts financed by our partner banks and loan repayments deducted at source. This system will also minimize corruption which has increased on the basis of monopolising opportunity and giving it to a few individuals.

The PAC government through the new CEEC will ensure that priority for such contracts is given to small entrepreneurs; contracts not only from the government but parastatals, other government wings and our cooperating partners in the private sector as well. We believe there is enough business for the many entrepreneurs in Zambia; we just need to move from the big contracts syndrome. We should stop enriching a few individuals and ensure that we create as many opportunities as possible for the majority Zambians.

The new CEEC will ensure that the government promotes and supports commercial, technical engineering and industrial training and ensure that every citizen connects their passion to a skill. The PAC Government will breakup tendering and contracting monopolies to ensure that there are equal opportunities for all and an equitable distribution of the resources of Zambia. The PAC Government will not be a lender but will instead introduce venture capital supports through the Citizens Economic Empowerment Fund, the National Pensions Fund and Workers Compensation Fund. On another platform, The PAC Government will issue performance and Bond guarantees for loan and lease financing to lenders without necessarily giving out direct loans.

All this is possible with a government that cares and has a vision for the country. Next week we look at the 2018 auditor general report.

Andyford Mayele Banda President People's Alliance for Change (PAC) By Daniel Chansa

UPND Chairperson for Mobilization and Strategy Sylvia Masebo says she feels sorry for President Edgar Lungu because he is a weak Head of State.

And Masebo says the Copperbelt is now 90 percent opposition, which is an indication of victory in 2021.

Masebo said this in Kitwe during the close of the Copperbelt UPND intra-party elections.

She said President Lungu was failing to act on many serious issues because his administration had been captured by those who did not mean well.

"President Lungu is not in control of this country. If he was, he could have acted on many serious issues. All he knows is to make excuses. Today, everyone is a President, if you have a weak President, we are in problems. They have hijacked the presidency, he is under state capture, he has all the powers but he is failing to act. It means that you the citizens don't have a parent and you need to act and stop this. You need a parent who will listen and care for you,"

"If you see a country and you find road blocks every where, just know that it is a troubled country or failed state. In Nyanja we say it is a government yama fontini (backwards thinking people). You find the PF cadres are directing the police, just know that we don't have a country. If police are timid and scared of cadres, just know that it is a failed state."

She said President Lungu's administration was the worst in Zambia's history.

"This administration we are dealing with is not like Kaunda, not like Dr Chiluba, not like Mwanawasa, not like Rupiah Banda, not even like ba [Michael] Sata. We are dealing with mafias that want to control everything. But I feel sorry for President Edgar Lungu. Why can't he run the country properly than allowing boys to mislead him? He is failing to lead the country. Even the OP, he can't listen to them, but wants to listen to boys who will praise him," Masebo said.

"It is an unprecedented administration that does not respect the rule of law. Hakainde Hichilema is as good

B-BACK

Email: herb.tan76@gmail.com

Lungu a weak President - Masebo

as under house arrest today. It is an offence for the opposition to move, going forward, is that you should know that the Lungu administration will not give you any political space, if you wait, you won't have it. Next year it's elections and the PF is strategically using the police for us not to move and work. So this won't change and won't stop."

Masebo lamented that only a few people were playing around with money in Zambia.

"Even civil servants are acting like presidents. So what country do we have today? Today everyone has no food, but we have a President. We only have a few that are playing around with money and do wrong things," she said.

And Masebo said she was pleased that Copperbelt was now 90 per cent opposition.

"I have seen a great change from the people of the Copperbelt and as an old timer in politics, Copperbelt is 90 percent opposition which means the opposition will win," she said.

"But it will not be easy, we need to face the challenges as they come. Be prepared to be beaten, killed maimed and taken to prison. We are fighting for a change for our children. Let the people who have died rest in peace. Copperbelt is ripe for change, that is why you will find all these challenges."

Meanwhile, Masebo warned ministers not to let power get to their heads because it was temporary.

"I have seen some excitement from ministers who think they have reached. Use the power properly. You are happy with people dying, we have been ministers before and serious ministers for that matter, not the manyengwe (child's play) we have today. When change comes, even the power and guns you have don't work. Enough is enough you can't fight the people. Your ending will be bad. The people will react because of the anger the people are going through," Masebo said.

"I feel for the PF ministers because of the misery under your leadership, even the President can't explain and act, because everything is destroyed. Those of us

Cell: 0979-310 300

who worked with a serious President like Mwanawasa know how it is to advise and work with leaders. It will not be easy. PF has reached alarming levels of desperation. We know everything that you are doing, but our silence will not be forever."

Masebo warned ministers that the same cadres they were using to assault others today would beat them one day.

"The same cadres you are using will beat you very soon. Even ministers who work and talk to us, we know. They just want to eat with them. You will not even be listening to the results but busy crossing the borders. You will leave your houses. Ba Lungu did not know that his two terms will come to an end, but it

has ended. Those misleading ministers will run away from you and [they are] even having secret meetings with HH. We have been there and we know what is happening," said Masebo.

"For the first time, everything has collapsed in Zambia, even Christianity has ended because even pastors are bought, even Christians for Lungu. Chiefs are bought, this money will end. UPND will participate and do everything within our rights and come next year, HH will be the President of Zambia. We don't have leaders, we just have a group of criminals. You cannot have a government that kills its people. Surely, the levels of abuse is alarming. This is a party of evil men and women. The amount of hatred they have for HH is appalling. Everything is about HH."

Speaking at the same event, UPND Chairman for Policy and Research Dr Cholwe Beyani said arrests were a new normal for members of the opposition.

Dr Beyani, who was arrested on Saturday in Chililabombwe for conducting UPND Copperbelt Provincial elections, vowed that arrests would not slow down his party.

"No matter what PF does to arrest and put us in cells, we are determined to speak and act for the Zambian people because nothing will shake us from putting the interests of the people first," said Dr Beyani.



UPND Chairperson for Mobilization and Strategy Sylvia Masebo

By Zondiwe Mbewe

An Absa Bank Zambia employee has testified that between 2012 and 2014, former Zambia Air Force (ZAF) commander Eric Chimese withdrew over K1.5 million from his account for building materials, plot purchase, wages and contractors.

The State witness, who produced 11 bank vouchers relating to the said transactions, however, told the Lusaka Magistrates' Court that there was nothing suspicious or illegal relating to the transactions.

This is a matter in which Chimese and Chita Lodge director James Chungu are charged with abuse of authority of office and money laundering relating to properties in Ibex Hill and Lilayi area in Lusaka.

Testifying before Lusaka magistrate Nsunge Chanda, Wednesday, Esther Mwanza, a banker at ABSA based at Manda Hill branch, said the transactions which also included withdrawals by third parties, were made on different dates and years.

She explained that on July 24, 2018 the bank received a warrant requesting for vouchers or transactions of a bank customer done between

Banker tells court how Chimese withdrew K1.5m for building

the period of 2012 and 2014.

Mwanza said the requested vouchers which were computer system generated were retrieved for the transactions which were specifically requested.

She said the names that were appearing on the vouchers were for Chimese and his wife, Sharon, as it was a joint account at the bank's Longacreas' branch.

Mwanza further said the first voucher and bank statement was for March 23, 2012 in the amount of K120 million, unrebased and that the narration was for building materials.

She further said another voucher showed that K250 million unrebased was withdrawn from the bank on August 13, 2012 for purchase of a plot.

Mwanza further read out other vouchers and bank statements to the court.

"The next voucher is dated September 7, 2012.

BOOKING FOR AUGUST 2020 K200 million unrebased was withdrawn for building materials. The next voucher which is dated September 25, 2012 had a withdraw of K200 million unrebased for contractors. The next one is a voucher dated October 1, 2013. The amount of the voucher is K90, 000 for wages/building materials. The next voucher is dated October 2, 2013. It has a cash withdraw of K58 000 for building materials," she said.

"The next voucher is dated October 4, 2013, the value which was withdrawn was K70, 000. The next voucher is dated October 10, 2012, the value withdrawn was K72 million unrebased. The next voucher is dated November 5, 2013 with the amount of K28, 000 for building."

She further said on the next voucher, among others, there was a letter of instruction with the value of K480, 000 dated October 18, 2014 for purchase of construction materials.

Asked in cross examination by lead defence lawyer Kelvin Bwalya Fube whether senior officers in ZAF could send their juniors to do errands for them, the witness said yes.

Asked where the money

on Chimese's account came from, Mwanza said she did not have that information.

Further asked if she was aware that the said account was where Chimese received his gratuity on, Mwanza said she had seen a letter confirming the same.

She added that it was legal to be paid gratuity if you were on contract.

Asked if there were any suspicious dealings that the bank reported to the Drug Enforcement Commission in relation to the said account and the vouchers that she presented before court, the witness said she was not aware of any.

Also asked whether from the vouchers that she had produced there was anything suspicious or illegal according to the bank, Mwanza said no.

Trial continues on August 19, 2020.

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It's Corruption that has killed our economy, not pornography

F only President Edgar Lungu acted with such lightning speed when firing corrupt ministers in his government, as he has acted on the obscene viral video involving the General **Education Minister**, Zambia would be a far better place to live in. The decision to fire Honourable David Mabumba over an obscene video looks reasonable from a distance, but when you look at the list of scandals involving other ministers that have been ignored by the appointing authority in the past, it raises a lot of pertinent questions.

Firstly, we must say that what has happened to the Honourable minister makes very sad reading. What is worse is that Honourable Mabumba stood out as one of the few reasonable and steadfast ministers in the PF government since the time of Michael Sata. If he made enemies durina his time in office, it must be those whom he stopped from engaging in

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illegalities. So when great men fall, only the insensitive few take pleasure. We sympathise with the minister and we hope and pray that he will find the relevant strength to weather the storm and soldier on. In our view, he served government and the people dedicatedly and his scandalous departure from public service is unfortunate.

Now, this is not to say those who have remained are clean. There is nothing that Honourable Mabumba did that those who have remained in Cabinet don't do. In fact, the reason he has been forced out is not because he was the only one doing this, but because they feel embarrassed that what they do in these public offices has been

exposed. Issues of morality are a very sensitive topic, and there is not one person who can claim to be as clean or pure as an angel. Even the most holy go out of their way and find themselves falling short of the glory of God. It is human nature to make mistakes.

What has shocked us is that Honourable Mabumba has not been given a chance to face justice first. It has taken the President very few hours to make a decision of firing the minister and replacing him. It is almost as if the President didn't like this minister for some reason and he was looking for an opportunity to get rid of him. We say this because other ministers who have been accused

of committing more serious crimes against the people have received utmost protection from State House. Everyone else is innocent until proven guilty by the courts of law, but Honourable Mabumba has been sentenced without trial. Why?

The people are asking. Does it mean that only nudity is a crime in the PF government while corruption is not? Does it mean that only nudity is embarrassing to the President while theft of public funds is not? The government needs to come out clean on its justice agenda. It seems to us that the law is what the President says it is. not what is in the statutes, and this is very concerning. What is more damaging to

the economy between corruption and obscenity?

From our point of

view, that obscene video does very little or no damage at all to the economic prosperity of this country. Apart from injuring his own person and family. very few Zambians have remained affected by what can be described as the immoral conduct of the minister. But when you go to a hospital near you, there is no basic medicine. Even Panadol is out of stock because money meant for medical supplies has been diverted to private pockets. Companies that used to provide medicines to the government have stopped, because they are owned hundreds of millions.

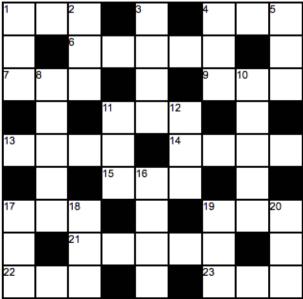
The looting of public

Τ

resources in these critical sectors is what is killing the economy. it is what has caused our country to be heavily indebted, not pornography. Sharing obscene materials is immoral, but stealing from the poor is tantamount to murder. Those who steal from the poor must be the focus for punitive measures, not those who engage in obscenity. There is nothing wrong in firing a minister who does what Honourable Mabumba did, but our issue is that the action smells of hypocrisy and lacks logic.

If you want to apply the law, it must be applied fairly. Even if producing obscene material is a criminal offence, Mabumba remains innocent until the courts of law prove him otherwise. He has the right to appear in court so that he can exculpate himself. It is wrong for the President to sentence him without trial. It is even worse that the President is protecting hard core criminals, while punishing those who engage in erotic entertainment.

Crossword puzzle No 658



"We can easily forgive a child Crossword puzzle No 657 who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light."

- Plato

Across Baked fruity dessert Indefinitely long time Beach find 7. Shoot with a ray gun 9. Cook in a pan Secret agent Curved structure 14. Poker stake Type of tree Shrewd Organ of sight

23. Fib

Kind of scout

Human males

Down Dispenser candy 2. Psychic's claim 3. Assist Sprite Dissenting vote Spring month 10 Luxurious 11. Feminine pronoun Potato substitute Racing sled Total Japanese currency

Slippery fish

20. 12/24 or 12/31

R Α Α R S Ε S С Ε D Т S В S М R Ε Ε Α R Α Е R 0 Α G

Т

Mopani's move to continue ops beyond July

Dear editor,

'These are the fellows adding very little value to the system. The target should be for government to $\;\;\;$ raise enough fiscal muscle to be able to reposes the mine if the investor has failed. This system of begging them to stay will always disadvantage us". - Sibajene Annel Hangwende-Siaciwena

"Covid-19 has revealed Zambia's weak position vis a vis her Mineral Wealth 56 years after gaining political independence. Where are our Mine Industry Experts that Zambia has trained at home and abroad over 5 Decades. It took China only 40 years to be a Technological Giant that it is today. This is because China sent out its nationals to Developed countries not to learn how to speak good English or French but to learn HOW those countries were doing things differently from China. To date the USA is still suspicious of Chinese students or scientists because unlike Africans they are not out to settle but to GATHER as much knowledge and Information that can make an Economic and Technological difference beneficial to the Peoples Republic of China. Glenco Group of companies the owners of Mopani Copper Mines are aware of how Corrupt our government is. They know that the final decisions on Mopani Mines will depend on how much the Greedy and Selfish President and his Cronies get from Mopani and NOT what the Miners and the Zambians in general get. The so called "experts" from the Zambian side are a Cabal of individuals selected on their political and tribal affiliation to the ruling party. The Mine Workers Unions are part of the greedy selfish team. Pathological Hypocrites!" - Christopher Kalima

Sumaili's plea to parents to delete their nude videos from cell phones

brought out into the light.....I

hope we are all learning....this

chabipile fye bena....baliba chaya

"Minister why don't you preach

ministers when you seat for your

it's your fellow ministers and PF

members who are busy exposing

could happen to any of us....

akatapula!" - Lombe Nkunde

that message to your fellow

cabinet meetings than tell us,

Editor,

"As a religious affairs minister, you should know what the bible says. You reap what you sow and in this case don't blame the one who leaked the video... Lesa eusokolola.Do you even know the kind of prayer the wife was praying? I would rather listen to pastor Walu's counsel because these are the issues they always talk about on ZNBC". - Saphira

"When you are a 'public figure' a minister of education for that matter, try to lead a decent life to avoid embarrassments". -Clement Chintibe

"Public figures have life outside of their tenure....life is real.... that was his private activity and blackmail is not right either.... he is human first.....public figure is just an add on...it is really unfortunate because human

Paul Butala

"Is she saying the children are the ones that leaked the video?" beings are human beings and they Maimbolwa Kamanga do horrible things....the only dark side to this is....his activities were

> "She should plead with thieves to stop looting this country. Let's stop glorifying evil because of money. Chiwamila galu kuluma mbuzi, osati mbuzi ilume galu! In as much as it was wrong for a human being to do what ba Mabumba did based on moral compass, you should realise that theft also is a sin against the moral rules of GOD. Sharing a video must not now turn out to be worse than corruption. It won't end well bane!" - Longa Mutende

their dudus". - Frank Temba "Very wrong piece of advice. The advice should be for parents to stop this kind of behaviour and be

'Lungu's decision to drop Mabumba exposes his animal farm govt'

"All animals are equal, but some animals are MORE equal than others. Zambian government". Edina Dee Phiri

"Let him also act on Theft, Corruption, Cadres and illegalities". - Chris Ndhlovu

"Those that sin against humanity by looting taxpayers money are still intact to loot the more only to fire some hardworking minister who just erred against his own body! Why is embalmed Sichalwe still in office? Why is the parte hesitant to expell Jay Jay and team that clobbered officers yet are quick to act on Kungo?!" - Lydia Ndandalika

"circulating obscene material contrary to section 177(b) of the Zambian penal code, which makes it illegal to possess or distribute an "object tending to corrupt morals." Is this any different from the case of Lawrence Sichalwe? Double standards indeed!" -Holyfield Bashi-Tasheni Mumba

"A Minister who reduced fees, banned buying 10 pack tissues, cobra brooms etc for schools. He said No to paying for civilian day. Go well Mr Mabumba. Your good legacy remains. Your tenure was the best". - Charity Chiholyonga

"Bashi Tasilla is biased . Pali Chitotela and Chilufya ati I don't want to loose them!" -Joseph Chileshe



Nkombo on Lubinda's scheme to resurrect Bill 10

Editor,

"Yes Garry is right! Lubinda is very treacherous. The man can be saying things he doesn't believe in just to show he's equal to the task!" -Gladwel Sham

PF people". - David M Mwanangombe

"Lubinda is a bootlicker naimwe he doesn't know what he is talking about". -Felix Londola

"Bill 10 will never see the light of day, its dead and buried, never to ever resurrect". - Ernest Masaiti

"But Tutwa said they move "They follow no rules these another motion on bill 10. Saying they will start it all over again and that there's no law that forbid it". -Michael Mpepo

> "Nation is wasting time and effort on petty

unproductive issues. We have minerals, water, manpower, strategic central position, vast land etc...let's focus our energy on how to create and maximise value thereon and develop our nation. A good leadership only requires 1 year in office to put Zambia on path to progress.

This perpetual mediocrity is disgusting". - Kool Int

EDITOR'S NOTE Go to our News Diagers! Facebook Page, select a story you like and you down your feedback will pick that as your frame time comment. We will pick and an timic transcount of the comment unin timicine in an analysis and are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn timicine in an analysis and are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn timicine in an analysis and a second are turn to a Mo to our News Viggers! Facebook Page, in the control of the story you like and jot down so in the select a story you like that ac in the select a story will tirk that ac in the select a story will tirk that ac in the select a story will tirk that ac in the select a story will tirk that ac in the select a story will tirk that ac in the select as the comment. We will Pick that as your teeable the comment was page. In a comment was page. snorter the comment the higher the shorter the comment the higher users who use snorter the comment the higher users who use snorter the comment the hock facebook users who use snorter the that we have abusive language.

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By Mirriam Chabala MINISTRY Health Permanent Secretary for

technical services Dr Kennedy Malama says the shortage of COVID-19 testing reagents and consumables is a global challenge which the Zambian government is doing its best to

And Dr Malama has announced that the country has recorded 306 new COVID-19 cases out of the 1,243 tests conducted in various testing centres in the last 24 hours.

Speaking during the daily COVID-19 briefing at Ndeke House, Thursday, Dr Malama said government was also not happy that citizens were complaining about delays in getting test results.

"We have continued ramping up our testing, but let me mention that there has been a global challenge in testing for COVID-19 in terms of availability of reagents and equipment. The reason is simple, because all counties on earth are affected COVID-19, including countries which manufacture the equipment and the reagents. So we are all competing on this limited pot globally. But we would like to assure our people that the government of the Republic of Zambia is doing everything possible under the leadership of His Excellency Dr Edgar Chagwa Lungu to ensure that the testing capacity in Zambia is ramped up so that we move away from where we are at the moment as at today 12 operational officially certified sites which are testing for COVID-19," Dr Malama said.

"In Lusaka, we have the University Teaching Hospital (UTH) virology laboratory which is using three different platforms to conduct the tests. In Ndola we have the Tropical Disease Research Centre, we also have the Author Davison children's laboratory. In Chinsali we have Chinsali General Hospital using two different types of testing platforms, Chipata at the Distrit Hospital, Choma we are using Macha Hospital. We've also earmarked 10 more

Shortage of COVID-19 test kits global – Malama



Ministry of Health Permanent Secretary for technical services Dr Kennedy Malama

testing sites which will include the Churches Association of Zambia Complex laboratory, Zambia Air Force Hospital laboratory, ZNS Makeni laboratory and in Solwezi we are targeting to operationalize Solwezi General Hospital Livingstone laboratory; Teaching Hospital; Lewanika General Hospital; Kabwe General Hospital, Kasama General Hospital and Mansa General Hospital."

He assured that things would get better once government received consumables which were procured.

certain "There are consumables we are expecting to arrive despite the challenge to get them. Once we get those, we would want minimum within 24 hours to test 5,000, our ultimate is a test of 10,000 within 24 hours once all these are running because we are not happy with our current testing levels. We are also aware that there have been complaints from members of the public that we are delaying to give results. One of the reasons is the inadequate capacity which we are working on to address. Therefore, as a country as at today, we've performed a total of 81,482 tests within the 12 labs. This translates into 4,425 tests done per one million populations. Which means we still have a gap which we need to narrow as we increase the investment as alluded to earlier," Dr Malama said.

He insisted that priority in testing for COVID-19 would be given to symptomatic patients, the aged and those with underlying health conditions. "We need to prioritise

patients who are attending health care facilities because when someone gets to the hospital, it's easy to get them, but also most likely, they are not feeling well and they may be carrying COVID. So that will be a special group for us. So, so far, it's working well. Those who are going to our facilities are being swabbed for COVID-19 as resources permit and we shall continue improving on this. We are also giving priority to those who are symptomatic, the people showing symptoms of COVID-19. We are also prioritising contacts positive cases who are a high risk group; number one the elderly, children and those with underlying conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, those with kidney problems, HIV and tuberculosis among others. So when we see someone with these conditions, they are a

special group and we need to ensure that quickly they have access to COVID-19 testing," he explained.

And Dr Malama said the cumulative number of cases was now 5,555.

"In the last 24 hours, Zambia recorded 306 cases of COVID-19 out of the 1,243 tests done. That gives 25 per cent positivity in the people we tested in the last 24 hours. This brings the cumulative total of COVID-19 cases in Zambia to 5,555. The 306 new cases include 122 people we identified through our health care facilities and these screenings were done in Lusaka where we picked 93, Kitwe 17, Mpika three, Ndola three, Chingola two, Kafue two, Chinsali one and Mongu one. We also picked 104 individuals whom we identified from routine community screening. In Lusaka 96, Kafue, four, Nakonde, three and Kalabo, one. In addition, we had 52 contacts to those who are already known to be COVID-19 positive and all these 52 came from within Lusaka," Dr Malama said.

"We had 16 truck drivers in Nakonde who tested positive to COVID-19. 10 Health workers were screened in Lusaka. We also had two people who were brought in dead to the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka and on swabbing them, we picked COVID-19. As a country, we have 93 people in our health care facilities whom we are treating for COVID-19, 44 of these are currently on oxygen support and four of these are at Levy Mwanawasa isolation centre Intensive Care Unit (ICU). In the last 24 hours, we have discharged four persons from those whom we were treating in our facilities. This brings the cumulative recoveries to 3,289 since the beginning of the outbreak in the country." And Dr Malama said one

COVID-19 related death had been recorded while 10 more were being investigated.

"We've registered another facility death in Levy Mwanawasa University

Teaching Hospital isolation centre. The cumulative number of deaths associated with COVID-19 now stands at 149. Remember yesterday (Wednesday), we informed you that we are still classifying some deaths which had occurred. What we've been doing is not to rush to report on deaths, we have to investigate and when you see changes in the numbers as the days go, it's because some of those which were being investigated and classified have been cleaned up. Let me also mention that from the investigations and classifications we've done, we are now at 41 COVID deaths and 98 which are associated deaths. The other 10 deaths are yet to be classified. So as at today we have 10 deaths some of which are BIDs and we are still investigating and tomorrow in the update you will be informed how we've classified those deaths," said

Zimbabwe police clear streets ahead of anti-government protests



ZIMBABWE'S security forces have cleared people off the streets of the capital, Harare, and forced shops to close, a day before planned anticorruption protests.

As a result, the city's streets are unusually deserted, reports the BBC's Shingai Nyoka.

Citizens

warned not to take part in the

Government officials have accused Western governments of being behind the protests.

demonstrations on Friday.

The authorities have said that the opposition is being funded by Western diplomats and it is using the protests to try and overthrow the government. Charges that both opposition leaders and diplomats deny.

Our correspondent says the government is nervous about the demonstrations and growing public anger over a deepening economic crisis.

More soldiers have now been deployed at police roadblocks, which were set up to enforce the four-month-old Covid-19 lockdown, she adds.

This has left the streets of the capital city eerily quiet for a Thursday.

Several opposition parties, churches and civil society groups have called on Zimbabweans to protest against corruption.

Earlier month, Zimbabwe's Health Minister Obadiah Moyo was sacked amid corruption allegations.

He is accused of going ahead with in a suspicious looking deal to buy masks and other equipment to protect against coronavirus despite not getting the necessary consent of Zimbabwe's procurement registration authority. He has not commented on accusation. BBC

2 ask court to enter default judgement against HH in K400,000 debt case

PROSPECT Tech Limited and a Lusaka man, Prince Siame, have asked the Lusaka High Court to enter judgement in default of appearance and defence against UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema and other opposition party members.

This is in a case where the two have sued HH and others for allegedly failing to pay K400,000 for tickets printed for the party during its national card renewal exercise in 2017.

According to an interlocutory judgement in default of appearance and defence filed by their lawyers, Wednesday, Siame and Prospect Tech Limited want the court to enter a default judgement against the said plaintiffs.

They want the court to award them damages for breach of contract and an order for payment of K400,000 plus 30 percent interest, bringing the total due

Siame and Prospect Tech Limited who have sued Hichilema, Steven Katuka in his capacity as UPND secretary general, Miriam Masando (organising committee chairperson for the card renewal) and UPND Registered Trustees, further want an order that UPND be declared bankrupt for failing to pay its debts and that the party be dissolved and deregistered.

They are further seeking an order that the defendants pays all the costs for the collection and all charges incidental and connected to the suit.

The plaintiffs had stated in their statement of claim filed by their lawyer Tutwa Ngulube earlier this month, that by a written agreement made between them and the defendants represented by Masando dated March 16, 2017, the defendants contracted them to print 200,000 tickets for the National Card Renewal exercise at the cost of K2 per

The plaintiffs stated that soon after the execution of the said agreement, they printed 200, 000 tickets.

They added that the defendants further requested for 50,000 more tickets on a gratuitous terms known as mbasela.

The plaintiffs stated that the defendants pegged the tickets for sale at K1,000, K50 and K30 respectively.

"The plaintiffs shall aver that according to the information supplied together with the request, the third defendant (Hichilema) was supposed to be the guest of honour at the said event," read the claim.

The plaintiffs claimed that despite delivering the said tickets within the agreed period, the defendants had not paid the money despite asking for more time in which to pay.

"Despite the several follow ups

ticket, thereby translating to K400, to the defendants at their secretariat, the defendants have neglected to honour the agreement to pay. Despite several assurances that they will settle the indebtedness, the defendants have lamentably failed to honor the payment," read the claim further.

> The plaintiffs further stated that on November 15, 2017 the defendants having lamentably failed to settle and after several broken, failed and fake promises, Masando issued a written promise to pay the outstanding amount together with 30 percent interest.

> They, however, stated that despite having committed to pay by November 17, 2017 the defendants still failed to pay the debt and to date the outstanding amount of K400,000 and interest of 30 percent remained unpaid.

The plaintiffs stated that as a result of the breach of the agreement, they had suffered loss and damage.

FAZ in \$1.5 billion Covid-19 relief aid

By Abraham Kalito

FAZ will benefit from \$1 billion USD grant from FIFA after the world soccer governing body confirmed that the funds meant to protect and restart football during the new normal period had been approved.

According to FIFA, during the third phase of the mission, an additional \$500, 000 USD meant to protect women's football will be availed to all member associations, bringing the total to \$1.5 billion.

FIFA has since established regulations that will see strict compliance and audit requirements that will have to be agreed to.

"FIFA's ground breaking Covid-19 relief plan reached a major milestone as the Bereau of the FIFA Council approved the plans regulations. Under the terms of the COVID-19 Relief Plan, USD 1.5 billion is being made available to support all 211 FIFA member associations and the six confederations to

assist in the alleviation of the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The plan was originally drawn up by the FIFA administration in close cooperation with confederations, subsequently approved by the FIFA Council on June 25, 2020. The regulations establish strict compliance and audit requirements, as well as clear loan repayment conditions, under the supervision of a steering committee," a FIFA statement read.

FIFA stated that the full amount will be made available by January 2021, while.

"In the first phase of the plan, the maximum amount of FIFA Forward operational cost entitlements to member associations was released. For the second phase, member associations have now been given the ability to transform remaining FIFA Forward development project

grants into COVID-19 operational relief funds with a minimum of 50 per cent of released funds to be allocated to women's football. Following on from today's approval by the Bureau of the Council, FIFA will implement the third phase of the plan which completes the total amount of USD 1.5 billion being made available to the worldwide football community. Phase will comprise: Grants: a universal solidarity grant of USD 1 million is being made available to all FIFA member associations, and an additional grant of USD 500,000 is being allocated specifically to women's football," read a statement.

"In addition, a grant of USD 2 million is being made available to each confederation. The full amount will be made available by January 2021. Loans: all FIFA member associations will be able to apply for interest-free loans amounting to up to

35 per cent of their audited annual revenues. In the interest of solidarity, a minimum loan entitlement of USD 500,000 and a maximum loan entitlement of USD 5 million will be available. In addition, each confederation will have access to a loan of up to USD 4 million."

FIFA expects member associations to use the funds to implement the return-to-play protocols, participation of national teams in competition and

general administration and operating costs.

"Within the scope of the third phase, all FIFA member associations will be able to use the funds for activities such as the restart of competitions, the implementation of returnto-play protocols, the participation of national teams in competitions, the hiring and re-hiring of staff, the maintenance of football infrastructure, and general administration and operating costs."

Super League fixtures will not be suspended - Mulenga

By Abraham Kalito

Zambia Premier League (ZPL) interim manager Brian Mulenga says management will not entertain requests from clubs to suspend fixtures

following swirling Covid-19 cases.

Mulenga stated that unless a club has less than 15 registered players available for selection prior to match day, all fixtures will have to be fulfilled regardless of the number of officials testing positive.

The ZPL manager acknowledged that he had received several requests from clubs to have fixtures

suspended in view of Covid-19 cases.

"We have received several requests from clubs to suspend or postpone fixtures due to adverse Covid-19 results. We will only entertain these requests if a club has less than 15 players available from the registered pool of players available and decisions will be made on a case by case basis on whether matches should be played or not."

He urged clubs to retest players and officials after ten days to ascertain the depth of the impact the virus is having.

"We are urging teams to retest players after 10 days and 14 days respectively. Teams can only be quarantined and isolated in their entirety if ordered to do so by the Provincial Health Director only as per SI 21 and 22 of 2020. Best practice at present is for the negative players to be separated from the positive players and isolated for 14 days. Retesting of players will have to be done at regular intervals in order to monitor their COVID-19 status. Teams that have received a written instruction to quarantine and isolate must communicate this to the association as quickly as possible for further action," he said.

"We would like to urge all teams to take full precautions and when isolating to ensure players and officials who have been isolated remain so. FAZ will not hesitate to sanction teams disobeying Ministry of Health instructions. The fixtures deferred to a future date are: Kansanshi Dynamos vs Green Eagles. Power Dynamos vs Forest Rangers."

Pressure mounts on Eden top 6

By Tim Zulu

THE Eden National Division One League gets more interesting this weekend in the FAZ Week 26 matches as pressure mounts for the top six to maintain and wrestle for top spot.

From the time the league resumed a few weeks

RELEGATION

ago, Eden leadership has changed towns twice from Kitwe United who wrestled it from then leaders Prison Leopards after making good use of one rescheduled game to now Indeni of Ndola.

There is a high probability that it may change hands again this weekend, unless the latter have other ideas as they take on one tricky side Sinazongwe United away in Maamba.

Kitwe United, who are at par with Indeni on 49 points, may take it back if Indeni fumbles at Kanzinze stadium and 'Chingalika' put the 'Soldiers' Chindwin Sentries at Garden park in Kitwe against their sword.

Young Green Eagles, who are yet to drop any sweat during this period of COVID-19 uncertainties, are itching to get their armoury read for the 'Crocs' in a serious test match provided Kafue Celtic have made progress in having their COVID-19 results

In all fairness, both teams who did not play last weekend will no doubt relish to dig in for full positive points, while a win for Celtic will help them close the gap.

under their thick skin.

In the same vein, should that chance fall in the hands of Young Eagles, then the ZNS sponsored side may end up with top smiles provided the set pacers cast their heads down.

Motivated in all spheres you can think of, recent league leaders Prison Leopards know very well that anything less other than a win against Mumbwa Medics in Mumbwa will be a big disservice in their quest to get where their minds are focused on, that is 'Super league'.

Will Medics stand in their way? May be yes, may be not.

In Mpulungu, Mpulungu Harbour will be out to test if their Ndola outing stadium debacle nightmare is behind them or not as they take on giant killers Police College.

The other week 26 FAZ Eden Division one League Matches will be up and about on Sunday, August 2, 2020.

F.C Muza Vs Zesco Shockers.

Chambishi Vs Zambeef. Nchanga Rangers Vs National Assembly

Zesco Malaiti Rangers Vs Gomes.

2019/2020 Eden League Standing															
<u>NO</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>w</u>	D	Ī	<u>F</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>GD</u>	PTS	LAST SIX GAMES WEEK 25-30					
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National Division One

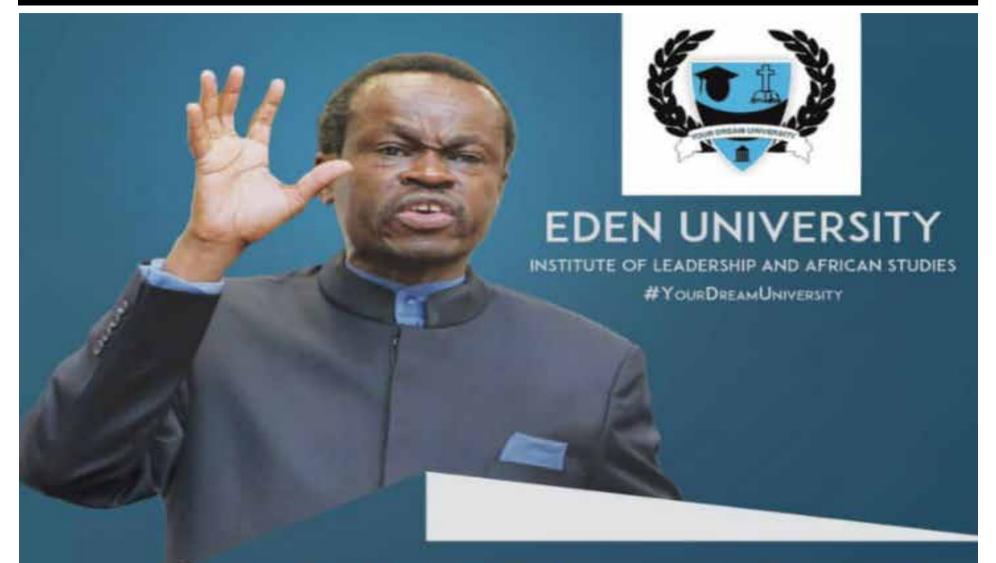


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