

Lungu would have pardoned HH if the court's decision had gone the other way - Kampamba



By Mirriam Chabala

Chief government spokesperson Kampamba Mulenga says if the court had decided not to enter a nolle prosequi in the treason case, President Edgar Lungu would have pardoned Hakainde Hichilema in order for the two leaders to dialogue. And Kampamba, who is also Minister of Information and Broadcasting says police dropped the defamation of the President charges against Saviour Chishimba because the State was "going back to the drawing board" in the spirit of reconciliation. Meanwhile, Kampamba says Chishimba Kambwili was too big a political figure for him to turn up at a traditional event uninvited.

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Mopani losing US\$3m per day

By Mukosha Funga

Energy Minister David Mubumba says Mopani Copper Mines is losing \$3 million per day since the stand-off with Copperbelt Energy Corporation over tariffs began on August 11.

Full story on page 7

YOU'VE RIGHT TO LIVE AGAINST DR'S ADVICE

...no one will be arrested for refusing HIV test - Minister

By Mukosha Funga and Mirriam Chabala

Minister of Health

Chitalu Chilufya on Sunday said government will respect patients' rights to live against doctor's advice if they refuse to be tested for

HIV.

But Dr Chilufya told a press briefing today that

his statement does not mean that government is backtracking on compulsory HIV testing.

Dr Chilufya's statement on ZNBC's Sunday Interview was contrary to what President Lungu said on August 15 when he declared mandatory HIV testing for all citizens who seek medical attention.

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Farmers are opting to feed their maize to animals than selling to FRA - ZNFU

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Zambia National Farmers Union (ZNFU) Media Liason Officer Calvin Kaleyli says the maize marketing season is collapsing because most farmers have opted to continue holding on their maize due to the low price. In a statement, Kaleyli a survey conducted by the union in some parts of Lusaka and

Copperbelt provinces found farmers opting to feed the excess maize to their animals. "Zambia's maize marketing season is quickly collapsing as most farmers have opted to continue holding their maize, with some preferring to give the excesses to their animals. A snap survey around the industrial area in Lusaka and some parts of

the Copperbelt found scanty milling activity as poor maize prices relentlessly continue," Kaleyli said.

He said some farmers disclosed that they were not seeing the economic sense in transporting their maize to FRA depots.

"Some farmers spoken to say they are spending between K10 and K20 per 50kg on transport

and are not seeing economic sense in transporting their maize to FRA depots that are now few and far apart. Other

farmers are not seeing sense in shelling their maize, which is another added cost, let alone buy empty grain bags. Many others have also complained that they are discouraged to take their maize to FRA because the Agency is not paying spot cash, even with poor and miserly price they have offered," said Kaleyli.

RTSA piles traffic charges on Kambwili, drags him to court

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Allowing prisoners to vote will bring confusion - FDD

By Mukosha Funga

Forum for Democracy and Development (FDD) Spokesperson Antonio Mwanza says allowing prisoners to vote is not practical and the ruling party can use it as a platform for rigging.

In an interview with News Diggers! Mwanza said the judgment by the Constitutional Court would only bring problems to ECZ, the Prisons Authorities and the political players in the country.

“The decision by the Constitutional Court of Zambia to allow inmates to vote will pose serious administrative and political problems to the Electoral Commission of Zambia, the Prisons Authority as well as the political players. This judgment has raised more questions than answers and it’s clear that the Constitutional Court did not take time to do a true diligence before they arrived at their decision. First of all, does it mean that as political parties and independent political players those who are standing as independent are we going to be allowed to go into prisons and campaign? Because how else will the prisoners make an informed decision if us as politicians are not allowed to go into the prisons and campaign, distribute chitenge materials?” Mwanza wondered.

“Unless they tell us that with this judgment we will all be allowed to go into prisons and make campaigns to the prisoners otherwise, if we are not going to be allowed to go to the prisons and campaign then how will the prisoners reach at the informed decision to vote for a candidate of their choice? Secondly, how are the prisoners themselves going to vote? Are they going to be transported from wherever prisons they are detained to go and vote? Say for instance a prisoner is detained at Mwembeshi prison in Mwembeshi and he votes from Chavuma, does it mean that the prison authority will carry that prisoner and take him to Chavuma?”

Mwanza observed that allowing inmates to vote costly.

“Does the prison authority have enough man power to marshal the security that is required to carry these prisoners across the country? Do they have the resources to provide transport for all these prisoners to take them across the country or will ECZ start setting up polling stations at prisons because if they have to set up polling stations at prisons, then we need to deal with the legislation to turn the polling stations across the country so that then we can have polling stations at prisons. But how practical is that going to be? Because these prisoners will be voting from different polling stations. So it is practically impossible because the prison authorities don’t have the resources to transport the prisoners,” Mwanza said.

Mwanza also said he was skeptical about prisoners voting because it could be used as a platform by the ruling party to rig elections.

“How do we secure the process and ensure that it is not being manipulated or used for rigging purposes? So that is a serious challenge that we are going to face. And if we as political players are also not allowed to go into the prisons to go and campaign then what will be the basis under which these prisoners will be voting? We might have a situation where the vote from the prisons is actually being used for the rigging of the whole elections. So we are very skeptical and we challenge the Constitutional Court to explain to us how they intend to go about this voting to be done and the prisoners to vote in a practical manner,” he said. Mwanza said the ECZ did not have the capacity to competently and transparently co-opt prisoners into the voting system.

“We are aware that every person has certain rights but we want to look at the practical side because lately, we have had issues with men and women in

uniform because some are sent to places far away from their voting stations but they are supposed to vote. Last year it was a difficult process because we asked ECZ to give us list of all police and other officers who would be deployed in different places. We needed to know them so that we could guard against

manipulation of voting and rigging of the vote using the army officers as well as the police who are on the pretext that they have been allowed to go and vote in polling stations where they don’t belong,” said Mwanza. “So if they cannot deal with a simple list of officers that have just been deployed, how sure are we that ECZ

will competently, effectively and transparently deal with the issue of prisoners? Mind you, they are thousands of them and they are supposed to vote from various places, unless they tell us that they will put up provisional polling stations but that is also very complicated and how secure will those polling

stations be looking at the fact that these people are coming from various places where they are registered from. So it’s not a question of their rights but it’s a question of also ensuring people don’t take advantage of this provisional for the prisoners to rig the elections.”



President Edgar Lungu speaks to journalists during a press conference at State House on July 6, 2017 - Picture by Joseph Mwenda

Lungu directs UNZA to allow owing students write exams

By Thomas Mulenga

The University of Zambia Students Union says all registered students will be allowed to sit for exams provided their sponsors or guardians sign commitment forms to clear the debt.

In a statement today, UNZASU academic affairs secretary Cornelius Daka revealed that President Edgar Lungu had intervened. “UNZASU would like to inform the student populace that senate held an emergency meeting yesterday concerning examination and fees and a concordance has been reached, all registered

students will be allowed to sit for exams this academic year 2016/2017 provided their sponsor or guardian sign a commitment to complete payment of fees for the affected student, this came as a directive from H.E President Edgar Lungu through the minister of higher education, ladies and gentlemen we have won the battle,” Daka stated. He said results of owing students would be withheld. “We urge students to continue making further payments as results will not be published for students who will still be owing the university at the time of publication, and all graduating students still

owing will not be allowed to graduate. We further urge all registered students to collect new identity cards and latest exam slips as they will be used to gain access to exam rooms,” stated Daka. “Furthermore deferred exams will be given to all students that are registered and missed mid-year exams, a deferred exam timetable will be published immediately after the final exams. Lastly we urge all registered students still owing the institution to get in touch with their sponsors and guardians to travel to the University of Zambia and sign commitment forms on their behalf

before exams begin in a fortnight to avoid being inconvenienced.” Last month, UNZA management announced that over 8,000 students were owing the institution K58 million and they would not be allowed to sit for exams or access university services. This attracted widespread condemnation but when contacted, Minister of Higher Education Nkandu Luo said she could not comment as she was not ‘Minister of UNZA’. Irate students also dumped garbage in their leader Adrian Matole’s room saying he had failed to represent their interests.

Chilufya contradicts himself on HIV policy



Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya with his permanent secretary administrations Dr Kennedy Malama during a press briefing at the ministry August 21, 2017 picture by Tenson Mkhala

From front page

President Lungu said: “My position was that no one has got a right to take his own life, therefore to make sure that we must protect life in Zambia generally and across the board. So just as we test for malaria, we don’t consult you to consent whether you should be tested for malaria or not, we will do the same with HIV and AIDS. And we will counsel you and tell you that you have got this problem, you need to embark on treatment... That is the position of Zambia and its official, no debate about it.”

But speaking to Grevazio Zulu when he featured on ZNBC’s Sunday Interview,

Dr Chilufya said people should follow what was in the President’s written speech.

“Sometimes the media are using words that are fueling the debate in the negative. Throughout my interviews, I have been saying routine HIV testing, but I don’t know if it is making better news when you say mandatory testing. Watch my interviews, watch my statements, read the statement that the President read, read the statement that is in public domain; routine HIV testing. Now, let’s report as we say it and when we say we have a public health threat, the public health act dictates that we take action to protect the public,” Dr Chilufya said.

“The Human Rights Commission is challenged to take the President’s statement, written statement, read it and engage with us. The first right you have is the right to live, if you are not alive, how will you enjoy your other rights? Let us not reduce this argument to words, semantics, we have a problem on the table, HIV is killing our people. We must demystify HIV, we must stop fearing to know our own status, you cannot hide from your own status.”

Dr Chilufya then explained that medical officers would seek consent before drawing blood from anyone to test for HIV. “This is a message of hope,

this is not a combative statement. The President as Head of State has the mandate to protect the public, the President is well informed on the statistics on health and he is well aware that Zambians today are falling ill and dying from HIV/AIDS. Medical practice is standard, it is such that when you come to the hospital, we will get a history and examine you and decide what test to do. Now, if we must take a urine sample, a stool sample, a blood sample, we will ask you to consent. We will explain to you, we are taking a blood sample because we must do investigations, we are not barbaric and start just drawing blood, no, we will

explain to you, ‘we will prick you because we want to do the following tests’. So when we are drawing samples, we do get consent,” he said.

“But let me tell you, doing a routine investigation on the basis of finding out what’s wrong with a particular patient, is routine practice, it is not Zambian practice. It is practiced everywhere. Go to the European hospital today Grevazio, present with a fever, by the time you are done there you will know that you are syphilis minus, you don’t have HIV, they will screen you because they want to find out what’s wrong with you. Obtaining blood from you, we will get consent because we need to obtain blood in order for us to carry out a number of investigations. And counseling for us in medicine is something we do day in day out. That’s why even in the pronouncement, the word counseling is not there.”

Asked if people could opt out of the test, Dr Chilufya replied in the affirmative saying no one would be arrested for refusing to take an HIV test.

“Grevazio, if you come to the hospital and you are unwell and you want us to help you, let us apply the knowledge that we have to help you. If you go to the mechanic with a faulty car and you say ‘my car is faulty but please, don’t touch the oil filter because that one I don’t want it touched’, you are limiting the mechanics diagnostic capacity. Come to us and tell us you are not feeling well and we will decide if what you need is Malaria test, if what you need is a full blood count, if what you need is this. If we think that HIV testing should be conducted on you, we will tell you. If you decide you don’t want what we are doing, there will be no policeman to arrest you. In hospitals today, there is what is called living against

medical advice. There is what we call ‘I have refused medical advice’, it is practice. There is no law that has been put in place where policemen now will be on the streets to catch you or force you to test. There is no one forcing you to test. We are saying HIV testing is a routine investigation,” said Dr Chilufya.

Meanwhile, speaking at a press briefing today, Dr Chilufya contradicted himself, saying “routine testing” would be compulsory for all patients.

“It is unfortunate that other sections of the media would want to now say that government has backtracked on it’s policy. I want to emphasise that government remains consistent. When I say HIV testing will be done routinely, we are saying the investigations that will be done when you are unwell at the hospital will include HIV as a routine test in order to help you become healthier if you are positive to help you live healthier if you are negative,” said Dr Chilufya.

“Self-testing will also be made available, you can do a self test at your work place, in the comfort of your home or in various locations. So we are distributing self-test kits and what is the importance of knowing your status?”

The minister further dispelled speculations that there were dubious procurement dealings behind the newly announced HIV policy.

“Allegations about syndicates are nonsensical at the least and they are not different form hallucinations. People are just dreaming about things. If they have any evidence let them be decent enough to bring the evidence on the table. Let’s be responsible leaders, one million Zambians have died and you want to start politicking?” asked Dr Chilufya.

Peace is indispensable to development, Lungu tells SADC

By Diggers Reporter

President Edgar Lungu has noted the importance of peace and security if development is to flourish in the SADC region.

According to State House managed Smart Eagles Facebook page, President Lungu said this when he delivered his first speech since the election of Zambia as deputy chair of the organ on politics defence and security.

President Lungu noted that Zambia would enjoy the distinct privilege to serve the region in championing peace and security.

“I wish to thank the member states for electing Zambia as the deputy chairperson on the organ on politics defence and security. I am deeply humbled and delighted for this opportunity,” said President Lungu.

“...We continue to attach great importance to these issues because of our shared understanding that peace and security are indispensable to development and prosperity.”

President Lungu was in South Africa to attend

the SADC summit after officiating at inauguration

of Rwanda’s President Paul Kagame.



A woman of Lusaka’s Mtendere township selling sweet potatoes

Kapijimpanga lauds development journalism students

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Zambia's High Commissioner to India Judith Kapijimpanga says she is delighted that journalists are showing interest development journalism as opposed to reporting bad news all the time.

Speaking when Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IICM) Development Journalism student Victor Mwila of Zambia News and Information Services (ZANIS) and his Yatsani Radio counterpart Maybin Katungulu called on her, Kapijimpanga was pleased to note that students from Zambia were taking greater interest in pursuing Development Journalism.

"The world is expeditiously running away for the concept of 'Bad news makes good news' as citizens are tired of seeing wars, riots, earth quakes, and deadly diseases among others. Development Journalism is not easy as it needs a journalist to read widely, research, perform leg work, and put in more effort to bring out analytical facts in a fascinating approach for citizens to appreciate," Kapijimpanga said.

"Development Journalism should celebrate the efforts by government or individuals who are putting in new ideas to see advancement in technology, economic emancipation, and human rights. President Edgar Lungu appreciates the role Development Journalism plays especially that he equally obtained a certificate in journalism at Evelyn Hone College on top of his many scholarly credentials."

Kapijimpanga urged the students to remain focused and industrious when they returned back home.

This was contained in statement issued by First Secretary for Press and Tourism at the Zambian Mission in India, Bangwe Naviley.



Indian Institute of Mass Communications (IICM) Development Journalism student Maybin Katungulu of Yatsani Radio (left), Zambia's High Commissioner to India Judith Kapijimpanga (centre) and Victor Mwila of ZANIS (right) at the Zambian Chancery in New Delhi, India.

Hamududu questions motive behind UNZA split

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Party of National Unity (PNU) president Highvive Hamududu has questioned government's true motives for restructuring the University of Zambia into five colleges.

Last week, Chief Government Spokesperson Kampamba Mulenga announced that the University of Zambia would be reconstituted into five university colleges.

"Cabinet approved the restructuring of the University of Zambia to be reconstituted into five University of Zambia colleges namely: College of Medicine; College of Education; College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine; College of Engineering, Mines, and Minerals; and College of Humanities and Arts. Government has decided to restructure the University of Zambia

in order to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the operations of the institution. This action is provided for under the Higher education act number 4 of 2013 (iii) section 13," said Kampamba.

But in an interview with News Diggers! Hamududu said Cabinet was making too many pronouncements without consultations.

"My main concern on that Cabinet approval is that there should be wider consultation even when they are good ideas, there should be a buy-in before these things are announced. Am neither for or against but what am saying is that we haven't read the real reasons behind. And I hope that segmenting that university into those colleges will not create serious overheads," Hamududu said.

"The management has

not been explained, are we going to have different management restructures for each of these? Those things must be understood because what is sucking money in this university is the super structure. We need a new super structure in the management of the university. So the money goes to the actual service provision, it goes to paying the lecturers, it goes to providing for materials, it goes in those libraries and also it goes to augment the pool of students loan."

He observed that a number of pronouncements were taking Zambians by surprise.

"So for me there have been many pronouncements from Cabinet but there must be a very strong stakeholders consultation. Most of the pronouncements are taking Zambians by surprise. Sometimes

even the good intentions will be misunderstood because there has been no buy-in. People have not been walked through, are there any reasons behind some of those big pronouncements? So the real reasons are not yet clear, the management structure is not yet clear on how these colleges will be run. And I hope it won't be an issue of increasing an overhead cost which are eating into the key issues that must be addressed at the university," Hamududu said.

"Right now at the University of Zambia, the debt that the university has on the retirees is huge and some of the people have died without getting their benefits, it's very sad. That must be done, it's a question of human rights. And secondly the University of Zambia has remained very backward

in terms of rolling out infrastructure. We have not seen any infrastructure at the University of Zambia being rolled out. The university and the government has failed to put up hostels there, students are being exploited in boarding houses around the university. Especially for the girl child, they are undergoing serious abuse and it's not secure for them. It is within the reach of government to put up hostels and there is enough land within the university." Hamududu also urged government to provide enough resources for student loans so that the poor could also borrow for their education and pay back later.

"We need a huge students' loan so that all the students who cannot afford can borrow money for their education. Just at the end of last month you saw a number of students that were chased from writing exams! This is a poor country, people have no recourse, they don't have money, it is as simple as that. Government must provide a huge resource for students loans so that those who are poor, who cannot afford can borrow money and when they get jobs they will pay back," he said.

"That is what is happening everywhere. You have seen in South Africa now the issue of student's loan is a very serious issue. You

have seen riots, you have seen strikes universities in South Africa, that education is a right. It is becoming a new debate, in Kenya it's now a hot issue and its coming to the all of Africa. Because Africa has got what we call a very young population and issues of youth explosion has become a serious issue. And one of the demands of a youthful population in Africa is the provision of education and therefore we must put in enough money in education."

Hamududu further advised government to put up modern infrastructure at the University of Zambia. "From the time this university was built, I can tell you that, from the Kaunda's era, no administration has put up anything sensible there, nothing. So the University of Zambia has a huge backlog in infrastructure, a huge backlog in terms of streamlining cost, a huge backlog in terms of availing adequate student's loan. That is why we all went to the university from very poor families, and today we are big people in Lusaka. It's because of the bursaries that we were given, we learnt for free and we were given bursaries, those bursaries we are supposed to pay back and it is up to the university to follow up students who went through there, all of us to pay back, and we are able to pay back if they put mechanisms to recover money to benefit other students," said Hamududu.

HH relives memories from prison: We slept on the cold floor, used buckets as toilets

By Joseph Mwenda

UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema narrates to BBC reporter Kennedy Gondwe how he survived 127 days in prison.

Hichilema is also asked what he will say to President Edgar Lungu when the two leaders meet for the much anticipated dialogue.

Meanwhile, Hichilema says he

cannot forget about the past and look forward to 2021 when there are so many unresolved issues regarding the electoral process in Zambia.

"Terrible, in simple language, extremely dehumanising. A lot of torture goes on in those prisons. To start with we were made to sleep on the cold floor. We were

made to use buckets to answer the call of nature, both urine and faecal matter. We were locked up in those cells for 16 hours every day. There is no ventilation, no windows at all, people are dying there. Those are death chambers, there are no mattresses, no blankets; people sleep by sitting in each other's front," said Hichilema

Police block HH release celebrations in Western Province



By Mirriam Chabala
United Party for National Development Western Province spokesperson Nyambe Mulumbwana says police have stopped party supporters from celebrating Hakainde Hichilema's release. In an interview with News Diggers! yesterday, Mulumbwana explained

that police cited security concerns. "What happened is that on Thursday after our president [Hakainde Hichilema] was released on Wednesday, we decided to inform the police of our celebrations which were supposed to take place today [Saturday] so that we can celebrate at our party

offices but the police told us that we can't have the celebrations today because it is against the Public Order Act then they also told us that they could not grant us the permit because the officers were not ready to marshal our in-house celebrations then thereafter, they said we need to follow the Public Order Act which

provides for informing the police seven days before the day of gathering," Mulumbwana said. "So we were telling them to say how could we do that when we didn't even know that he was going to come out from prison and so we asked them that you should sometimes do things in public interest

and allow it to overwrite certain provisions but they still refused to say we were supposed to abide."

Mulumbwana lamented that police were not fair in the execution of their duties.

"Anyway, in any case we know that if it was PF they were going to allow them but it's just that we are in opposition and even the other reason that they don't have man power to come and do security for internal gathering is baseless because all along we have our own marshals, we have our own youths even during elections police were never near us all this time that we have been doing our gathering, our activities police have never been near us so the reason to say that we don't have officers to come doesn't hold water because we have enough youth in our party that can provide security," he said.

"So we will just do our celebrations next week

Saturday, I think by then we would have given them enough time to go through our forms. And on that Saturday whether they like it or not we are going to conduct those celebrations because we are receiving calls all over the province that they [police] need to say something about our gathering and we are going to have a celebration at our office because we have started preparing and a lot of people are coming. They are showing biasness towards the opposition, for them what they want is to please PF and it's like they are working under command from PF and the whole idea is to suppress the opposition."

Mulumbwana said the threatened state of emergency did not mean that people's rights had been taken away.

"And just to tell you, yesterday the same officer in-charge told us that even if you bring new applications for a permit we can't guarantee you that we are going to allow you because we are under the Threatened State of Emergency. That is ridiculous, that emergency does not take away the basic human rights like that of gathering. That State of Emergency does not allow them to do any of those things, it is just there to protect us all not to cartel freedom. But we are not really shocked about their behaviour because we know that most of our are colleagues in the police now are being threatened by the cadres but for us we have told them that next Saturday they just have to tell us and we are not interested in any compensations because UPND has been a peaceful party and you know our president has been calling for dialogue the whole time," said Mulumbwana.

Lungu would have pardoned HH - Kampamba

From front page

Speaking on a Diamond TV programme dubbed "Costa", hosted by Costa Mwansa, Kampamba said dialogue between President Lungu and Hichilema would not have taken place with the UPND leader still in incarceration.

"Obviously we had to wait because this was a matter before the courts of law so there was no way that the dialogue could have been taking place when somebody was still in incarceration. Obviously a ruling had to be made and obviously you are alive to the fact that even if it went the other way, the President under the Constitution has the mandate to actually pardon a prisoner. So even if it went the other way, we would have, still in the spirit of reconciliation, it would have gone otherwise. So this issue of reconciliation either nolle or a convict (sic), it could have taken place because the President has made it very clear here that there was no interference with the court case either from the Baroness Scotland, the former Nigerian President or from his Excellency the President," Kampamba said, in a rather quarrelsome fashion as she emotionally took question from the host.

"I want to make it very clear that us as government,

we are very happy with the outcome of the court ruling especially the nolle as it clearly exculpates the government from the dark cloud of 'government always interferes with Judiciary'."

She said it was a must for all citizens, including Hichilema, to recognise President Lungu as Head of State,

"Whether we like it or not, the recognition just has to be there because he is the Head of State and what I want to make very clear is that it is not an issue of forcing anybody, it's an issue of what the Constitution says. When the President comes to

Parliament to address the nation through Parliament, whether you like it or not and whether or not you recognise him, you must be there because it is not the President that will force you to come and sit in Parliament as an opposition but the law.

When Costa asked why the police would arrested a person for expressing their views, charge him for defamation of the president and then release him without taking him to court, Kampamba said the State was in a hurry to dialogue with everyone, hence releasing Chishimba.

"Have you never heard a

situation where somebody has a case with you, then later on you change your mind to say 'okay, well and good, in the spirit of'... especially that we are in the spirit of reconciliation, we said okay fine because we are going back to the drawing board. I am sure these are some of the issues that are going to be talked about. Even us as political leaders, we must handle issues responsibly," Kampamba said.

Further, Kampamba said Roan member of parliament Chishimba Kambwili was turned away from the Ukusefya Pang'wena traditional ceremony because he was

not invited.

"The Mwinelubemba had invited Honourable Kambwili on several occasions to attend the ceremony and he did not attend. So this time around he did not want and that is his Chiefdom and it is his jurisdiction so he has the right to invite or not to invite and that is not an event where government has a part. Even President Lungu himself was just invited and all those Chiefs who came where invited and Honourable Kambwili is not a small figure in the political scenario who will just pop up and turn up for an event," said Kampamba.

UNZA allows only half of barred students to sit for their exams

By Mukosha Funga

UNZA Vice-Chancellor Luke Mumba says he gets shocked when highly educated people ask the learning institution to withhold results of owing students, saying the university does not write exams on the chalk board.

Professor Mumba told journalists at a briefing today that only 4009 out of 8000 owing students will be allowed to sit for exams because they paid the required amount to be registered.

"I sometimes get perplexed and wonder when I hear very educated eminent people in society say 'give them a chance, you will withhold the results', in the university we don't write exams on the chalk board. Exams require tones and tones of stationary, paper, cartridges to print those exams. For people who have not been to the university, for every person, there are not less than two exam papers in some cases three or four exam papers but we also produce special booklets where students have to write their

exams. All those things cost money," Prof Mumba explained.

"Never mind the arguments that the university should not be dependant on students fees, they must venture into business and so forth, that is not for today, business ventures take time to mature, it is for three four years from now but we have an immediate problem to resolve here [and] it is to accomplish 2016 academic year and the budget is 69 per cent institution fees."

By Mukosha Funga

Expelled Roan PF member of Parliament Chishimba Kambwili has pleaded not guilty to three counts of traffic offenses in the Lusaka Fast Track Court.

Kambwili, who is being represented by Keith Mweemba, Caristo Mukonka and Christopher Mundia, appeared before magistrate Brian Simachela today.

In count one, it is alleged that Kambwili being the registered owner of Jaguar registration number AOB 2949, knowingly was in charge of the said motor vehicle bearing a false registration mark 'CK 900' which was being driven by Chileshe Chileshe on Dedan Kimathi road on August 13, 2017 in Lusaka.

The second count states that Kambwili permitted Chileshe to drive the said motor vehicle without a driving license contrary to the road traffic act No 11 of 2002 of the laws of Zambia.

Particulars in third count allege that on August 13, 2017 Kambwili failed to display a certificate of insurance on the Jaguar in respect of which the disc was issued.

The vehicle was intercepted by a road traffic inspector Kabulo Chikowa

Chishimba Kambwili pleads not guilty to traffic offenses

who was conducting road inspection along Dedan Kimathi road to ascertain the level of compliance by motorists to road traffic regulations after which he came across the motor vehicle in question which was being driven by Chileshe.

After further inquiries it was discovered that the vehicle belonged to Kambwili and upon further examinations, irregularities were discovered pertaining to the false registration mark of the vehicle.

The matter comes up for trial on September 21 at 09:00 hours for trial.



Roan PF MP Chishimba Kambwili accompanied by Kabwe PF MP Tutwa Ngulube at the Anti-Corruption Commission - picture by Tenson Mkhala

Africa must unite and fight neo-colonialism - Mwila

By Mukosha Funga

Patriotic Front Secretary General Davies Mwila has called on African Countries to unite and fight against imperialism and neo-colonialism on the continent.

According to a statement issued by PF media director Sunday Chanda, Mwila said this when

he officially opened the Third General Assembly of CAPP being attended by 78 political parties in Khartoum including the Council of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP).

"I came here to sound the trumpet to CAPP that unless Africa unites at every level - socially, economically

and otherwise, Africa will soon become a lost cause. Imperialist forces have identified puppets and mouthpieces of capital, ready to auction our country's natural resources to their funders. Africa must unite! How can it be that foreign mining conglomerates with

interest in controlling mineral interests in a Southern and Central African Country can speak the same language as the leader of the Opposition? How can it be that a leader of the Opposition can say to Africans in Zambia that should he win an election, he would bring back one

mining conglomerate that gave up on Zambians when they needed it the most?" Mwila asked.

"How can it be that puppets in Kenya, puppets in Zimbabwe and South Africa, speak the same language as their so-called Think-Tank in South Africa, fully funded by one mining conglomerate? I came to sound a clarion call that unless Africa unites to preserve its Independence and natural resources, we shall be a lost cause. CAPP must rise to the challenge, reform and reposition for a better and more secured Africa. Let us remind ourselves that our Freedom from the shackles of Colonialism was not Free. We must say to today and tomorrow's generation of Africans that never and never again will Africa and African countries give themselves away to imperialist stooges littered across the continent."

Mwila also thanked First Vice President and Prime Minister of the Republic of Sudan Lieutenant General Bakri Salih, for his government's continued support to CAPP.

"CAPP will ever be grateful to the Government and Peoples of Sudan," said Mwila.



A protester dressed as a judge and with a mask of Chinese President Xi Jinping stands outside the Court of Final appeal after marching in Hong Kong to protest the jailing of the leaders of Hong Kong's 'Umbrella Movement'

We haven't warned of a shutdown - Mopani

By Mukosha Funga

Mopani Copper Mines Public Relations Manager Nebert Mulenga says management is working tirelessly to resolve the power crisis and workers must remain calm. Meanwhile, government has restored normal power supply to First Quantum Minerals operated mines after agreeing on a way forward after two-day discussions. Yesterday, some Mopani employees told News Diggers! that they had been warned of a possible shut down because of the power tariff standoff with Copperbelt Energy Corporation. "Things are don't seem to be getting any better even after the court case was adjourned today (yesterday). The Human Resource Manager Mr Maeya addressed the union at central office and told them that their members

prepare themselves in mind and financials to accept whatever will come. That if CEC can't review the adjustments of tariffs, then Mopani will stop the all operations and put the mine on care and maintenance," one of the workers said. But in an interview today, Mulenga said management had not made such a warning. "I have seen that story and I don't know where you got the information from. No statement was made regarding the possible shutdown of operations. We are working closely with the relevant authorities to resolve the situation as quickly as possible," Mulenga said. He also advised employees to remain calm and avoid panicking as the situation was being handled. "In the meantime, we call upon our employees to remain calm and not panic because the situation



A man of Lusaka's Mtendere township at his stand as he sells maize - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

is being handled," said Mulenga. Meanwhile, in a joint statement with Finance Minister Felix Mutati, Energy Minister David

Mabumba announced that government and FQM had agreed on a way forward. "The Government of the Republic of Zambia and First Quantum Minerals

(FQM) have concluded high-level discussions on electricity supply and migration to the new power tariff structure. Among the issues discussed was the quality of electricity supply to FQM Operated Mines and the restriction of ZESCO power supply. At the conclusion of the two-day high-level talks on Friday 18th August, 2017, it was resolved and agreed by all parties involved in the discussions that: 1. FQM Operated Mines will be deemed to have migrated to the new tariff structure with effect from January, 2017; and, 2. The Government, through ZESCO, will put in place measures to ensure

continuous, stable and full supply of power to FQM Operated Mines, including importation of power from alternative suppliers," stated the ministers. "Arising from these resolutions, normal power supply has been restored to the FQM Operated Mines. FQM was represented during the meetings held in Lusaka by Matt Pascal - Director of Operations, Hannes Meyer - Chief Financial Officer, and John Dean - Commercial Manager, while the Government was represented Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Finance, and Zesco."

Mopani losing \$3m a day due to power tariff stand-off

By Mukosha Funga

Energy Minister David Mabumba says Mopani Copper Mines is losing \$3 million per day since the stand-off with Copperbelt Energy Corporation over tariffs began on August 11. Speaking to journalists after he met Mopani officials in Kitwe today, Mabumba also revealed that he had directed the mine and CEC to resolve their dispute by close of business today. "Today's meeting with Mopani was to resolve some of the outstanding issues regarding the 9.3 cents or the increase in the power tariff. So what we have concluded is that Mopani and CEC are going to engage in detailed negotiations today with the view that before the end of this week, they can provide CEC with an interim tariff structure subject to them engaging in arbitration or further negotiations. So what we have agreed with Mopani, to help them so that we can restore the power, is for them to agree with CEC, at what tariff structure are they willing to accept as an interim measure subject to them going into some arbitration or further negotiations," said Mabumba. "I wanted to conclude the

negotiations today and I have told them to give me the answer before close of business today. As far as Mopani is concerned, they are losing about \$3

million per day." Mopani has since sent home some of its workers since the restriction of power supply. Meanwhile, seven mining

firms have started paying revised electricity tariffs among them Konkola Copper Mines, Barrick, Kansanshi, Luanshya Mines and Chambeshi.



Charcoal traders in Lusaka's Mtendere township - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

Presidents rarely get appreciated when they make right decisions or when they show good leadership. It is usually the negative side of their actions that seem to get noticed. We don't want to be part of that culture; we would like to give credit where it is due. We believe that when we respect wise decisions, the wise will respect us for rebuking their shortfalls.

President Edgar Lungu's decision to engage in dialogue with Mmusi Maimane and Julius Malema, the key opposition political party leaders of South Africa, is an example of good leadership that must be commended. Whether the President "commanded", "summoned" or "invited" these two leaders to a meeting is a matter of semantics, the point is that our President wanted to hear their grievances because they have been talking about Zambia at campaign rallies and in that country's Parliament. This was a perfect gesture of wisdom from President Lungu. We strongly believe that it was done in good faith with the intention of overhauling diplomatic relations, given the trade volumes between the two countries. We believe President Lungu realised that Zambia needs South Africa as much as the Rainbow Nation needs us. We also feel, considering how President Jacob Zuma narrowly survived a vote of no confidence, our President realised that one of these two opposition leaders could be his counterpart in the near

Why look for Maimane now after chasing him at the airport?



News Diggers!
Ear to the ground

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future. It is unfortunate that our President's efforts were met with aggrieved responses.

But that said, this desire by President Lungu to engage Maimane and Malema in dialogue, raises one big question: why now? We ask this because it is too soon for anyone to forget what transpired when Maimane attempted to visit Zambia. Maimane wanted to meet and encourage opposition UPND leaders to remain strong during the incarceration of Hakainde Hichilema. He also expressed his interest to witness the trial of the treason case. That was a perfect time for President Lungu to extend an invitation to the visiting leader and tell him whatever he now wishes to say. While Maimane 'was' in Zambia, the Head of State had the jurisdiction to "command",

"summon" or "order" the visitor to a meeting and warn him not to interfere with the country's judicial process and to respect our sovereignty.

But what happened? Maimane was banished like a terrorist from a country on red alert. He was not even allowed to set foot on Zambian soil. The moment his plane landed at Kenneth Kaunda International Airport, our government, the government of President Lungu, sent officers on board the commercial international carrier to harass him. They grabbed his phones and documents and told him not to dare get off the plane. His presence in Zambia was not wanted because he showed sympathy for Hichilema. What a diplomatic blunder! Anyway, Maimane bitterly swallowed his pride and returned to his country, only

to get an invitation from the Zambian President for a visit back "even at short notice". Why now? Why are we inviting Maimane now when we treated him like an Ebola infected immigrant barely three months ago?

Has President Lungu forgotten what his political party said about these two South African opposition fronts? PF has no regard for the Democratic Alliance and its leaders. Our ruling party has no kind words for Malema and his Economic Freedom Fighters. In case our President is not aware of what his left hand has been doing, we can help him.

"South Africa's NAZI Party, the Democratic Alliance has no morality to comment on any governance issue in Zambia. Maimane is a boy who wants to use Zambia as his playground. This is a clear warning that he

must not dare Zambians... he will book himself a bed in one of our prison cells," said PF deputy secretary general Mumbi Phiri after Maimane was deported.

In another Statement, PF media director Sunday Chanda said: "There is no doubt that Malema's EFF and Mmusi Maimane have one paymaster and the two are nothing but puppets of those who seek to control Zambia's mineral rights through their stooges... The EFF leader is a puny, a Gucci revolutionary... a shrunken, talkative joke, a charlatan who fancies himself big and cute enough to pass comment and judgment on developments elsewhere on the continent. Malema has sold out to forces of capital and paraded himself as an imperialist's rabid lap dog..."

So what does President Lungu want to discuss

with rabid dogs and NAZI imperialists? Why is it necessary for our President to meet the South African opposition leaders now and hear their grievances after Hichilema has been released from prison?

We support the move by President Lungu to engage in dialogue with those who are concerned about Zambia's state of governance, but he must not do so for political expediency, he must not seek dialogue and reconciliation only when it benefits him. That is not good leadership. We would like to draw President Lungu to the eulogies that Zambians poured out as they celebrated late president Levy Mwanawasa's life on August 19, 2017. Let President Lungu admire those words, let him strive to leave Zambians yearning for more of him. At the moment, it is difficult to define President Lungu's legacy, and if Zambians find Mwanawasa as the country's barometer for good leadership because of his political tolerance, corruption intolerance and respect for judicial processes, then we don't know what to say about Edgar Chagwa Lungu as a barometer for anything.

How to handle HIV positive news

By Avert AIDS.org

With the right treatment and care, you can live a long and healthy life with HIV.

If you have been recently diagnosed it is important to start taking treatment as soon as possible.

Remember, your healthcare worker can give you guidance on treatment and put you in touch with a peer support group or a counsellor.

Finding out you have HIV can be a shock. It's likely you will have a lot of questions and you may be dealing with difficult feelings.

Remember that having HIV doesn't have to stop you living a full and healthy life. With the right treatment and care, you can expect to live just as long as someone who doesn't have HIV.¹

"I went for a rapid test and never expected the answer to be that I was positive. I fell to the floor, cried like I was in a soap opera, and asked "who's going to raise my children?" The tester

was so amazing, so helpful in talking me down from this reaction, telling me he'd known people living with HIV for 25 years and more. I latched on to those words like a life vest those first few months." - Anonymous

Give yourself time

Everyone reacts differently when they find out they have HIV, but common feelings include shock, anger, fear or sadness. You may have questions about how you got the virus, and questions about what will happen to you.

All of these emotions and questions are natural. Learning more about HIV will help to answer your questions. You don't have to manage on your own - having someone to talk to about your feelings can help. As well as healthcare staff, there are lots of HIV organisations, peer support groups and online forums that might provide you with support at this time.

Talking to a trusted friend or family member can also help you process your feelings. Read about sharing your HIV-positive diagnosis to get more information if you're thinking about who you want to tell or how to tell them.

You may have good days and bad days, but give yourself time to get used to the news of your diagnosis and to learn about what it means for you.

"I don't really remember much about the day or the month or two following. I do remember sitting in my doctor's office as she told me I was HIV positive. I remember looking at the painting on the wall. I became instantly numb and everything became a blur." - Jordan

Be honest with your healthcare professional

Be honest with your healthcare professional, they are not there to judge you, but help you make

decisions so that they can plan and manage your care appropriately.

It's important to share information such as your sexuality as well as your alcohol and drug use history, as these factors can put you at risk of developing drug resistance and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

If you have any underlying health conditions or STIs, it's important to get treated for these too. Sometimes different treatments interact with each other, so your healthcare professional needs to know what other drugs you might be taking.

When to start treatment

Current treatment for HIV is not a cure, but it can keep HIV under control and this keeps your immune system strong.

The latest guidelines recommend that all people who are diagnosed with HIV should start treatment straight away.²

Once you start taking treatment, you will need to take it every day for life, so it's important that you feel ready to start. Take your time to feel prepared and find out more about starting HIV treatment.

"I was speechless, frozen in time. I couldn't believe it. I couldn't stop crying... It has been six years and my boyfriend - now husband - has stayed by my side. He is currently negative and we have four kids together. Just because you are positive doesn't mean you have to put your life on hold. Take your meds and enjoy life. Don't sit around allowing life to pass you by." - Mia

What next

If you were tested in an HIV clinic, then you may be able to have your care in the same clinic. If you were tested somewhere else, they should make a referral to a specialist HIV clinic for you. Your clinic may also offer you counselling, or will be

able to put you in touch with a peer support group. It can help to have someone to talk to in confidence about what's happening and how you are feeling.

You are not alone. Take your time to process how you're feeling. Although finding out you have HIV is a big piece of news to come to terms with, remember that many people are living long, healthy and fulfilled lives with HIV.

"I found out I was pos when I was only 18 years old. I was in shock, so much so that I don't even remember the next couple of months... I am finally in a pretty good place in my life, with someone who loves me and wants to be with me, a good job, and just applied to school to go back to college! I finally feel like I have a purpose in life and want to continue LIVING! I hope all of you wonderful people out there never give up hope like I did for so long! NEVER GIVE UP!" - Megan

SA grants Grace Mugabe immunity

South Africa has granted diplomatic immunity to Zimbabwean First Lady Grace Mugabe, allowing her to leave the country without answering questions about an assault allegation. President Robert Mugabe and his wife arrived back in Harare early on Sunday. Mrs Mugabe, 52, is accused of assaulting model Gabriella Engels a week ago at a Johannesburg hotel where her sons were staying. She has not commented publicly on the case. A lawyer for Ms Engels told the BBC that they were planning to challenge the immunity decision in court. Willie Spies said he would argue that the first lady should not have been given special treatment as she had been in South Africa on private business. The South African government's decision came in a notice from International Relations Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, published in the Government Gazette on Sunday. "I hereby recognise the immunities and privileges of the First Lady of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Dr Grace Mugabe," she said. On Saturday, Mrs Mugabe had been due to take part in the first ladies' programme at the Southern African Development Community

heads of state summit in Pretoria, which Mr Mugabe, 93, was attending. However, she failed to show up. South African police had said they wanted to interview Mrs Mugabe and had set up a "red alert" at the borders to try to ensure she did not leave the country. But Zimbabwe's ZBC state broadcaster reported that President Mugabe and his wife "arrived on board an Air Zimbabwe flight early on Sunday morning". It showed pictures of her greeting officials at Harare airport. Ms Engels' lawyers have said their client was offered money to drop the case but she refused. She appeared at a press conference on Thursday with a large plaster on her forehead. She has alleged that Mrs Mugabe beat her with an extension cable at the hotel where the model was staying with Mrs Mugabe's two sons. She told the BBC: "She hit me with the plug and the extension cord. And I just remember being curled down on the floor with blood rushing down my face and down my neck." The South African Broadcasting Corporation said the Mugabes were scheduled to attend a funeral for a state minister at Harare's Heroes Acre on Sunday. **BBC News**



US Navy ship and oil tanker collide near Singapore

Ten US Navy sailors are missing and five have been injured after a US destroyer and an oil tanker collided near Singapore, the Navy says. The guided missile destroyer USS John S McCain was

sailing east of Singapore and preparing to stop in the port when the collision with the Liberian-flagged vessel occurred. A wide-ranging search and rescue operation is under way.

It is the second collision involving a US Navy ship in recent months. What do we know about the collision? It was reported before dawn at 05:24 local time on Monday (21:24 GMT on

Sunday) and took place east of the Strait of Singapore, as the USS John S McCain prepared to perform a routine port stop in Singapore. Singapore and US authorities said the destroyer sustained damage to her port side, which is the left-hand side of the vessel facing forward. The ship is now sailing under its own power to Singapore. The tanker it collided with, Alnic MC, sustained damage to a tank near the front of the ship 7m (23ft) above the waterline, but none of its crew were injured and there were no oil spills. The tanker has a tonnage of 30,000 which is about three times that of the USS John S McCain's, and at 600ft (182m) it is slightly longer than the 505ft-long US destroyer. What is happening now? US military helicopters as well as the Singaporean and Malaysian navies and coast guards are currently conducting search and rescue operations. A Singapore Air Force helicopter transports wounded to hospital. **Image copyright REUTERS**
Image caption A Singapore Air Force helicopter transports wounded to hospital. Malaysian Navy chief Admiral Kamarulzaman said a message had been sent to fishing vessels along the Johor and Pahang coasts to keep a look out for missing sailors. **BBC News**



Indian policemen and emergency crew stand next to the wreckage of a train carriage after an express train derailed on the evening of August 19 near the town of Khatauli in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh

Producer sued for wrongful death

Hollywood producer Joel Silver is being sued by the family of Carmel Musgrove his former assistant who drowned and died in 2015 during a star-studded trip to Bora Bora for Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux's honeymoon.

According to the lawsuit filed Friday in L.A. County Superior Court and published by The Hollywood Reporter, the 28-year-old's parents and estate allege that Silver, his company Silver Pictures and Silver's personal chef Martin Herold are responsible for her wrongful death.

According to the documents obtained by THR, Musgrove was found dead by Bora Bora authorities on Aug. 20, 2015 her nude body found floating on the banks of a nearby lagoon just 500 yards away from her Four Seasons Hotel bungalow.

She had gone missing on Aug. 18 after a day of fishing, drinking, and dining with Silver's family, the lawsuit claims later stopping at the bungalow of Herold where the two allegedly consumed alcohol, cocaine and marijuana.

After retreating to her room around 11 p.m. and she allegedly emailed Herold a message that read "Xxx" around midnight, according to the documents.

Silver and friends had set out to find her the next afternoon, according to the documents. She was discovered around 1 a.m., the suit says.

According to the lawsuit, Musgrove's death was ruled the result of a number of factors by French authorities, including "overconsumption of alcohol, consumption of cocaine, fatigue caused by overwork, heat stroke after the fishing trip and a midnight swim during unfavorable weather conditions."

"Four of these reasons are traceable to conduct involving the defendants," the family's lawyers claim in the suit.

According to the documents, Silver told French authorities that he knew Musgrove and Herold sometimes drank together but that he "never saw anything" relating to drug use. *Yahoo News*



Prince Akishimo (l), the second son of Japan's emperor Akihito is transported by a local horse-carriage with his first daughter Princes Mako (r) at Bugac Puszta, about 100 km south from Hungarian capital Budapest

The 47-year-old star who was spotted outside of the Chiltern Firehouse flashing a big smile sported a denim jacket, jeans and a yellow hoodie for the outing.

His night on the town comes after opening up to Rap Radar hosts Elliott Wilson and Brian "B.Dot" Miller about his alleged Tidal feud with Kanye West, as well as West's infamous 2016 Sacramento concert rant in which he called out JAY-Z and his wife Beyoncé.

"What really hurt me, you can't bring my kid or my wife into it," JAY-Z said of West's world "We've gotten past bigger issues, but you brought my family into it, now it's a problem with me." The "99 Problems" rapper added: "You know it's a problem because me and him would have been talked about it, been resolved our issues. And he knows crossed the line. He knows. And I know he knows. 'Cause we've never let this much space go between one of our disagreements and we've had many. That's part of who we are."

View photos

At West's November 2016 show, the 40-year-old Yeezy designer called out Bey and Jay referring to the now-infamous 2009 incident when he interrupted Taylor Swift's Video Music Awards acceptance speech to say that Beyoncé deserved to win.

"I went down seven years on behalf of you. Beyoncé, I was hurt because I hear that you said you wouldn't perform unless you won Video of the Year over me and over 'Hotline Bling,'" West said,

Kanye hurt me - JAY-Z

alluding to the Bey's win over him and Drake at the VMAs in August 2016. "In my opinion now don't go dissing

Beyoncé, she's great. Taylor Swift is great. We are all great people. We are all equal. But sometimes we be playing the

politics too much and forget who we are just to win." He also addressed his Watch the Throne collaborator

regarding wife Kim Kardashian West's robbery in Paris. "JAY-Z call me, bruh. You still ain't called

me. JAY-Z, I know you got killers. Please don't send them at my head." *Yahoo News*





Madrid captain equals La Liga red card record

Sergio Ramos set an unwanted La Liga record during Real Madrid's 3-0 win over Deportivo La Coruna on Sunday.

The central defender, famed for his hard-hitting style of play, was sent off in the closing stages of the game after collecting a second yellow card.

Having caught Borja Valle with an arm during

an aerial duel, the referee brandished the red card, the 18th Ramos has seen in La Liga.

The 31-year-old subsequently equals Xavi Aguado, formerly of Real Zaragoza, and Pablo Alfaro, also a Zaragoza alum, as the player with the most dismissals in the division's history.

Real otherwise enjoyed a smooth evening as

they began their title defence, with Gareth Bale, Casemiro and Toni Kroos all on

Paris Saint-Germain star Neymar has taken a shot at Barcelona's board, saying the club "deserve much better" than the current leadership.

the scoresheet for Zinedine Zidane's men. Casemiro's goal

The 25-year-old Brazilian departed Barca for PSG earlier this summer in a world-record €222 million move, despite having signed a contract

marked another milestone, the midfielder firing home after a move involving

extension last year. He's off to a flying start for the Ligue 1 side, scoring twice in his home debut on Sunday as PSG earned a 6-2 win over Toulouse.

44 passes - the most before a goal in La Liga since the 2006-07 season. *Goal.com*

And Neymar spoke to reporters after the win to shed some light on his exit from the Catalan club. "When I arrived, everything started well but then... at Barcelona, there are directors that shouldn't be there. I'm very sad with them," he said in quotes published by Football Espana. "I had four very happy years there, but Barca deserve much better. I have a lot of friends there, I hope things get better for Barca and that they go back to being a team that can compete." *Goal.com*

Neymar takes shot at Barcelona board

Is Wedson Nyirenda quitting Chipolopolo?

By Diggers Reporter

Zambia National Team assistant coach Aggrey Chiyangi has denied rumors that Chipolopolo coach Wedson Nyirenda is considering resigning this weekend.

Nyirenda is said to be upset after FAZ president Andrew Kamanga was quoted in Saturday's Times of Zambia saying "the bench will be fired if they fail to qualify to 2018 CHAN tournament".

Zambia came into the match level at 2-2 with Bafana Bafana from the first leg played on August 12 in East but qualified in the

CHAN finals after a 4-2 aggregate win.

Nyirenda sat for most of the time in the dugout at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola during Saturday's 2-0 home win over Bafana while Chiyangi took charge of barking orders for most of the match.

The Zambia coach did not even come for the post-match brief at Levy Stadium leaving all duties to Chiyangi.

"I think that is not true but one thing you should understand is that even coaches are human beings," Chiyangi said at the post-match briefing.

"When you had a game that is crucial and that game is a do or die game and you are focusing and someone else comes says somethings that don't make you happy, you are disturbed a bit. But for now this issue of resigning is not there. Whoever said that is just lying."

Meanwhile, Zambia secured their passage to the Kenya finals in January, thanks to a brace from Justin Shonga's goals in 79th and 82nd minutes that saw the Nkwazi striker deliver on his pre-match pledge to score.



Zambia fear player departures after CHAN qualification

By Diggers Reporter

The Zambia National Soccer team technical bench admits that it faces a serious prospect of losing key players for the 2018 CHAN tournament in Kenya.

Zambia beat Bafana Bafana 2-0 August 19 to qualify 4-2 on aggregate for the Kenya finals to be held from January 12 to February 4.

But qualification for Zambia, who sailed through the qualifiers unbeaten with three wins and a draw, may just come at a cost with the likelihood of some key players moving abroad.

CHAN is a second tier AFCON tournament exclusively for players campaigning in their domestic leagues.

“The next step now is to prepare the team effectively for the tournament. The goodness is at least we now have enough time to prepare the team between now and January which is good.

“But the other thing is that, of late, any player that is outstanding in Zambia we are losing them especially the strikers. So that is the only worry that we have.

What we are trying to see is if we can have the same team then it would be a plus for us.”

The CHAN team has already lost striker Brian Mwila who was ineligible before the final round tie against Bafana following his transfer from Green Buffaloes to Platinum Stars of South Africa.

Mwila scored two goals in the CHAN qualifiers in Zambia’s 4-0 away and 3-0 home wins over Swaziland in July.

And now, Mwila could be joined by Justin Shonga who scored a brace in Saturday’s 2-0 home win over Bafana at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola to take his CHAN qualifying tally to three goals.

Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa are believed to be the Nkwazi striker’s suitors by Christmas and that could just leave Zambia threadbare for the Kenya tournament without a potent striker.

Shonga and Mwila are Zambia’s top two strikers in 2017 with 6 and 5 goals respectively that they have scored between June to date.

IS WEDSON NYIRENDA QUITTING CHIPOLOPOLO?

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