



MUTATI'S MDC GOES HEAD-ON WITH PF...



We are in the last stages of a failed state - Mulusa

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu's former Special Assistant for Project Implementation and Monitoring, Lucky Mulusa, says Zambia is right in the last stages of a failed State.

And Mulusa, whose last post in government

was Minister of National Development Planning, has revealed that he broke ranks with the Patriotic Front after noticing that collective responsibility was turning into collective irresponsibility among government officials that he was working with.

President Lungu fired Mulusa in December 2017 following controversial remarks he made referring to the US\$42 million fire trucks

as wheelbarrows, before he blamed government technocrats over the persistent loadshedding.

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Shonga accuses *News Diggers* of attacking judiciary through it's opinion against PF

By Julia Malunga

LAW Association of Zambia (LAZ) president Abyudi Shonga has written to

News Diggers, accusing the newspaper of "unfairly and publicly attacking judges who cannot defend themselves".

Shonga's letter which was addressed to Editor-in-Chief Joseph Mwenda and copied to Chief Justice Irene Mambilima, stated that public attacks on the judiciary had the capacity to undermine the

rule of law.

"We have observed that on Tuesday, 22nd September, 2020 you carried a story bearing the title 'Finally, PF agrees that ConCourt did not...'"

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Be strong, fikapwa, Hichilema tells Kasama residents

By Natasha Sakala

UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema says he will ensure that dignity is restored in the Zambia Police Service when he is voted into office.

And Hichilema has urged Kasama residents to be strong because the injustice and economic mismanagement being experienced under PF will soon end.

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Mucheleka gets nolle in aggravated robbery case

Story page 6

ACC arrest Bio-Medical technologist in Covid scam

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

THE Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has arrested a Bio-Medical technologist of Levy Mwanawasa Hospital for issuing fake COVID-19 clearance certificates.

ACC public relations manager Timoty Moono in a statement disclosed that the suspect identified as Kingsley Kakoma aged 35 years of Kasangula Road in Lusaka has since been charged with one count corrupt practices contrary to Section 19 (1) of the Anti-Corruption Act No.3 of 2012.

He stated that the suspect was arrested after soliciting for K800 from a student who was scheduled...

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By Julia Malunga
AN investigation by the Human Rights Commission (HRC) has revealed that Frank Mugala, a grade 8 pupil, was shot dead by a police officer during an operation in February.

And the Commission says it has observed with a deep sense of regret a growing, systemic or pattern of cases of extra-judicial killings of individuals by the Zambia Police Service, without state remedial measures, through the so called stray bullets.

Meanwhile, the Commission has recommended that the State compensates Frank Mugala's family.

In a statement, Tuesday, HRC chairperson Mudford Mwandenga stated that Mugala was killed by a bullet when the police were trying to disperse residents who were protesting after a rumour went round that individuals suspected of being involved in ritual killings through gassing unsuspecting victims with a paralysing chemical were hiding at the school.

"The Human Rights Commission (HRC) has completed its independent investigations into the death of Frank Mugala, a grade 8 pupil at Chazanga Basic School who was killed during the Zambia Police Service operation on 13th February, 2020. The 14 year old boy was killed by a bullet when the police were trying to disperse residents

Police killed Mugala, says HRC as it recommends compensation

who were protesting after a rumour went round that individuals suspected of being involved in ritual killings through gassing unsuspecting victims with a paralysing chemical were hiding at the school," read the statement.

"The Commission has submitted the detailed investigations report to the parties involved, being the family of the deceased and the Zambia Police Service in line with its legislative mandate under the Human Rights Commission Act, Chapter 48 of the Laws of Zambia. It was true that there was a public disturbance in Kabanana Township, including at Chazanga Basic School on the material day Frank met his tragic death. The Commission learnt that on the fateful day, Frank Mugala (deceased), a 14 year old grade eight (8) pupil at Chazanga Basic School was among the learners that had reported for lessons in the afternoon. The deceased belonged to Grade 8 C, one of the classes that reported for their lessons in the afternoons,"

It explained that there was confusion when parents went at the said school to pick up their children after rumor went round that the ritual

gassers were at the school which left pupils agitated.

"The Commission heard that on the material day, just after the 15:40 hours' break, as the pupils were settling down for the next lesson, some parents stormed the classrooms to pick up their children. When asked by the teachers why they were picking up their children, the parents stated that they feared for their children's safety because they had information that a mob of people in the area was going round schools damaging school infrastructure, under the belief that schools were hiding "ritual gassers." Some pupils over heard the parents talking about the gassers, who got agitated. The reports about the alleged gassers was worsened by the earlier reports in the day that a school in Northmead had been gassed. As more and more parents entered the school gates, there was confusion among the learners," the report read.

"Efforts to calm them down could not succeed. This created anxiety among both the teachers and the learners. Most of the pupils rushed out of the school premises. It is true that Frank was shot dead by the Zambia Police Service. It was only after 17:00 hours that police on patrol vehicles started patrolling the streets of Kabanana and Chazanga Townships in an attempt to stop the protesting mob. It was reported that the protestors had earlier been to other schools, including Ngwerere School where they found no one in the school as all the pupils had been released."

The Commission stated that according to witnesses,

they could hear sporadic gunshots in various sections of the compound.

"According to witnesses, the police did not enter Chazanga Basic School premises but went past the school heading eastward. The witnesses interviewed said they could hear sporadic gun shots in various sections of the compound, as the police tried to prevent the protesters from going to schools in search of the alleged gassers. No witness testified having heard about, seeing or experiencing the use of tear smoke (tear gas), water cannons, or rubber bullets by the police. Furthermore, no witness testified that they heard the police announce or advise the protesters to disperse. All they could see were uncompromising armed police officers on patrol vehicles driving up and down

the streets, without saying anything," it stated.

"Around 17:00hrs, the same time the Police were seen arriving in the area, a body of a boy was found lying, at about 150 to 200 meters opposite the gate of Chazanga Basic School. It was initially suspected that he was from High Land School. However, from the school badge and the note books from his school bag, they were able to identify him as Frank Mugala, grade 8 C of Chazanga Basic School. Some witnesses near the scene where Frank was shot dead said the police were shooting indiscriminately in the township and showed the Commission some mobile phone booths and houses with bullet holes. It was alleged that the deceased was shot by one of the bullets which went through a mobile phone

booth."

The Commission stated that a post mortem that was conducted confirmed that he died from a gunshot which ripped through his body.

"A post mortem examination was conducted on the body of the late Frank Mugala by a State Pathologist on 17th February, 2020 and confirmed that he died from a gunshot to the back, which ripped through his body and exited at the right side of the neck," the report read.

"Autopsy revealed a boy with an entry gunshot wound to the back and an exit wound at the right side of the neck. On the basis of the history and autopsy findings, multiple medicolegally relevant issues are raised by the post-mortem examination including: The cause of death is gunshot to back; the mechanism of death is physical disruption of the cervical spine; the manner of death is homicide. The gunshot wound is atypical suggestive of a ricochet bullet, the gunshot was incapacitation immediately."

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Police stop Chishimba Kambwili's security guard from entering the courtroom at Lusaka Magistrates where the NDC leader appeared yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

NAPSA seeks default judgment against IMS

By Zondiwe Mbewe

NAPSA has asked the Lusaka High Court to enter judgment in default of appearance and defence against Intelligent Mobility Solutions Limited (IMS) in a matter where the authority is claiming payment of over K141,000 from the company in respect of penalty arrears as a result of remitting monthly contributions late.

This is according to a judgment in default of appearance and defence filed in the Lusaka High Court by NAPSA legal counsel.

NAPSA wants the court to enter judgment in default of appearance and defence against IMS for its failure to file any Memorandum of Appearance or defence in the matter.

It also wants the court to order IMS to pay K141,760.07 in respect of penalty arrears as a result of non or late payments of contributions, interest, damages, costs and any other relief the court may deem fit.

In this matter, the National Pension Scheme Authority has sued, IMS claiming payment of K141,760.07 in respect of penalty arrears, for allegedly remitting monthly contributions late.

In a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court in August, NAPSA stated that it was a statutory body whose principal function was to implement policy relating to the National Pension Scheme and control and administer the scheme.

It added that it was by law mandated to collect monthly statutory contributions from contributing employers.

NAPSA stated that IMS was a statutory body established under the provisions of the Road Traffic Act No.11 of 2002.

It stated that IMS was a contributing employer registered as a Tax Payer with contracts of service with employees under the National Pension Scheme Act No.40 of 1996.

NAPSA further stated that IMS was mandated to pay to the National Pension Scheme a contribution in respect of its employees in its employment at the end of each month.

"That if the aforementioned payment is not made within the stated time limit, such a payment would attract a 20 percent cumulative penalty for each month. IMS has been remitting monthly contributions albeit late, as a result IMS has accumulated debt in penalty arrears in the sum of K141,760.07," read the claim.

It stated that despite several reminders and written correspondence that IMS effect its mandatory requirement to comply with the law, IMS had neglected or failed to pay the sum of K141,760.07.

Parties that lose elections 5 times like UPND must be deregistered – Wynter

By Julia Malunga

RAINBOW party general secretary Wynter Kabimba says political parties that have lost elections more than five times should be deregistered.

On Monday, UPND secretary general Stephen Katuka said if he had his way, political parties such as Kabimba's Rainbow Party would be deregistered for failure to participate in electoral activities.

He was commenting on Kabimba's remarks that no political party had invited him to form an alliance.

Katuka dismissed the former justice minister's assertions as baseless, saying the onus was not on the UPND or other opposition to approach him, but on Kabimba to engage other political parties.

But, in an interview, Kabimba said there was no law in the country that provided for the deregistration of political parties that did not participate in elections.

"I have always been reluctant to make comments about people's opinions about me. I don't want to lower myself to that kind of language.

If someone wants to raise a point about something that I said and they do not agree with me, let them advance an argument. An argument which is in the context of what I said. There is no law in Zambia, and I am sure the UPND secretary general knows, that provides for deregistration of political parties because they are not participating in elections. If that were the case, then I can also say to the UPND through him that then we must have another law which, when you constantly lose elections, your party must be deregistered and that would apply to the UPND. Tell him that I do not lose sleep about becoming president of the country," Kabimba said.

"Besides, I have been a minister in government and I know exactly how government works and I know all the corners of State House. And I made major decisions when I was Minister of Justice with Michael Sata as president. So that insatiable appetite for me to become president is not what drives me. So when I make a statement and this is coming from the meeting that we held last Thursday, expressing my view point and

if he doesn't agree with me, let him say he doesn't agree with me. When I speak, I always ensure that I am speaking on a national matter. And I also know that people may disagree with me, I also know that people may have a different view from mine but I respect them. I have never held my view to be the best view ever."

He said the opposition UPND was insensitive to different views.

"So if he wants that law, we must also have a law that when you are secretary general of a political party, and your party is consistently losing elections to the point of where you can get 2,000 votes in an area where you were claiming that you would win elections, then your party must be deregistered. And he must also be removed as SG. Maybe for him, he still has dreams of being close to State House, I have been there. I have met presidents in this world whom he would probably never meet in his lifetime and who hold me in high esteem. I have participated in meetings where I have made remarkable contributions at international level and I don't know how

much he has done. So to start getting into this ping pong of views about one another, I think it is unfair. I want to plead with him that if he wants to say something about what I said, let him simply say that he doesn't agree with me," said Kabimba.

"But to start talking about the Rainbow Party in the context in which he is putting it, I think it is unfair to members of the Rainbow Party. I know that our colleagues in the UPND are very insensitive to different views, that is how the structure of the party is, but I was not brought up that way. I was not brought up on this planet to glorify individuals. I was brought up in a family where I spoke my mind to my parents. So if Mr Katuka expects me to glorify him or anybody, I think he is looking for the wrong person. Next time, let him raise an issue with me because if he doesn't and I get back at him personally, it will not be good. So please, let him not force me in that direction. Tell him that any political party that is going to lose elections more than five times must also be deregistered."

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
GREEN Party leader Peter Sinkamba says the opposition UPND members of parliament are currently the ventilator for the controversial Constitutional Amendment Bill N0.10 currently in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

And Sinkamba says it is not the right time to start pushing for the amendment of the Constitution, and advised that the energies should be channeled towards building the economy.

In an interview, Sinkamba said if allowed to go through, Bill 10 should bring a lot of acrimony in the country.

“That Bill should just be left to rest in peace because a lot of stakeholders have indicated that they are not happy with the process which was used to generate it. And at the same time, a number of issues that have been raised will just bring a lot of unnecessary acrimony in the nation. And acrimony is not beneficial to the country in any way,” Sinkamba said. “Now, we have a situation where Bill 10 has failed to pass a number of times because the minimum requirement to move to the next stage (second reading) needs to be supported by not less than 2/3 of members of parliament present, meaning that at least 111 MPs must support that the Bill be presented for the second reading before it is read. So, PF has failed to marshal that number. They don’t have that kind of number. They have tried to marshal together all the independent MPs but still they have failed to manage. They have also tried to speak to a number of opposition MPs to raise the number but still, it has not worked.”

He said the UPND at the moment were holding the key that would determine whether or not the Bill would pass in Parliament.

“So, there was a reason

UPND holds key to Bill 10’s life, says Sinkamba

why they failed to present it last time because UPND MPs always walked out and the moment they walked out, PF failed to marshal the required 110/111 MPs. So, unless they manage to convince the UPND MPs because now, the UPND MPs are a lock and key for moving forward. But if they fail to convince them (UPND) in these two months, it means Bill 10 will just be a dead issue. And that is why most of the people have been saying that Bill 10 is a patient in ICU. Anytime those

pipes are removed from the ventilator, the patient will be dead. So, the ventilator at the moment is UPND for that Bill. Without UPND participation in this Bill, then Bill 10 is dead,” Sinkamba said.

He also urged UPND MPs to act in national interest this Friday as they debate the Bill.

“So, the UPND must look at the national interest at the moment. And the national interest at the moment is that the economy is in a total mess and it is unnecessary to start increasing the number

of seats in parliament when we are so much constrained economically as a nation. We are pleading and on our knees everyday asking for debt relief from the international community, the IMF and World Bank have refused completely. We got a small relief from China for six months but it is not time for us to start increasing our expenditure so carelessly. There is no justification at the moment to want to increase the number of seats in parliament. We think that

the existing system is good enough,” Sinkamba added.

He said the Bill could be considered after the 2021 general elections as it was not a priority at the moment.

“The acrimony around the voters register is not good enough. And why ECZ is trying to insist on nullification of the register and wanting to come up with another register is based on Bill 10. We think that we can consider these issues which are in Bill 10 after the election and after people have sobered down.

But at the moment, let’s just pack Bill 10 issues until after the election. I think we must have learnt a lesson on the Referendum in 2016,” said Sinkamba. “The referendum failed because we decided to bring in constitutional issues together with the election issues. We brought it at the wrong time. But I don’t think it would be fair to state that this parliament is just a rubber stamp which just endorses everything because parliament is usually a forum of numbers.”

By Julia Malunga
CHRISTIAN Churches Monitoring Group (CCMG) chairperson Fr Cleophas Lungu says the trend of interrupting radio programmes by some suspected Patriotic Front members should come to a stop.

On Monday, Democratic Party leader Harry Kalaba was stopped by police from having a program on Mpika Community Radio, citing lack of permission from the Mpika District Commissioner.

Kalaba was later granted an interview by the Station on condition that it should be pre-recorded.

Commenting on the matter, Fr Lungu condemned the continued trend of stopping political leaders from airing their views through radio programmes.

“CCMG has observed with regret the continued occurrence of incidents of the suppression of the constitutional rights that we have. Not only as politicians or political leaders but as citizens to share their opinions, share the views. In the context of the electoral process, especially when there is an election for local government, parliamentary level or presidential, there is a trend of suppression of people’s rights to express themselves. And this has occurred for political players, especially those in opposition, in instances of radio programmes,

CCMG condemns interruption of radio programmes by suspected PF cadres

some of which are paid for, being interrupted by some agents of political parties; obviously, we suspect that it is the ruling party. We believe that this doesn’t augur well with our tenets of constitutional democracy. We believe that is a trend that must be stopped,” Fr Lungu said.

“At the end of it all, we detest, we condemn in all manner possible, this continued trend of stopping political leaders to air their views through radio programs. We believe that this is a matter that not only the Ministry of Information must look into, but also the Ministry of Home Affairs that are in charge of keeping law and order in the country. They must ensure that Zambians, especially our political leaders from across the political divide, are protected.”

He said everyone must do their part to ensure that the country holds credible and peaceful elections next year.

“We have argued time and again that unless we take action and we make the needed intervention, we are going to have an outcome that is not the best scenario. We are going

to have the rising levels of conflict and tension in the country. And we are going to a situation where the likelihood of having incidents of violence, whether motivated by political or electoral reasons, will be high in the country. And this is not what we are looking for. We cannot close our eyes, bury our heads in the sand and hope and pray that nothing bad is going to happen,” Fr Lungu said. “That is not the way to resolve issues. As CCMG, we have always called upon politicians to do their level best in resolving their issues, in an amicable way, through dialogue. It is important that those in government, those in politics, those on the receiving end of messages from their politicians, we do our part in order to ensure that the elections in 2021 will not only be free and fair but will be peaceful and credible.”

He said stakeholders such as the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) and the Police must ensure that freedom of expression was promoted.

“We have consistently called



upon stakeholders such as the ECZ, Zambia Police and the political parties themselves to ensure that freedoms of expression are upheld and promoted. It is also our belief that whilst people enjoy these freedoms, they must use that freedom in a manner that exhibits responsibility, that exhibits use of palatable language that promotes the values of unity and harmony in the country,” said Fr Lungu.



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Zambia is right in the last stages of a failed state – Mulusa

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu's former Special Assistant for Project Implementation and Monitoring, Lucky Mulusa, says Zambia is right in the last stages of a failed State.

And Mulusa, whose last post in government was Minister of National Development Planning, has revealed that he broke ranks with the Patriotic Front after noticing that collective responsibility was turning into collective irresponsibility among government officials that he was working with.

President Lungu fired Mulusa in December 2017 following controversial remarks he made referring to the US\$42 million fire trucks as wheelbarrows, before he blamed government technocrats over the persistent loadshedding.

Mulusa's other moment of controversy came in May 2015, when he served under President Lungu as advisor for Project Monitoring and Implementation during a tour of Central Province when he shed tears after visiting newly created Ngabwe District saying: "It is sad to see that 50 years after we got independence, people can still be operating in tents and under the tree. But when you look at how many vehicles are given to one senior government official, some are not even used, but these officers here don't even have offices."

After almost three years of silence following his dismissal from the PF government, Mulusa was unveiled as Felix Mutati's Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) secretary general and took to TV to explain the degeneration of good governance under President Lungu, which he said started while he was part of government.

"As politicians collectively, we contributed to the division that has happened in the country. We were part of this government as an alliance, but we were never part of the PF. I do agree that we were part of government and there was collective responsibility. But when collective responsibility started drifting into collective irresponsibility, some of us started breaking ranks because collective irresponsibility attracts collective sanctions. You will recall that as for me, I said everything I didn't disagree with while I was inside. President Mutati equally said everything he had to say while he was inside. If you recall, he issued a statement saying that 'we are not going to spend that which we don't have' and people disagreed and he was shifted out," Mulusa said during an interview with Diamond TV.

"I equally said things that I didn't agree with, and I was shifted out. So, the PF government which we left and its performance and the economic fundamentals that were in place are not there

today. So, we are not men and women who simply go alone because you want to have a job, you want to have a government vehicle and you want to have an air conditioned office. We are men and women of integrity and we are not bootlickers. And we stand up to the president and tell him what is wrong and what is right."

Mulusa said political violence was leading Zambia into the fringes of a failed state.

"Political violence does a lot of damage to our democracy. It does a lot of damage to the type of leadership. And that goes into failure to implement policies which results into policy failure and policy failure results into state failure. We don't want a complete failed state. At the moment, we are right in the last stages of a failed state," he said.

The Public Order Act hasn't been applied fairly. If the MMD Government had applied the Public Order Act the way the PF Government is applying it, PF would have never come into power. And you earlier spoke about President Sata and the PF having been allowed to campaign for a period of 10 years, they were holding rallies even when there was no election going on and even during those rallies, they would actually be insulting the president and President Mwanawasa suffered a lot from those insults but President Sata was never stopped from campaigning. I actually recall that President Sata inconvenienced a Presidential motorcade in Luanshya and nothing was done to him."

Meanwhile, Mulusa said after Felix Mutati left the position of Finance minister, the wheels of the economy came off.

"You will realise that for instance what has brought us to the debt crisis is over borrowing. Over borrowing simply meant that you were using the money that you didn't have and that you were never going to have. And one of the budget speeches presented by president Mutati in parliament, he actually said 'he will not allow expenditures that were not covered by the money that we have.' So, that is breaking ranks. You don't have the money, so you don't spend. And yet you are in a government that has got a culture of spending that which they don't have. And when president Mutati was removed, the wheels came off. At the time when president Mutati was being removed from Ministry of Finance, the kwacha was K9 to K10 to a dollar. Today, it's twice that. It's K20 to a dollar," he said.

Mulusa said under PF, institutions of governance were not being given space to operate independently.

"When it comes to government policy, there are good policies in place but our challenge is with implementation. So the good policies are not being implemented. Our governance institutions are not being given the space to undertake tasks according to the mandates enshrined in our laws. And also policies and procedures are not being followed. But when you look at Zambia's developmental policies, they are a marvel to look at, including our Seventh National Development Plan. It's one piece of work that is admired by the World Bank, the IMF, the United Nations, the African Union and the rest of Africa. And actually there was a recommendation about six African countries to come and learn. Our biggest problem is implementation,"



Lucky Mulusa

he said.

And Mulusa condemned attempts by the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) to discard the 2016 voters' register.

"The law provides for 90 days and not 30 days. And they want to do it in 30 days. You have to segment

your population. It's always important for government to always engage its citizens and explain why they have come up with that decision. You don't simply come up with a decision from the blues and your citizens start debating and start making guess works. What happens in that case

is that people start doubting you. The voting process is the only time the general population has an opportunity to participate in governance by making decisions over their leaders. So you have to make sure that that process is as clear, and clean, and as sincere as possible," said Mulusa.

Speed camera contract was cleared by Attorney General – Soko

By Julia Malunga

FORMER RTSA chief executive officer Zindaba Soko says Transport and Communications Minister Mutotwe Kafwaya should explain what he means by saying the speed camera contract was illegally signed because the same was approved by the Attorney General.

Last Sunday, Kafwaya said the major reason why the speed cameras contract was cancelled was because it was signed by the RTSA chief executive officer when it should have been done by the Minister of Finance.

But in an interview, Soko said the contract was approved by a council of ministers and cleared by the Attorney General.

"All I can I ask you to do is get back to him and get an insight of what was meant by illegal. You see, if there is me signing something illegal...one thing you should understand is that, that contract is not a contract that I did myself, that is a contract that was approved by the council of ministers, chaired by Ministry of Finance and also that is a contract that is cleared by the Attorney General," said Soko.

And Speaking in a separate interview, Kafwaya said the matter was later resolved.

"We in the Ministry of Transport recommended for the cancellation of the contract. When somebody says we have recommended for a dismissal, it does not mean that you have been dismissed because the process of dismissal is distinct from a recommendation. And I was very clear to say

that we want a contract that is more beneficial to the Zambian people. Speed is not the only problem on our Zambian roads and I did say right now because it is a Sunday evening, there could be somebody driving while drunk. So we want a system which is more comprehensive to cover a number of problems, a number of issues not just speed. We want to look at transport, we want to look at drinking and driving, we want to look at driver behavior and speed itself and to do that, we need a much more intelligence system which is more comprehensive," Kafwaya said.

"And Grevazio (Sunday Interview host) asked further and I said, yes of course it had a number of issues including being signed by somebody who had no authority to commit to government to finance it. But that problem was solved. That is why I said in that interview that the thing (contract) was actually transferred to the Ministry of Finance. It was solved by way of an amendment to the concession. That problem was solved, it is no longer an issue. But even with the resolution of that particular issue, we still think the concession was not comprehensive enough. That is why we recommended for the termination so that we can come up with a much better arrangement which will look at broader issues."

But when asked how it was possible for Soko to sign a contract on his own, Kafwaya said "You can call him and find out. I am not the one who signed."

Police killed Mugala, says HRC as it recommends compensation

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The Commission stated that Mugala was not a threat to anyone or any property at the time he was shot dead.

"In this case, Frank was killed by one of the Zambia Police Officers who were deployed to attend to the reported protest in Kabanana area in Lusaka. The deceased juvenile was from school during the material time of meeting his death and was not part of any protesting group. From scientific examination of his body after his death, he was shot from the back, a clear indication that he was not advancing towards the police. Hence, he was not in any way a threat to anyone or any property at the time he was shot dead," the report read.

"The use of live ammunition in a high-density township, to scare away unarmed protestors constituted an act of recklessness, negligent and unprofessionalism by the police. It is the Commission's well considered opinion

that the shooting to death of the juvenile in question cannot be reasonably justified and does not fall within the legally permissible circumstances under which the deprivation of life may not be deemed as a violation of the right to life. Having reviewed the totality of the evidence, it is the firm and fair finding of the Commission that Frank Mugala was brutally shot dead by a state agent in the name of a police officer in gross deprivation of his right to life. The Commission wishes to take this opportunity to make a general comment. The Commission has observed with a deep sense of regret a growing, systemic or pattern of cases of extra-judicial killings of individuals by the Zambia Police Service, without state remedial measures, through the so called stray bullets. This is extremely sad. It down plays the sanctity of life and give an impression that law enforcement officers can take away one's life without being sanctioned."

The Commission recommended that the State should compensate the deceased's family for the loss of life occasioned by the reckless conduct of its agents.

"While the state authorities and the police command are on record that it does note please them to see officers being indicted or punished for acts arising out of their official duty, the Commission calls for justice to be done by among other measures, ensuring that perpetrators of human rights violations are punished in accordance with the law. Whims or feelings of individuals should not be allowed to obstruct the course of justice and create a culture of impunity in violating human rights by state agents. To this end, the Police command must own up and take administrative or any other action against the officer/s involved in order to end impunity. That in the event that the Police Command does not take any action, an inquest should be held

in line with the provisions of Sections 4[1] and 28 (1) (c)[2] of the Inquests Act, Chapter 36 of the Laws of Zambia in order to establish the identity of the officer responsible for the shooting to death of Frank Mugala to allow for appropriate criminal charges," stated Mwandenga.

"Further, the police command has an obligation to avail suspected police officers in the commission of crime so that they are subjected to the due process of the law in cases where victims of the deceased decide to take the matter before the courts of law and pursue criminal charges. The State should compensate the deceased's family for the loss of life occasioned by the reckless conduct of its agents (Zambia Police Officers). In the event that such compensation is not made within a reasonable time, the family of the late Frank Mugala should consider instituting civil proceedings against the State."

By Julia Malunga
LAW Association of Zambia (LAZ) president Abyudi Shonga has written to News Diggers, accusing the newspaper of “unfairly and publicly attacking judges who cannot defend themselves”.

Shonga’s letter which was addressed to Editor-in-Chief Joseph Mwenda and copied to Chief Justice Irene Mambilima, stated that public attacks on the judiciary had the capacity to undermine the rule of law.

“We have observed that on Tuesday, 22nd September, 2020 you carried a story bearing the title ‘Finally, PF agrees that ConCourt did not declare Lungu eligible.’ In



Shonga accuses News Diggers of attacking judiciary through it’s opinion against PF

the said story, the following words are stated, “...what agreement do they have with the Concourt Judges? What have they promised them in exchange for this ruling?” We are mindful of, and firmly believe in, the freedom of the media as a critical component in the democratic right of freedom of expression enshrined under Article 20 of

the Constitution of Zambia. However, we are equally aware of and subscribe to the functional independence of the judiciary provided for in Article 122 of the Constitution of Zambia. It is the position of LAZ that institutions such as the Judiciary are critical to the administration of justice,” Shonga stated.

“Public attacks on the judiciary, therefore, have the capacity to undermine the rule of law. Under section 4(1) of the Law Association of Zambia, Chapter 30, volume 4 of the laws of Zambia, LAZ is mandated to seek the advancement of the rule of law. Whilst the political party named in your article can take steps to voice out publicly and protect itself, the Constitutional Court Judges cannot, hence this letter. The article suggest quite clearly that the Constitutional Court Judges have been compromised.”

He stated that if Mwenda had proof that judges were compromised, he should channel his allegations to the Judicial Complaints

Commission, adding that failure to do so would be undermining the rule of law.

“If proof exists that such a compromise has occurred, we insist that you channel your allegations to the Judicial Complaints Commission. It is the view of LAZ that you would be participating in undermining the rule of law when you make and publish statements asking to the one we make reference above. LAZ views your publications as critical to conveyance and dissemination of information to the public. Whilst you would be within your rights to heap constructive criticism, we cannot say the same with respect to unwarranted attacks on the Judiciary. Your media house, being a critical news disseminator upon which the public is genuinely entitled to base the formation of their opinions, LAZ calls on you to do your part in upholding the integrity of the Judiciary by desisting from unfairly and publicly attacking Judges knowing fully well that the judges cannot defend themselves

publicly,” Shonga stated.

Last month, News Diggers, in their opinion, wondered why the Patriotic Front had been lying to the people of Zambia that the Constitutional Court had already declared President Lungu’s eligible to stand in 2021.

Below are excerpts from the said Editorial Opinion:

“Two very important admissions have been made in the political arena this week; one from the ruling Patriotic Front and another from the opposition United Party for National Development. The Patriotic Front has finally agreed with the Law Association of Zambia that the Constitutional Court did not declare President Edgar Lungu eligible to contest the 2021 general election. According to PF Central Committee member and chairman of the legal affairs committee, Brian Mundubule, the court only dealt with the definition of the term of office. Honourable Mundubile makes a very interesting observation

regarding President Lungu’s eligibility. He says the party is aware of the fact that there are several eligibility criteria for one to stand as President, and that one of them dictates that a person wishing to stand as President of the Republic of Zambia must not have served two terms of office. He agrees with Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) president Abyudi Shonga, State Counsel, who explained last week that the ConCourt did not deal with the eligibility issue of President Lungu.”

This admission means the Patriotic Front also agrees that whoever wishes to challenge the eligibility of President Lungu will have every right to go back to the Constitutional Court to seek a declaration that the incumbent is not qualified to stand again in 2021, and the court will have to make a ruling within 21 days. So, then, we ask: why has the Patriotic Front been lying to the people of Zambia that the Constitutional Court already declared President Lungu eligible to stand in 2021? This misinformation has been peddled by senior officials of the party, among them, deputy government chief whip Honourable Tutwa Ngulube and Eastern Province Minister Honourable Makebi Zulu. Why have these people been lying to the people of Zambia?

Second question is: if the Patriotic Front now agrees that the Constitutional Court did not deal with any eligibility issue, why is the party fighting citizens like John Sangwa who are waiting for Mr Lungu to file his nomination papers so that they can ask the court to look back at this matter and pronounce itself on whether the President is eligible or not? Why are you saying there is no more debate about Mr Lungu’s eligibility when you know that no court has declared him eligible?

The third question we have for the Patriotic Front is: if they know that the court has not declared him eligible yet, why is the party insisting that Mr Lungu is the sole candidate for 2021? Why is the party expelling those who express interest to challenge President Lungu at the party convention? What gives them the confidence that the Constitutional Court will rule in President Lungu’s favour on this matter? What agreement do they have with the ConCourt judges? What have they promised them in exchange for this ruling?”

Reacting to the letter from LAZ, News Diggers managing director, Joseph Mwenda, said: “I feel Mr Shonga has deliberately misunderstood the context of our opinion. We wonder whether there is a motive, considering that he even copied his letter to the Chief Justice, but we will respond.”

Let’s not try to appease voters at the expense drowning economy – Saasa

By Ulande Nkomesha
ECONOMIST Professor Oliver Saasa says it is difficult to grow an economy in an election year as most government rarely engage in austerity measures.

And former permanent secretary in the Ministry of Finance Felix Nkulukusa says the 2021 budget is an ambitious budget.

Speaking on Capital FM’s Budget and Debt programme, Tuesday, Prof Saasa warned government not to try and appease voters at the expense of drowning the economy.

“The realism is this, we should not try to appease the people so that they vote for us or they prefer you at the expense of drowning the economy. The economy is in dire stress, let’s have it very clearly! We are in a very serious state of affairs at the moment. Playing politics yes, we have elections around the corner, but it is important that post elections, survival must be there. It is irrespective of which politician comes to power. Whoever comes into power must find an economy that they can run,” Prof Saasa said.

He said there was need to channel the little resources available towards the right activities.

“Firstly, let me say this and this is nothing to do with Zambia alone, an election year is a difficult year for any government. In an election year, you rarely see a government engaging in austerity measures. But there must be realism. Much as we are accept that, you have to decide as to what extent can we ignore the austerity measures that are important for us to continue to have that level of comfort from the electorates that they will still vote us, because you cannot get in an election year when you have depleted the revenue base. Look at the FISP programme, everybody tells you that this is one stimulus for small scale farmers to increase productivity; but we know that FISP has failed to make a justified cause for us to continue

providing those levels of resources because there is very little money between what government brings on the FISP and the productivity that is anticipated to come from that,” Prof Saasa said.

“So when you move in and increase it several fold as we have done for 2021, you are more or less, for someone in the terraces like me, campaigning. Because essentially what you are saying is that you know that your resource envelope is limited and you also know that the electorates would like to have free handouts. But you know how inefficient that system has been and the efficiency is very fundamental to engineering or bringing the economy back to life. So when you do that, you are putting a price tag that is so high that will compromise the sort of thing you need to do especially in terms of targeting resources where it really matters for the purposes of growing the economy.”

Prof Saasa said the 2021 budget was unrealistic.

“When you look at the 2021 budget in that context, if you ask me, it is unrealistic at different levels. The assumption seems to presuppose something that appears as if the Minister or the Executive have different sets of information and data that we are not privy to. There is a projection of how much will be actually generated from outside, you are talking about borrowing at about 43 percent coming from local and external but you also know how stressed the global economy is. Your credit rating has gone to the dogs so to speak, it is in the junk category, bond holders are not comfortable with the plan that you have given. You have to negotiate hard to bring them on board. You don’t have a stimulus package that brings comfort to the private sector to be able to respond positively especially post COVID because you still need a tax revenue base to continue collecting money for developmental purposes.

Essentially, everything looks to be a challenge. What it means is that you were expected to start thinking under these circumstances what assumptions can we make and how realistic should we be,” Prof Saasa said.

“Policy consistency is key, operators in the economy need to have a predictable environment within which policy, once communicated, can be assumed to continue. Right now we keep on changing policy in a manner that has never been really very good. We have to tame our appetite for contracting sovereign debt. We have said this so many times, you have to cut your dress according to your cloth. The biggest challenge that we are having, if you combine salaries, debt servicing alone, consuming almost 90 per cent of the total government revenue, [this] can never take you anyway. Whatever remains is only about 10 per cent, is what we must take care of everything. There are very few countries in the world that operate like that. Much of this stress has been led by our appetite for continuous [borrowing], not only external debt but domestic debt.”

And Nkulukusa said the 2021 budget was an ambitious budget.

“I would describe the 2021 budget as ambitious. I call it ambitious because the Minister projects that we will have an economic contraction in 2020 of 4.2 per cent. Given that the Minister then goes into the budget and projects that we are going to raise the same revenues that we projected in 2020, 2021. If the economy is contracting, it means that business will be affected, it means that the revenues would be affected. The Minister then goes and says 43 per cent of the budget would be raised through borrowing, now domestic borrowing for instance in 2020 was only K3.4 billion and in 2021 we are looking to borrow 17 billion what does that mean?

That means we are going to crowd out the private sector. When you look at the treasury bills and bond issuance in 2020 there has been under subscription at K3.4 billion of the money that we wanted to raise and you ask yourself would there be subscription at K17 billion in 2021? This is why I say probably this is an ambitious budget,” said Nkulukusa.

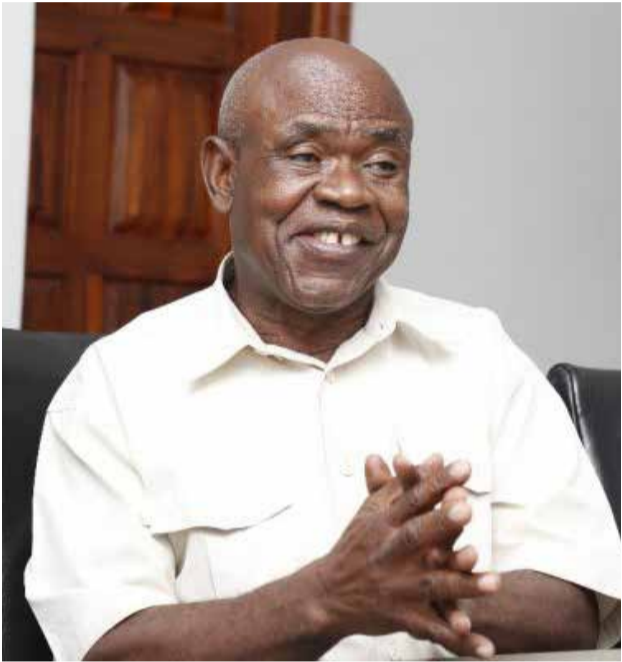
Meanwhile, OXFAM country director Dalles Judge said 69 percent of Zambia’s debt was private debt which made it difficult to request for cancellation.

“We know countries like Zambia really need debt relief but private debt is really shrouded in secrecy. There is a lot of complexity around it and engaging in reviewing or asking for cancellation of that debt is not the easiest thing to do. Essentially the G20 debt service and suspension initiative doesn’t include private debt. So it is really significant for Zambians to look at this because 69 percent of all that Zambia owes as debt is actually from private creditors, this includes the three Eurobonds that total to about \$3 billion. So if we look at the \$3 billion and how it is going to be dismantled, it is really a tall order,” said Judge.

“From the point of view of Zambia, we have three recommendations that we would like for government to take up. Essentially, it is for the government to start to think around transparency pertaining to the private debt...We are very keen to see that we legislate and improve budget oversight or debt contraction oversight and this is where we keep on calling for the loans and guarantees act for example to be made available. The last thing is also having a very robust kind of management strategy and a repayment plan. So we need to have a repayment plan that is quite predictable.”

Zambia is not a one party state to have all MPs and Councilors from one party - Kalala

By Ulande Nkomesha
FORMER State House chief policy analyst, Jack Kalala says it is wrong for President Edgar Lungu to assume that development would only come if all councillors and MPs came from one party.
In an interview Kalala said President Lungu does not understand leadership as



every person in the country was entitled to development, regardless of any political affiliation.
“President Lungu doesn’t mean well for this country. He only means well for his pockets and his surrogates. So whatever comes out from his month are all lies. President Lungu does not understand what leadership

is all about in democracy. So whatever he said and what he has been saying is not true. In a democratic dispensation, politics is practiced during campaigns and during mobilisation and it is only for limited people who want to aspire for offices when they take over government,” Kalala said.
“People should look at the calibre of the people they are electing to form a government. If the councillor is the one who is capable of delivering and that person belongs to a particular party, the people of that area have got a democratic right to vote for that person whether his party forms government or not. They vote for policies and a particular person.”

Kalala said there should be a difference between a party president and a Republican President.
“When a particular party forms government, that government is there for everyone. There is a difference between a leader of a political party and a Republican President. The Republican President is there for the whole country, he is there for people who didn’t vote, he is there for people who didn’t vote for him, he is there for people who voted against him. Immediately he is declared a winner he is republican President. Every citizen has the right to be protected by that government. The President who is elected is

there for every citizen,” Kalala said.
He said Zambia was not a one party state which should only be ruled by a single party.
“The resources of Zambia belong to all Zambians. The duty of government is to distribute resources to all citizens. So it is a fallacy therefore for President Lungu to start claiming that for this area to be developed all the councillors and MPs should belong to only one political party. Zambia is not a one party state. It is a multi party state. So the MPs, the councillors that were elected belong to the government not the PF. That is why it’s an offence in a democratic dispensation for a secretary general for a political party to use a government

vehicle or government resources,” said Kalala.
“A good example was the Cheembe bridge, the Mwanawasa bridge. That bridge was built in the second term of Mwanawasa. Luapula Province had voted against Mwanawasa but the president said ‘we need to build that bridge for the people of Luapula’. So that is how it should be. So it is totally wrong for the President to be going round the country to be telling people that for you to have development you should only vote for our party no, that is wrong. He should be going to the people to say what he is going to do for them, so that they decide whether to vote for him or not.”

Mucheleka gets nolle in aggravated robbery case

By Natasha Sakala
THE DPP has entered a nolle prosequi in a matter in which UPND deputy secretary general Patrick Mucheleka and three others were charged with aggravated robbery before the Kasama High court.
The four were detained at Milima Correctional facility since September 17, 2020.
And the Court granted the accused K10,000 cash bail each in their own recognizance in a matter in which they are charged with malicious damage.
This is a matter in which Patrick Muckeleka, Elias Mubanga, Samuel Ngwira and Chishimba Bwalya and an addition of Kelvin Bwalya, 28 of Chisenga Village who has been in police custody since his arrest in September, face one count of malicious damage to property of the Republic of Zambia worth K 83,097.
This was after the state amended the indictment on the second count to include a fifth person to a charge of malicious damage.
Facts before the court are that the five jointly and willfully damaged two type writers and a printer, property of GRZ valued at K83,097 in Kasama district of the Northern Province.
The accused have since pleaded not guilty to the charge.
And defense lawyer Mulambo Haimbe made an application for bail and asked for leniency but the state, who did not object to the application, implored the court to ensure that the accused persons do not jump bail and interfere with state witnesses or get involved in fights.
Haimbe, in thanking the State for raising no objection, however, said there was no need for the State to be seen to be determining bail conditions as it remained the reserve of the Court.
The accused have since been granted cash bail in the sum of K10, 000 in their own recognizance and two working sureties resident in Kasama.
Trial has since been set for October 26 and 27, 2020.
UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema, Mucheleka’s wife and mother and other party officials were at hand to witness the court proceedings.

Artists have assured me they’ll vote for Lungu because of K30m incentive - Chitotela

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
TOURISM Minister Ronald Chitotela says tourist operators have described the 2021 national budget as a “tourist budget” because of various stimulus packages in their favour.
And Chitotela says artists have also assured him that come 2021, they will retain President Edgar Lungu for giving them the first ever incentive amounting to K30 million.
Speaking when he debated on the 2021 budget in parliament, Tuesday, Chitotela said the 2021 budget was full of incentives.
“Mr Speaker, when you have done the good things, it becomes very difficult even for your critics to critic it. But they will find a way of watering down the best of the intention that this government under the able leadership of His Excellency President Lungu has done for the people of Zambia. Mr Speaker, some debaters last week did indicate that the 2021 budget instead of choosing the way of continuous restriction in terms of expenditure, we have gone in terms of economic rebooting. Mr Speaker, if you check the budget, you have seen that there is a lot of stimulus package that has been put in the budget. And speaking for the Ministry of Tourism, the tour operators are calling it the tourism budget for 2021,” Chitotela said.
Chitotela said President Lungu was the first sitting President to think for the informal sector and for the artists.
“Mr Speaker, this hasn’t happened in a long time that a sector has been given so many intensives so that we can recover from COVID-19 effects. And for this Mr Speaker we want to thank His Excellency the President and the Minister of

Finance for listening to the cries of the operators out there, and Mr Speaker, including the artists out there, it has never happened in Zambia. President Lungu is the first sitting President to think for the informal sector, the artists and provide a K30 million stimulus package so that our people who are involved in the art can also participate in the economic activities,” Chitotela said.
He said artists had assured him of a vote for President Lungu in 2021 for empowering them with a stimulus package.
“And Mr Speaker, I want to encourage the Minister [of Finance] that with these budget

presentation and proposals, come 2021, come 2021 we will still be on the right hand side because the Zambian people are looking for stimulus packages, they are looking for a government that is listening to their cries. Mr Speaker it is the first time in the Zambian history that today, we have a reduction in the corporate tax in the tourism sector 35 per cent to 15 per cent. I think we need to thank the minister that ‘minister, job well done’. We need to thank the President that the package that has been given to the tour operators and people who want to engage themselves in the Safari viewing vehicles,

coaches, and luxury buses. This incentive Mr Speaker was given last in 1992 by the late President Dr Frederick Titus Jacob Chiluba. That is why Mr Speaker, those people out there, the tourist operators would not risk to change the government that is working for them. With these few words Mr Speaker, I want to encourage the minister and His Excellency the President that Job well done and Zambians out there including the artists who have said. ‘go and assure the President that come 2021, we will retain him so that he can continue giving us the incentives that we require,” said Chitotela.
A Bio-Medical technologist at the Levy Mwanawasa University Teaching Hospital (LMUTH) for corrupt practices involving suspected fake COVID-19 clearance certificates. Kingsley Kakoma, 35 of Plot No.11129 off Kasangula road, Garden, has been charged with one count of Corrupt Practices contrary to Section 19(1) of the Aanti-Corruption Aact No.3 of 2012. The arrest is in relation to the illegal issuance of Travelers’ Medical Certification for COVID-19, contrary to the Statutory instruments No.21 and No.22 under the Public Health Act,” Moono stated.
And Moono stated that Kakoma was picked up after a tip of from members of the public and was found in possession of COVID-19

ACC arrest Bio-Medical technologist in Covid scam

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
THE Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has arrested a Bio-Medical technologist of Levy Mwanawasa Hospital for issuing fake COVID-19 clearance certificates.
ACC public relations manager Timoty Moono in a statement disclosed that the suspect identified as Kingsley Kakoma aged 35 years of Kasangula Road in Lusaka has since been charged with one count corrupt practices contrary to Section 19 (1) of the Anti-Corruption Act No.3 of 2012.
He stated that the suspect was arrested after soliciting for K800 from a student who was scheduled to travel abroad for studies.
“The Anti-Corruption Commission has arrested

a Bio-Medical technologist at the Levy Mwanawasa University Teaching Hospital (LMUTH) for corrupt practices involving suspected fake COVID-19 clearance certificates. Kingsley Kakoma, 35 of Plot No.11129 off Kasangula road, Garden, has been charged with one count of Corrupt Practices contrary to Section 19(1) of the Aanti-Corruption Aact No.3 of 2012. The arrest is in relation to the illegal issuance of Travelers’ Medical Certification for COVID-19, contrary to the Statutory instruments No.21 and No.22 under the Public Health Act,” Moono stated.
And Moono stated that Kakoma was picked up after a tip of from members of the public and was found in possession of COVID-19

clearance certificates which were pre-signed and marked ‘negative.’
“Kakoma was arrested by the commission following a tip-off from the public. He was found to be in possession of K2, 250 cash, and five blank COVID-19 clearance medical certificate which were pre-signed, marked negative , and bore a stamp for the Zambia Institute of Public Health. He was also in possession of 86 preservation solutions tubes, 50 sample collection swabs, among other items. Kakoma was arrested after soliciting for, and actually receiving K800 from a student who was scheduled to travel abroad for studies. Kakoma has since been released on bond and will appear in court soon,” disclosed Moono.

By *Natasha Sakala*
 UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema says he will ensure that dignity is restored in the Zambia Police Service when he is voted into office.

And Hichilema has urged Kasama residents to be strong because the injustice and economic mismanagement being experienced under PF will soon end.

Yesterday, Hichilema and his entourage were blocked from proceeding to the Kasama High Court where they went to show solidarity to UPND deputy secretary general Patrick Mucheleka and four others who got a nolle prosequi in their aggravated robbery case.

In a posting on his Facebook page after the incident, Tuesday, Hichilema said the intimidation being witnessed in the country was barbaric.

“What we are witnessing now is barbaric and unZambian. There is no longer freedom of expression, movement and expression in this country because of one corrupt group called PF. As can be seen, police earlier prevented us from going to court and when questioned, they only said they had been instructed by higher offices to do so, but we know who that higher office is, and all we can say is that we are different from them. When in government next year, we shall not harass or intimidate you or indeed ask you why you are treating citizens in such a way. Our foremost duty will be

Be strong, *fikapwa*, Hichilema tells Kasama residents

to tirelessly fix the economy and also ensure that there is law and order in our country,” Hichilema stated.

He called on police officers not allow themselves be used as tools of division or violence in the country.

“We are not fighting you Police officers but fighting for you so, that PF cadres can for once start giving you the respect you deserve as specialised professionals. We therefore encourage you not be tools of divisions or indeed violence in the Country. The impression being created by the PF of Zambia being a Police state is not helpful to the nation. When in government next year, we will take care of you and the rest of the country and ensure meritocracy and dignity is granted back to your profession,” Hichilema stated.

“Please, don’t attack us but attack our vision and ideas for the country, and let the Nation decide who is capable of turning around this country’s fortunes into reality. And remember, this time around, we will not allow anyone of you to infringe on the citizens rights, choice of leadership or indeed our vision. We will work to unite this country under the motto: One Zambia, One Nation and One Nation, One People.”

And speaking after the court session, Hichilema urged

Kasama residents to be strong.

“You can see the degeneration in our country’s justice system. People get locked up for a long time before they are brought to court, like one of the accused in the morning case where he has been in detention for 30 days yet the law says when you are detained, you must be presented before the court within 48 hours which means two days but this individual has been in detention for 30 days, there about, that’s illegal, that’s a breakdown in the rule of law. Further, you can see how we are being restricted to come to court, court is a public place. Court is a public place, it’s an open court. The place yaba PF, the place yaba UPND, it’s a place for everybody, all the citizens, that’s is what the justice system which is fair is supposed to be but if you put the police all over, konse fye ama police men, konse fye ama routes baisala, ninshi mwishibe ati (there are

policemen everywhere and most routes have been closed. You just need to know that) the country is now under no leadership, that is what is happening. Nomba (Now) I want to encourage abena Kasama, mukose, mukose, fikapwa ifi, fikapwa (people of Kasama be strong, these things will end, it will end),” he said.

“There are better days coming, better days that will care for you, days that will be responsible and following the law in leading this country. We will ensure that there is the rule of law, we will ensure that we uphold human rights, liberties and freedoms, including movement, including access to court, of course within the COVID-19 guidelines, that’s what the UPND will do for you. But more importantly, the UPND will care for the people of Kasama, the people of Northern Luapula, Muchinga and all of Zambia. What is that care we are talking

about, giving them food, making sure abana balelya (children eat) every day, that’s where the money must go. Instead of buying tear gas, we will not buy tear gas, we will buy fertiliser, so that abantu balelima, abana balelya mumayanda (people can farm, people can eat in their homes).”

Hichilema promised that under him, education would be a priority.

“We will make sure that abana baleya kuma skulu (children go to school), we will make sure that abana balebomba, ngaba pwisha iskulu asange inchinto, alebomba and bana mayo baleshitisha mu market freely, ukwabula ulubuli, ukwabula cadre uule lisha imfuti. Ngamu lepita ku Mpika on the public road, bamikanya, that’s a public road. Abena Northern,

mwishalila munuma mukwai, twendele pamo. (so that children can work and be able to find employment when they complete school and women trading in markets freely without cadres brandishing guns. Even when you are passing in Mpika road, they are stopping you. People of Northern Province don’t remain behind, let’s move forward together),” said Hichilema.

“We appreciate your support, that is why we have done everything which is needed to make sure we meet the bail conditions and we hope that today, this afternoon, Mucheleka will be with us, Mubanga will be with us and indeed Ngwira and all our colleagues that were in my view, wrongly charged, it will end today for them they will join their families as they celebrate in 2021 pala twaingila mu boma (when we form government).”

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Like we said, the State had no evidence against Mucheleka

NEWS from Kasama is that the State has entered a nolle prosequi in a matter in which UPND deputy secretary general Patrick Mucheleka and three others were charged with aggravated robbery. Mr Mucheleka and his fellow UPND members, Elias Mubanga, Samuel Ngwira and Chishimba Bwalya, have been in remand prison since September 14 when they were picked up by police and denied bail on grounds that the charge leveled against them was non-bailable.

This development comes only a week after we predicted that the Mucheleka case would be disposed of through a nolle prosequi, which is a signature ending of a politically motivated criminal charge slapped on an innocent person. In that editorial opinion, we also observed that the Mucheleka case exemplified what Director of Public Prosecutions Lillian Siyunyi said a few months ago that sometimes, her

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

Diggers! is published by NEWS DIGGERS MEDIA LTD
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Email: editor@diggers.news/mukosha@diggers.news

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office finds it necessary to prosecute a case in public interest, even when there is no evidence.

Here we are! Just like that, Mucheleka has paid the price; detained and humiliated like a common criminal because, in the eyes of the State, it was in public interest to subject him to this baseless torture. There was no evidence against Mucheleka, but it was necessary, under PF law, to satisfy “public interest”, which public, only the PF and the DPP know.

It can no longer be argued that the State slapped Mucheleka with a non-bailable charge of aggravated robbery not because they had

evidence against him, but because they wanted to subject him to a painful and depressing remand prison experience. Their desire was to kill Mucheleka’s spirit and instill fear in him so that his political activities in the region where he comes from can be slowed down.

The DPP and the police who arrested Mucheleka knew that he was innocent from the beginning. They had no case against him. If they had, they would not have discharged him, they would not let him walk to freedom. The remaining charge of malicious damage to property is what they were looking for, but because that particular charge is bailable, they added aggravated

robbery in order to justify their intended actions.

We know that it is very complicated for citizens who are watching from a distance to know that their government is up to no good. We are under siege as a country but, unfortunately, we do not seem to have the capacity to collectively emancipate ourselves from this continued oppression at the hands of the Patriotic Front.

The charge of aggravated robbery is very serious. This is what a known PF cadre was involved in. He attacked a police station, armed with a gun, beat up officers on duty and stole money from them. But this

cadre was protected by the system because he is a close ally of the President; this cadre was protected because he is a front of senior PF officials in illegal activities such as the smuggling of Mukula.

Mucheleka did not do anything of that nature. He was innocent, but the State decided to make him serve a ‘prison sentence’ for all these weeks and deprived him access to his wife and children, simply because he is a political opponent of the party in power. This is not something that we should be tolerating in a democracy; this is not how citizens must be treated in a Christian nation; this is an indictment on the government, as it is happening in October,

a few days ahead of the so called National Day of Prayer and Reconciliation.

What is happening in this country is very sad. We are seeing a lot of uncouth manoeuvres in the justice system meant to advance the political agenda of the party in power. State House and the Ministry of Home Affairs are doing a lot of damage to the justice system in the process of fighting political opponents of the Patriotic Front.

We should not allow the executive to overstretch its authority over the judiciary in a manner that the Patriotic Front has done. This defeats the principle of separation of powers. We should not allow the Edgar Lungu-led executive to dictate to the police who must be arrested and detained without bail or control the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

We want a director of Public Prosecutions at NPA, not a director of Nolle Prosecutions.

Crossword puzzle No 711

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“Hungry man,
reach for the book:
it is a weapon.”
- Bertolt Brecht

Across

1. Long keyboard key
4. Have a seat
6. Not used before
7. Felt sore
8. Freudian subject
9. Actress Hudson
11. One-pot dinner
14. Flowery necklace
15. Kitchen appliance
17. Formerly
18. Raiders of the Lost ____
19. Swallowed fluids

Down

1. Fire starter
2. Residue of fire
3. Brings to a halt
4. Perspire
5. Also
10. Get ideas
12. Destroy
13. Mr. Flintstone
14. Grassy plain
16. Actress Peeples or Long

Crossword puzzle No 710

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Readers' Feedback

MoH employee's fraudulent withdrawal of 10 salaries

Editor,

"There are too many loopholes in government. How can all these misdoings happen for a long time without being noticed? There are many beneficiaries to these fraudulent activities. With this high unemployment ghost workers are there enriching some chaps by drawing salaries? Nonsense!" - Frederick Chinyama Chiteta

"The controlling officer is the Permanent Secretary, so please hold him accountable for not executing his mandate. And make sure that Tax payers money is goes back to the treasury". - James Sichamba

"All the HR personnel who failed in there duties to stop this money laundering scheme should be shown the exit door. How do you fail to manage your HR duties and pay someone paid leave for 12 years". - Jones Mulunga

"The government can create alot of employment if they can clean up the civil service. Too many ghost workers and theft". - Mutintah Haampeyo

"Ubomba Mwibala alya Mwibala' they are just doing what President Lungu shamelessly said they should be doing. I wonder why some people are pretending to be surprised. That is how President Edgar C Lungu has run the National Treasury dry to a point of DEFAULT". - Christopher Kalima

ND! OPINION: So far, what have we achieved from the \$5m paid to the debt consultant?

Editor,

"Like fueling up a car for a trip to the USA, meanwhile you don't even have a passport or visa. The only one to benefit will be the gas station". - Kennedy Mwanamakondo

"This government is good at wasting tax payers money into things that don't even yield positive results". - Munah Kayns

"Wasteful government, the whole entire government paying \$5million for mere debt sustainability advise shuwaaaaa!!!" - Divine Ceejay Katota

"Why is one Booked by Police for Driving while Drunk while the other one is Elected as President to Rule while Drunk? I presume one is booked for driving while drunk because we fear he will cause a Traffic Accident by Reckless Driving. But similarly the one Ruling while Drunk will for instance Borrow Recklessly without a plan of how that money will generate more money to pay back the borrowed money. This lack of Transparency in the way the \$18.5 Billion has been applied is what has led Zambia to DEFAULT. The Euro bond holders as well as the Chinese know very well that a DEFAULT was looming way before the Coronavirus struck. They are demanding an Audit as to how the \$18.5 Billion was used before Zambia can access the Debt Service Suspension Initiative facility. This is only possible when and if the IMF is monitoring how borrowed funds have been used. President Lungu is not ready to admit that his Infrastructure and Road Development programme has back fired in his face as it has been used as a Money Laundering Scheme. A Forensic Audit will reveal that 75% of the funds said to have been committed to Infrastructure and Roads construction has gone to Bank Accounts belonging to Politically Connected Persons. An example is of the Lusaka-Ndola Highway pegged at \$500million by the Chinese but inflated to \$1.2 Billion by President Lungu so that they share the \$750 Million. This trend will show across all projects as per 'Ubomba Mwibala alya Mwibala' Presidential directive". - Christopher Kalima

'CK right, prayers won't rebound economy'

Editor,

"Prayers without affirmative action are not in order". - Grace Shankaya

"I agree with CK, it's not that prayers are not important but issues to do with the economy need critical thinking. The economy has been the prayer point since the inception

of National Day of prayer, but still things are getting from bad to worse. There is just for visionary leadership and good think tanks". - Dennis Tyson Phiri

"CK is right, prayers won't rebound economy. If the success and strength of world economies

were measured using prayer's. Zambian and other christian countries would have been way far ahead of countries like USA, England, Australia, Japan & China etc. Only gullible and dull Zambians will go and pray and fast for the economy on the 18th of October! Smh". - Edwin Tenario Gondwe

'Parties with less than 5% votes should be deregistered'

Editor,

"There must be a law de-registering political parties automatically if they fail to participate in 5 consecutive polls regardless of type or level of polls as long as they are National polls. These are the same political parties who say that everything is okey because they have nothing to lose. They have no supporters on the ground to suffer the opponent's brutality. You invite a party president to a meeting about electoral laws when their party has never participated in elections since formation more

than 5 years ago. Can they even appreciate how good or bad the laws are because the laws dont seem to affect them in any way. These are just political parasites collecting funds from bigger parties to insult and discredit other opposition political parties. They are a big minus to democracy". - Asa Amisi

"Agreed..... and they are the biggest noise makers. These tuntemba's with less than 5% of the vote must deregister after second similar result". -

Bauze Zimba

"Not only Kabimba's party even Tayali's party should be included, they are all jokers...!" - Akapondo Kansansa

"It's true, all these small parties that Don't participate in by election add no value.. Rainbow,EEP". - King Mundia

Truly some parties do not add value to our multiparty dispensation. Instead just add more political problems to the country". - Godwin Mwiya



EDITOR'S NOTE:

Go to our News Diggers! Facebook page, select a story you like and jot down your comment. We will pick that as your feedback and get you published on this page. The shorter the comment the higher the chance of getting published. Note that we block Facebook users who use abusive language.

A new UN report says the world needs to rapidly raise investment in early warning systems for extreme weather events.

Over the past 50 years, recorded disasters have increased five-fold, thanks in part to climate change.

The study warns that one in three people on Earth are not adequately covered by warning systems.

The numbers of people in need after natural disasters could increase by 50% over the next decade.

The State of Climate Services 2020 has been produced by experts from 16 international agencies and

Better warning systems needed for extreme weather - UN

financial institutions, and co-ordinated by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

Over the past 50 years, it says, some 11,000 disasters involving weather, climate and water-related hazards have occurred claiming two million lives and causing more than \$3.5 trillion in economic losses.

In 2018, around 108

million people sought help from international agencies to cope with natural disasters.

The authors of the new report say that by 2030 this number could increase by 50% at a cost of around \$20bn a year.

Effective early warning systems are key says the study - And the researchers who have compiled it are calling

for a change in emphasis from simply forecasting what the weather will be, to showing the impact of that weather system.

Good quality warning systems are critically needed in the least developed countries and in small island states.

These countries have lost billions to weather and climate related disasters over the past five decades.

Around 70% of the deaths connected to these disasters occurred in the poorest nations.

Yet according to the WMO, just 26% of weather observation networks in Africa meet their standards.

The advent of the coronavirus has made the building of early warning systems more difficult, the report says.

But it shouldn't distract from the need to help poorer people to cope with natural disasters, made worse by climate change.

"Being prepared and able to react at the right time, in the right place, can save many lives and protect the livelihoods of communities everywhere," said WMO secretary-general Prof Petteri Taalas.

"While Covid-19 generated a large international health and economic crisis

from which it will take years to recover, it is crucial to remember that climate change will continue to pose an on-going and increasing threat to human lives, ecosystems, economies and societies for centuries to come," he said.

The report outlines six recommendations that the authors say are critical:

Invest to fill the early warning systems capacity gaps, particularly in Africa's least developed countries and in small island states.

Focus investment on turning early warning information into early action.

Ensure sustainable financing of the global observing system that underpins early warnings.

Track finance flows to improve understanding of where these resources are being allocated in relation to early warning system implementation needs and what impact this is having.

Develop more consistency in monitoring and evaluation to better determine early warning systems effectiveness.

Fill the data gaps, particularly in small island developing states.

"Covid-19 has made risk everybody's business," said Mami Mizutori, who is the special representative of the UN secretary-general for disaster risk reduction.

"We need to carry this understanding and momentum into the much bigger fight for our planet against the larger, stronger, more devastating climate emergency."

The report has been released on the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction.*BBC*



A harrowing image of a herd of elephants eating from a rubbish dump in Sri Lanka, by Tilaxan Tharmapalan, has won first prize in this year's Royal Society of Biology (RSB) photography competition.

Chinese trade grows as others struggle amid pandemic

CHINA has recorded strong growth in trade, while other major economies still struggle with the impact of coronavirus.

Exports in September rose 9.9%, while imports grew 13.2%, official data show.

The rush of imports cut China's usually meaty trade surplus - the amount by which exports exceed imports - to \$37bn from \$59bn in August.

Most other large economies are expected to suffer large contractions as lockdowns and public fear cut spending.

But the data suggests a rapid recovery in China from an initial reduction in overseas orders sparked by the pandemic.

China was the first country to be hit by the coronavirus outbreak, reporting the first cases late last year.

The world's second biggest economy saw a sharp decline in the first three months of 2020 amid strict lockdown measures, before bouncing back in July.

Analysts say the recovery in trade since then has been driven by a surge in international demand for home electronics, medical devices and textiles, including personal protective equipment.

However, they warn some of this demand could begin to fall.

In the year up to the end of September, China's combined imports and exports with other

nations reached 23.12 trillion yuan (\$3.4tn, £2.6tn), up 0.7% and reversing the hit the country took in the early days of the coronavirus pandemic.

In August, the Japanese economy was revealed to have shrunk at its fastest rate on record, partly because of a fall in exports. The US economy saw its fastest contraction in decades in July.

Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is forecasting a somewhat less severe recession than it predicted in June for the global economy.

But the IMF says in its

World Economic Outlook that the global economy is still in deep recession and the risk of a worse outcome than in its new forecast is "sizable".

The predicted global economic contraction is more moderate than the IMF envisaged four months ago, at 4.4%. That is followed by rebound of 5.2% next year, which is less than the previous prediction.

Next year's world downgrade is less than this year's upgrade.

The slightly less-bleak assessment reflects downturns in several large developed

economies in the April-to-June quarter of the year that were not as severe as the IMF expected.

The return to growth in China, where the pandemic arrived first and was held back first, was stronger than expected.

China's biggest trading partner is the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which includes Malaysia and Singapore.

Its next biggest customers were the European Union and US, China's General Administration of Customs said.*BBC*

Herd immunity approach 'would see 800m infected'

THE Africa Centres for Disease Control (CDC) has warned that more than 800 million Africans could be infected with coronavirus, if the virus is allowed to spread deliberately with the aim of achieving herd immunity.

The projection is a worst case scenario.

This could put the lives of 8.4 million Africans at risk if immunity was to be achieved naturally, Africa CDC added.

Herd immunity is a situation in which a sufficient proportion of a population is immune to an infectious disease through vaccination and/or prior illness to make its spread from person to person unlikely.

Wessam Mankoula, the incident manager for Covid-19 at the Africa

CDC, told the BBC that the risk of deliberately giving the virus an avenue to spread will come at a high human cost.

"In a continent of more than 1.2 billion people, this will mean that we will let the infection get to between 720 - 840 million people to reach this herd immunity," Dr Mankoula said.

"If we have a vaccine, we will be able to control infections. Without it, this will make our healthcare system vulnerable with a huge number of cases. Our hospitals will also be overwhelmed," he added.

More than 1.5 million people have been exposed to coronavirus in Africa.

World Health Organization (WHO) chief Tedros Adhanom told journalists on Monday that relying on obtaining

herd immunity naturally would be scientifically and ethically problematic.

"Herd immunity is achieved by protecting people from a virus, not by exposing them to it," he said.

"Never in the history of public health has herd immunity been used as a strategy for responding to an outbreak, let alone a pandemic."

The WHO says for immunity to be achieved, at least between 60% to 70% of the population would need to be immune to the virus.

Both the Africa CDC and the WHO say the continent has done well in dealing with the pandemic. They attribute this to the strict lockdowns that were imposed at the early stages of the pandemic.*BBC*

Apple makes jump to 5G

APPLE has confirmed its iPhone 12 handsets will be its first to work on faster 5G networks.

The company is also expected to extended the range to include a new "Mini" model that has a smaller screen.

The US firm bucked a wider industry downturn by increasing its handset sales over the past year.

But some experts say the new features give Apple its best opportunity for growth since 2014, when it revamped its line-up with the iPhone 6.

"5G will bring a new level of performance for downloads and uploads, higher quality video-streaming, more responsive gaming, real-time interactivity and so much more," said chief executive Tim Cook.

There has also been a cosmetic refresh this time round, with the sides of the devices getting sharper, flatter edges.

"Tim Cook [has] the stage set for a super-cycle 5G product release," commented Dan Ives, an analyst at Wedbush Securities.

"Although the soft macro-economic and Covid backdrop will clearly dent some demand, we believe the underlying growth drivers for the iPhone 12's success are unparalleled."

He added that about 40% of the 950 million iPhones in

use had not been upgraded in at least three-and-a-half years

In theory, the Mini could dent Apple's earnings by encouraging the public to buy a product on which it makes a smaller profit than the other phones. But one expert thought that unlikely.

"Apple successfully launched the iPhone SE in April by introducing it at a lower price point without cannibalising sales of the iPhone 11 series," noted Marta Pinto from IDC.

"There are customers out there who want a smaller, cheaper phone, so this is a proven formula that takes into account market trends"

The iPhone is already the bestselling smartphone brand in the UK and the second-most popular in the world in terms of market share.

If forecasts of pent up demand are correct, it could prompt a battle between network operators, as customers become more likely to switch.

"Networks are going to have to offer eye-wateringly attractive deals, and the way they're going to do that is on great tariffs and attractive trade-in deals," predicted Ben Wood from the consultancy CCS Insight.

Apple typically unveils its new iPhones in September, but opted for a later date this year. It has not said why, but it is widely speculated to be related to disruption caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

Smart speaker

Apple also launched a new version of its smart speaker - the HomePod Mini.

It supports a wider range of voice commands than before as well as introducing a home intercom system.

The \$99 voice-controlled device also adds a facility that detects when an iPhone is nearby to produce visual and vibration effects that simulate the effect of music flowing between the gadgets.

The first HomePod was launched in 2018, and has lagged far behind Amazon and Google's rival speakers to date.*BBC*

Ronaldo tests positive for coronavirus

CRISTIANO Ronaldo has been ruled out of Portugal's clash with Sweden after testing positive for Covid-19.

The Portuguese Football Federation confirmed the

news in an official statement on Tuesday, which reads: "Cristiano Ronaldo was released from training with the national team after a positive test for Covid-19, so he will not face Sweden.

"The Portugal international is doing well, without symptoms, and in isolation.

"Following the positive test, the remaining players underwent new tests on Tuesday morning, and all produced a negative result and are available to Fernando Santos for training this afternoon."

Ronaldo will sit out Portugal's Nation's League meeting with Sweden on Wednesday night as he begins a ten-day period of self-isolation.

The 35-year-old is also set to miss Juventus' trip to Crotone in Serie A this weekend, as well as their Champions League group stage opener against Dynamo Kiev on October 20.

He played the full 90 minutes of Portugal's 0-0 with 2018 World Cup winners France on Sunday, winning his 167th international cap in the process.

That result ensured that Fernando Santos' side stayed top of League A, Group 3 on goal difference ahead of Les Bleus, with Croatia four points further back in third. **GOAL**



Nkwazi extend unbeaten run at Michael Thole Chess league

By Ngosa Chalwe

DEFENDING champions Nkwazi extended their unbeaten run to five games after beating Red Arrows and Green Eagles in the Michael Thole Elite Chess league at the weekend.

The league, which runs under the Lusaka Province Chess Association (LPCA), entered round four and five at the weekend with teams outwitting each other.

The Police sponsored outfit was among the biggest winners, beating Arrows 5 – 1 in round four before seeing off Eagles to a 4.5 – 1.5 score to lead the table.

Following that result, undefeated Nkwazi lead the table with 15 points, two better than second placed Napsa A.

Napsa A, who are also undefeated, were too strong for Lusaka Knights after beating them to a 0.5 – 5.5

result in round five before beating Kalingalinga 4 – 2.

Third placed Project Chess Zambia enjoyed a 5 – 1 win over Green Buffaloes in round four while beating Red Arrows 3.5 – 2.5 in round five to end the weekend on a good note.

Full Results
ROUND 4
NAPSA B 3-3 LIYOCA
Lusaka Knights 0.5-5.5
NAPSA A
Kalingalinga 0-6 Green Eagles
Nkwazi 5-1 Red Arrows
PCZ Main 5-1 Green Buffaloes
ROUND 5
Green Buffaloes 4-2
NAPSA B
Red Arrows 2.5-3.5
PCZ
Green Eagles 1.5-4.5
Nkwazi
NAPSA A 4-2
Kalingalinga
LIYOCA 2.5-3.5 Lusaka Knights

Balotelli to sign for a new club

FORMER Manchester City and Liverpool striker Mario Balotelli has revealed he will sign for a new club "in a few weeks".

Balotelli dropped into the free agency pool after being released by Brescia at the end of the 2020-21 campaign.

The 30-year-old forward failed to report for training with the Italian club following the coronavirus lockdown, and was publicly criticised for a lack of discipline by his manager.

Brescia head coach Diego Lopez told Corriere della Sera in June: "There's only one truth here: the team have followed one path, Mario has followed another. I thought he could give so much, playing in the city of his birthplace.

"He had a lot to give but he had to do more, much more. These are the facts. Therefore, it's normal that there's disappointment.

"I spent a lot of time on him. He didn't even show up on Zoom during quarantine."

Genoa were reportedly prepared to offer Balotelli a one-year contract during the summer transfer window, but a final deal never came to fruition.

The Italian frontman has also been linked with a move to MLS, and he now claims that he has already got his next destination lined up.

During a live conversation with his brother Enock, who is currently taking part in the Italian version of the reality show Big Brother, Balotelli fielded questions on his future. **GOAL**

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Just arrived is a 32 seater luxury business class coach that includes a coffee making machine and a toilet inside with an excellent aircon facility. The business bus has been scheduled to depart from both Lusaka and Livingstone at 08:00 from Monday to Friday and Saturday Sunday it will be scheduled at the same time from Lusaka to Kitwe.

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FASHION PRAISES MICHO

By Ngosa Chalwe
BELGIUM-BASED striker
Fashion Sakala has said
Chipolopolo coach Milutin

'Micho' Sredojević has what it takes to transform Zambian football.
After continued failure at

senior team level, the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) roped in the Serbian in a bid to revive the Chipolopolo ship

which has been sinking since 2012.
Micho's task however is not easy in that Zambia started their

2021 African Cup of Nations qualifier in reverse after losing two opening matches against Algeria and Zimbabwe.

Next month, Micho is expected to revive Zambia's fortunes when he faces Botswana in the back to back qualifiers.

After three international friendly matches last week, Sakala said in an interview with FAZfootball that Micho has what it takes to lift the face of Zambian football.

Sakala said Micho was building a workable tactical plan and winning over the squad ahead of important assignments for the Chipolopolo.

"Personally I have a very good relationship with him, we always talk, I had never met him before I came here for this camp, but we always spoke on the phone

"He used to call me weekly and tell me about the tactics and how he wants me to play which is very good and perfect for me. When I came here I knew what I am supposed to do, that was very good."

"He is a very good man and will change Zambian football. I think it will be a very good team," Sakala said.

Meanwhile, Sakala said players and the technical bench should not be weighed down by criticism.

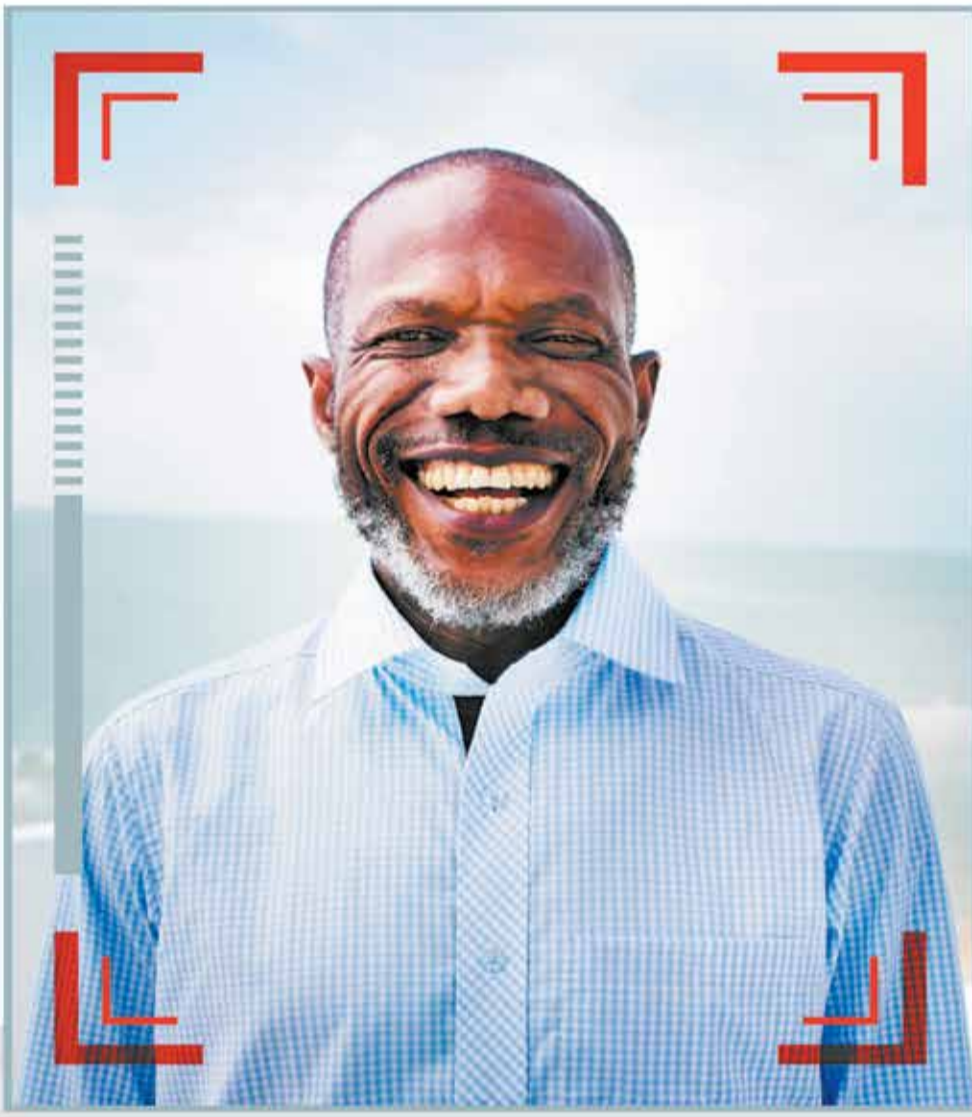

"Looking at the criticism that is going on, it is normal in football, it is not all the people who will be happy with the team, it is not all the people who will be happy with the coach and the players. Blame will be coming to the players and coaches," he said.


The former Zanaco and Nchanga Rangers striker also praised the locally based players for having accounted themselves well during the three-game FIFA window assignments.

"If we continue like this, we will have 90% of becoming a better team and looking at what we are doing now, tactically we are getting better and togetherness in the team. I think we have a chance to beat Botswana in the two games," said Sakala.

"As a player I have a duty to defend the pride of my country and I am always looking forward to winning and not to losing. We lost to Kenya but it was not something that I was frustrated with. I have to appreciate what the team did and all the effort. Some of these games become lessons and then you wake up and concentrate. We have done it today and won against South Africa."





Is online pre-registration final?





Biometrics Capture

Online Pre-registration will start on 21st September to 6th November, 2020. Visit the website: www.ovr.elections.org.zm to lodge your application. Note that pre-registration is not final, applicants will have to visit a registration center to have their biometrics captured in order to complete registration.



#VotingSquad