

SUMAILI MUTE ON INSULTS

By Mukosha Funga

Transparency International Zambia president Rueben Lifuka says Special Assistant to the President Amos Chanda's conduct of pouring insults on NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili cannot be excused even under the greatest provocation. And Lifuka has observed that it sends a wrong message for Chanda, who is supposed to be apolitical, to speak on all matters beyond the presidency. *To page 2*

...as TIZ counsels Amos, Kambwili



Muslims congregate for Eid prayers at LICEF School in Kamwala Lusaka, as they celebrate the Islamic festival in honour of Prophet Abraham – Picture by Tenson Mkhala

CBU lecturers resume protest against VC, withhold results

By Daniel Chansa in Kitwe

The Copperbelt University Joint Stakeholders Unions have resolved not to release the 2018

Sessional results until the Ministry of Higher Education receives their submissions on the need to oust their Vice-Chancellor Naison Ngoma.

The Joint Stakeholder's Unions stated this in a letter dated August 22, 2018 addressed to the CBU Caretaker Committee and Copperbelt University Kitwe. *To page 7*

Inflation to remain above 7.5% - BoZ

Story page 5

I'll deliver success between 2021-2026, promises Lungu

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

President Edgar Lungu has asked his team to step up their game and see to the fulfilment of their campaign promises

in order for him to successfully finish his tenure from 2021-2026. And President Edgar Lungu says the mining industry has not stimulated

growth in other sectors because it has been taken as a mere source of government revenue instead of being a development catalyst. *To page 2*

PUBLIC WARNING

Zambeef Products Plc wishes to warn the General Public that posters on some streets / in residential areas of Lusaka and the Copperbelt, asking members of the public to pay ZMW 500 for job interviews are fraudulent and criminal.

The phone numbers on these posters are not Zambeef's and are fake.

Please be aware and note that our recruitment is never done on photocopied posters without our logo and always appears in the national print media. Only our Group Head of Human Resources issues job recruitment notices.

Zambeef never asks prospective job candidates for any fees whenever interviews are called for.

Please report any person involved in this criminal act to the nearest Police Station.

Felix Lupindula
Head Corporate Affairs/General Manager Retailing



By Sipilisiwe Ncube

President Edgar Lungu has asked his team to step up their game and see to the fulfilment of their campaign promises in order for him to successfully finish his tenure from 2021-2026.

And President Edgar Lungu says the mining industry has not stimulated growth in other sectors because it has been taken as a mere source of government revenue instead of being a development catalyst.

State House sponsored Smart Eagles reports that President Lungu told Kitwe residents, Tuesday, that he wanted the end of his term in 2026 to be resounding. "I want to finish 2021 and 2026 with delivery... and we can only finish the 2021-2026 term if we deliver," President Lungu said.

The Head of State gave himself and the PF government a pat on the back by appreciating the hyper positive development trajectory

I'll deliver success between 2021 - 26 - Lungu

the country has been on since the coming in of the PF government in 2011.

"We can develop Zambia, from 2011 Zambians can see what we have done.. This was the vision of our President Michael Chilufya Sata, he had a vision for development and that of a bigger all-inclusive party," President Lungu said.

He said the party had no money to waste to capture defectors as such resources would rather be

channeled to positive works.

"We do not have money to waste, we are not buying defectors. People are joining us because the party is one that is attractive and is working," he said.

He promised that PF would remain an all inclusive party taking development to all corners of Zambia.

And speaking in Kalulushi district of the Copperbelt province where he went to commission the non-Forrus Corporation Africa

Mining (NFCA)-South East ore Body project, Wednesday, President Lungu also said the NFCA is an example of a successful story of what privatization really is.

"Mining has for a long time been Zambia's key economic sector accounting for much of the foreign direct investment. Since the year 2000 when we privatized the Mines, approximately 13 billion [has been realized]. Increased foreign direct investment

has resulted in the revival of operations. However, it is of great concern that despite showing the positive future, the Mining industry has not stimulated corresponding growth in other sectors. This is mainly because Mining has been taken as a mere source of government revenue and not as a development catalyst. You must be assured that my government, our government, the PF government is working round the clock to change this situation. Our focus now will be on ensuring that the Mining sector could increase economic diversification and job creation. Let me assure all investors that my government is fully in support of all the developments which not only

realize profits for the companies but will equally help transform lives of our people," President Lungu said.

He said the commissioning of the mine had guaranteed jobs for the people of Chambishi.

"Before NFCA acquired the Mine in 1997, there was no exploration that was taking place, there were no job opportunities for the people of Chambishi. Slowly but wilfully the town is now becoming a buoyant place as a major Mine in the history of the Copperbelt.

It is worth noting that the Mine has been developed beyond what it was at the time of privatization.

This is one good example for a successful privatization story. We know that there are a number of

privatized companies in which funds have been plundered...but this is an example of a good and successful story. I have already said that the life expectancy of the Mine will be 25 years, this means that for a quarter of a century, all things being equal, Chambishi is guaranteed of employment and other benefits which will come with the mining," said President Lungu.

And Kalulushi PF member of parliament Kampamba Mulenga hailed President Lungu for his hard work.

"This means all the 616 tenants will not buy a single house but will be given for free. Your Excellency, because of your good rapport, because of your good policies, our investors are more than willing than ever before to help our small communities in terms of corporate, social responsibility. As area member of parliament I wish to sincerely thank NFCA for this and I wish to urge other companies to emulate them," Mulenga said.

"Your Excellency I wish to also request that our long overdue Tati boarding school being the first ever boarding school in Kalulushi which we were supposed to have commissioned today your Excellency, be declared officially open. In the same vein, I wish to bring to your attention that the desks, the table and the chairs worth more K400,000 were procured once again by our good corporating partner NFCA through corporate, social, responsibility. Of course we are very thankful once again. NFCA has done all this because of the confidence your government has created and as area member of parliament I'm proud to be associated with this development. Your excellency on behalf of myself once again and the good people of Kalulushi, we can only wish you long life and good health as we all know and believe that Zambia is safe in your hands."

TIZ counsels Chanda, Kambwili

By Mukosha Funga

Transparency International Zambia president Rueben Lifuka says Special Assistant to the President Amos Chanda's conduct of pouring insults on NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili cannot be excused even under the greatest provocation.

And Lifuka has observed that it sends a wrong message for Chanda, who is supposed to be apolitical, to speak on all matters beyond the presidency. Recently, Chanda sent several insulting WhatsApp messages to Kambwili after the latter differed with him on the role of a presidential press aide.

And after News Diggers published a transcript of the messages as well as Kambwili's reaction on Tuesday, Chanda called the rebel Roan PF of parliament and insulted him again, referring to him as a dog among other 'unprintables'.

But reacting to the altercation in a statement, Wednesday, Lifuka reminded Chanda that as a representative of State House, he was expected to adhere to a high standard of decorum.

"The events of the last two days, where the Presidential Aide for Press and Public Relations - Mr. Amos Chanda and Roan MP - Hon Chishimba Kambwili, have been trading insults and vitriol, is a stark reminder of how far our politics and the handling of public affairs has become debased. It is now a growing trend for politicians, party operatives and unfortunately even Public servants like Mr. Chanda, to engage in conduct that is unbecoming of the positions that they hold. Mr. Chanda's conduct cannot be excused or rationalised even under the greatest provocation. He occupies a very sensitive position - he is the link between State House and the rest of the world and therefore, he is expected to adhere to high standard decorum and promote the proper image of the Presidency," Lifuka stated.

"He has previously served in the diplomatic service and he definitely understands the need for level headedness even in the face of great adversity. Admittedly, he is human and feels hurt when personally attacked but this is not sufficient justification for him to drop his guard and use the unpalatable language that has been reported. What is shocking is that Mr. Chanda decided to attack Hon.

Kambwili on more than one occasion and one would have thought that a media report on the first altercation with Hon. Kambwili would have served as a refrain from further engagement, but this clearly did not stop him from calling his nemesis again. While he can argue that Hon. Kambwili has attacked him on several occasions - this should not be a case of moral equivalence. We expected better from a seasoned journalist and one serving the Head of State."

And Lifuka observed that Kambwili had raised a genuine concern on the role of a press aide.

"The genesis of the recent altercation between Mr. Chanda and Hon Kambwili, lies in a concern raised about the role that Mr. Chanda has been extraordinarily clothed with to appear on media platform and speak on both matters of policy and politics on behalf of the government. Ordinarily, the politically mandated persons who should be held accountable are those we elect. These should take it upon themselves to engage with the electorate and explain their decisions. Delegation of such functions to public servants who are supposed to be apolitical, sends a wrong signal. In the case of Mr. Chanda, he has been speaking on a range of issues on behalf of government and not limited to the Presidency and perhaps it is time that President Lungu clarified the roles of Mr. Chanda and that of the Minister of Information who equally serves as Chief Government Spokesperson," Lifuka stated.

Lifuka, however, also condemned Kambwili for practicing politics of confrontation.

"Turning to Hon. Kambwili, we find it unfortunate and a blemish on our politics, that he continues to engage in politics of confrontation, ridicule and insults. On several occasions, he has used strong language against his perceived political enemies and this approach, unfortunately, has the potential to attract similar reactions that he got from Mr. Chanda, rightly or wrongly. Many a times that Hon. Kambwili has taken to the podium to engage the public on matters of national importance, but such opportunities are on occasion squandered because of the intemperate language he elects to use, which serves as a distraction and prohibits meaningful political discourse. Hon. Kambwili has been on the political scene for a while now and he and other senior politicians have a duty to provide leadership in sanitising our political landscape. Political violence is not only physical in nature but can also be verbal," Lifuka observed.

"Hon. Kambwili and all politicians are fully within their rights to campaign and market themselves to the electorate in the manner that they deem fit but we contend that this political work should not be an excuse for disrespect for one another and a license to insult and ridicule one another. Politics is not a good reason for the erosion of common decency that we are witnessing on a daily basis. People can have political differences and it is healthy for

our democracy but this is not a basis for political players to call it other names."

He reminded both Kambwili and Chanda that the people were watching and that the altercation was embarrassing not only them but their families. "Both Hon Kambwili and Mr. Chanda, should realise that their conduct is not outside the public glare-and their words and actions have an impact particularly young Zambians who are looking for role models. There are many young and aspiring politicians who are learning the ropes from those who are in the political arena. Similarly, there are many young journalists and Public Relations experts, who look up to the likes of Mr. Chanda for inspiration- clearly, the events of the past few days - fall short of serving as good examples for these young Zambians and it is time that these two persons put a stop to this sad episode," he stated.

"This ongoing public spat is not serving you well, it is embarrassing to your families and colleagues, and it attracts unnecessary attention to our country -Zambia. We wish to advice that both parties refrain from these public attacks and utilise the courts of law where there is a pending case involving the two. May we remind Mr. Chanda and Hon Kambwili and all other politicians, of the words of James Freeman Clarke- an American Theologian and author who once said - "The difference between a politician and a statesman is that a politician thinks about the next election

while the statesman think about the next generation."

Lifuka also asked both of them to apologise to the Zambian people for their conduct and stigmatising against people living with various ailments.

"Beyond the poor choice of words and the calling of Hon. Kambwili a dog, both Mr. Chanda and Hon. Kambwili should apologise to the Zambian people, firstly for this conduct unbecoming of adults, parents and leaders in this country. Secondly, both persons are guilty of stigmatization of those who have AIDS, hypertension or Diabetes. In their school boy argument, the two mock each other of being ill and derogatorily make it sound like those of our people who suffer from these ailments are incapable of discharging functions such as that of a Presidential Aide, Member of Parliament or Politician. They make it appear criminal for one to have a condition like Diabetes or indeed AIDS. The truth of the matter is that there are many very capable and competent Zambians who live with these conditions and are making valiant contributions to this country and hence deserve respect and should not be the subject of such meaningless arguments. We therefore demand a public apology from these two persons for this insensitivity," stated Lifuka.

Efforts to get a comment from Religious Affairs and National Guidance Minister Rev Godfridah Sumaili proved futile as she was unresponsive to phone calls and did not respond to a press query.

Lungu is mocking the poor - Mulongoti

By Joseph Mwenda

People's Party president Mike Mulongoti says President Edgar Lungu is shading crocodile tears by empathizing with the poor because he is not a kind of man who can leave his comfort zone and return to Chawama.

On Tuesday, President Lungu asked leaders to always act according to what was good for the people because the poor were responsible for their riches.

"Chilankalipa (it hurts me) when I see people suffering, mwaisa bapoka amayanda (you displace them). I think we are losing it as leaders when we don't realise where we are coming from, the history behind the issues, and how we can resolve the issues going forward. I'm not

saying this because elections are coming in 2021. Elections will come in 2021, 2026, they will keep coming but people will remain. Approach these issues as one in the belief that what's good for the people, the poor people especially, is good for us too because we are living out of the poor people. We are comfortable, we are rich because of the poor people. They come to clean our houses from Kalingalinga, Mtendere, they are our masters. They come to cook for us. All I can tell you Mutekanye sana, amaka yalapwa (power finishes)," said President Lungu upon arrival at Southdown Airport in Kalulushi. But in an interview, Mulongoti observed that President Lungu was not being sincere.

"He was a poor man who went into government as president. You can imagine his excitement from poverty, he started to live in luxury and because of that, he is trying to do everything possible to ensure that he remains in that luxury. Even if it means looting or disadvantaging the people of Zambia, he has done that. How is it possible that his wealth now has accumulated so much in such a short period? It is not possible for a man who had nothing shortly to accumulate so much wealth. You expect such a man to leave a comfort zone to go back where he was in Chawama or Jack compound? But even when he leaves, you must ask him how he has accumulated all the wealth," Mulongoti said.

Mulongoti said if President Lungu was genuinely concerned about the poor, he would have at least helped with their most important basic needs.

"He is cheating, he is shading crocodile tears. If he has sympathy for the people, he would have given the people of Mtendere water, he has got so much water in state house but the people in Mtendere and elsewhere are suffering for lack of water. Look at the mansions that they have put up, if he is talking about helping the poor, what housing projects have they done for the poor? They build up mansions for themselves and yet the poor are still the way they were before. So he is a hypocrite I think, he is being very hypocritical," said Mulongoti.

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
Party of National Unity (PNU) president Highvie Hamududu says ministers are showing a bad example by driving top class luxury cars when the economy of the country is falling down.

Commenting on government's procurement of a new fleet of brand new GX V8 Land Cruiser SUVs for ministers and other senior officials, Hamududu said for a country like Zambia, Toyota Hilux 4x4 should be the highest limit in the civil service. Hamududu said ministers should be given vehicles on loans just as is the case with members of parliament.

"I remember when the MMD came into power, the last vehicles of the UNIP regime for the minister was a Toyota Crown. The Minister of State used to drive a Toyota Cressida. The permanent secretaries and officials like at the Bank of Zambia and others, their main car was a Toyota Corona. We

Hamududu questions procurement of luxury cars under austerity measures

have history, we must not behave like people who are just dropping from nowhere. I think generally as a country we have misbehaved from 1991, of excessive government trapping. I remember when Akashambatwa (Mbikusita Lewanika) resigned and other colleagues like Baldwin Nkumbula, they complained about these expensive things. And government in government out, the issue of executive greed has continued and something must be done. Let PF

address this problem. The vehicles that are enjoyed by the...I think are on the higher earn. I mean when I came to parliament in 2006 during the Mwanawasa regime, a minister was driving a GX and I think even that time that was expensive," Hamududu recalled.

He also said there was need to review the whole vehicle policy in the civil service. "The moment MMD came into power, they changed from Toyota Crowns to Volvo. The Toyota is easy to maintain for our terrain,

the service is lower and so on. So we have continued to increase the notch of the cars not only at ministerial level, but at permanent secretary, directors and so on. The Pajejos that are driven by directors, those are not even supposed to be in government in the first place. Really for a country of our stature, a Toyota Hilux 4x4 is enough offload for ministers. And our ministers could have continued with Toyota Crowns. When I went to Japan three years ago, I was shocked, the ministers

there were driving Toyota Crowns. And Japan's economy is among the top big economies in the world. We are just an excessive people. I think there must be a stop," Hamududu said.

He said if civil servants want to drive expensive cars, they must be given on loan.

"I can tell you that even as an MP, the Land Cruiser which I got from parliament which I still use up to now, it was a loan which I paid for five years, part of my gratuity went to paying the loan. So even in the civil service, they system must stop. If they want to drive GXs and Pajeros and Prados, they must be on the loan, just like our MPs, those cars are on the loan. They pay back. So we need a review of the whole vehicle policy in the country. Not just about the abuse on the weekend but about the size of cars that we must use as government. First of all they are guzzler on fuel apart from being expensive to buy and also expensive to maintain because they are bigger cars. So a country like this one really, Toyota Hilux 4x4 should be the top vehicle in the civil service. The top guys in the civil service must learn to walk with the people," Hamududu said.

"So the ministers are showing a bad example by driving top class Land Cruisers. It is not correct. And I think that Land Cruiser must just remain at the president and vice president. If they want to drive these cars, they can get them on loan. No one is stopping them. When the PF came into power, they upgraded from a GX for a minister to a VX. So even from the Chiluba, the Mwanawasa, the RB to PF, the abuse of government has continued. Without exception they have continued having these expensive vehicles. Every time the economy gets better, even the fleet of vehicles went up. Today directors, look at the parastatal chiefs what they are driving, the same VXs that the ministers are driving.

These parastatals are not private companies, these are people's companies. I don't think Zambians will agree that these parastatals must drive those expensive cars."

Hamududu also wondered why parastatals would be driving top of the range vehicles when they were making losses.

"So beyond this so-called austerity, let us do the right thing. Why should an MP travel on a business class? I said it even in parliament that we must review the travel policy of MPs. There is need for us to travel business class to Zimbabwe, 45 minutes, what a waste. I think collectively as a country, we have been on a wrong path. And for PF who are now leading the country where there is an economic implosion, it is time now we stopped that. Look at these Nissans they are buying these parastatals, top of the range and [if] you look at these parastatals, they are making losses. They are not declaring dividends to the Zambian people," Observed Hamududu.

"What we need now is a completely overhaul of how we are running this country. first of all, vehicles is one of the small excess expenditure that the government is wasting money on. The other issue is the structure of the government itself, the government should be broken at top. We need to right size the government. Some of the ministries must be done away with. There are too many ministries, ministries must be aligned. Do we need a Ministry of Religious Affairs? No we don't. Many people are afraid to say that but I can say that, I am not against the church, it is [just] not correct. The highest that they can do is that they can put a desk at State House in charge of religious affairs if you want that interface with government or at cabinet office. You don't need a ministry of religious affairs, they have no function. I would rather we have a ministry of cooperatives."

MAZHANDU COURIER SERVICES



Send and receive your goods with us at very low prices. We guarantee you good care and total security of your goods

QUICK. RELIABLE. AFFORDABLE

For Details:

+260 978 730 192

+260 962 212 157 / 977 935 580



Suspect killed cop after car deal went sour - Police

By Diggers Reporter

Police Spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo says a 23-year-old Sesheke man stabbed to death a 29-year-old female officer after she changed her mind about selling him her car.

Revealing more details on the death of the female officer in a statement, Wednesday, Katongo stated that Edward Mwanza was not Constable Caroline Chembwe's lover as he had earlier claimed.

"Police in Western Province today exhumed the body of a female Police officer identified as Caroline Chembwe (29) who was initially reported missing and later discovered dead and buried in a shallow grave. The body has since been buried after postmortem was conducted on site as it was found in a decomposed state. Further investigations have revealed that one of the suspects identified as Edward Mwanza aged 23 was actually not an intimate friend to the victim as he initially claimed but that the two came to know each other at a time when the victim advertised to sell her motor vehicle to which the suspect had expressed interest," Katongo stated.

"The victim is reported to have been picked from Katima Mulilo Police Post on 08th August, 2018 by the suspect Edward Mwanza who was in possession of the said motor vehicle at the time, on pretext that he pays a down payment towards the purchase of the motor vehicle. When they reached the suspects home, the

victim received a phone call from another interested buyer who offered to get the vehicle at a better price which made the victim change her mind and this angered Edward Mwanza who picked a knife and stabbed the victim."

She stated that Mwanza's friend helped him dispose off the body and the two have been jointly charged for murder.

"He is later alleged to have locked the victim in the house and went to stay with his friends until at the time when he decided to dispose off the body with the help his co-accused Dan Njimbu after stacking it in a sack. The two have been jointly charged for Murder which is contrary 200 while Edward Mwanza has also been charged with Aggravated Robbery contrary to section 294 of the Penal Code Chapter 87 of the Laws of Zambia. The accused persons are detained in police custody and will appear in court soon," she stated.

And police in Kanyama have arrested a 44-year-old man for defiling his 14-year-old step daughter.

"In another development, Police in Kayama have arrested a 44 years old male adult of Lusaka's John Leing Compound for allegedly defiling his 14 years old step daughter. The suspect is reported to have had defiled the victim on several occasions between 1st January, 2016 and 17th August, 2018. The suspect is detained in police custody and will appear in court soon," stated Katongo. "In a related development, Police in Kanyama received

a report of incest in which a male adult identified as Fidelis Jipupa is alleged to

have had carnal knowledge of his biological daughter who is a minor. This is said to have

happened on 21st August 2018 at about 05 00 hours in Makeni Villa. The suspect is currently

on the run and a manhunt has been launched. A docket of incest has been opened."



Lusaka woman (c) who was allegedly slapped by a ZAF officer with her husband and a relative at the Lusaka Magistrates' Court yesterday

ZAF officer denies assaulting woman

By Zondiwe Mbewe

A Zambia Air Force (ZAF) officer who allegedly slapped a Lusaka woman to the extent of dislocating her neck and rupturing her eardrum, has pleaded not guilty to one

count of assault in the Lusaka Magistrates' Court.

In this matter, Mwendalubi Hamane, ZAF CED aged 38, is charged with one count of assault occasioning actual bodily harm.

Particulars of the offence are that on July 30, 2018 in Lusaka, Hamane did assault Naomi Tembo thereby occasioning her actual bodily harm.

When the matter came up for plea before magistrate David Simusamba, Wednesday, Hamane denied the charge.

The court, however, could not proceed to call a witness as the accused's lawyer said they needed more time to prepare.

The matter has been adjourned to September 5, 2018 for commencement of trial.

The victim who still has a neck collar to support her neck, was accompanied by her husband at court.

She had narrated in an interview with Muvi TV a few weeks ago, that on the material day, she was in the company of her husband when she gestured to the officer who was in his car, to reduce his car beam light.

Tembo narrated that the accused misunderstood her gestures and when he got out of his car, he slapped her so hard that she lost her consciousness.

"I pointed at the driver and tried to communicate with him that the lights were too bright. The thing (car) was on the middle of the road and where we were, there was

a drainage. What I did was, I tried signaling [to] him that he should reduce the light.

He drove past us and then we just heard him stop behind us and started reversing towards us. When I tried to explain

to him that I was pointing [at him] to communicate that the lights were too bright. He didn't even give me a chance

to explain what happened, he slapped me so hard that I lost consciousness right away. Even the time I fell in the ditch, I didn't feel anything because

the slap was so hard," she said. Tembo said she only regained her consciousness at a clinic in Twin Palm after she felt blood

coming out of her ear.

She disclosed that because of the slap, she had a dislocated neck and ruptured eardrum.

"The nearest clinic which was there was at ZAF Twin palm. Even when we were going to Twin palm I wasn't even aware

as I was still unconscious. I only woke up in a treatment room at ZAF clinic when I felt blood coming out from my

ear and my left side I couldn't feel anything because it was partially paralyzed. Because of what happened, my neck has a

dislocation on my left side and then my eardrum ruptured of which I have lost hearing from my left. The doctor has even

put this on writing," Tembo said.

She said she only wanted justice because she had lost her hearing on the left side because of the officer's carelessness.

"All I want is justice because

what he did to me, I have become lame on my left side due to his carelessness," she said.

And the victim's husband had expressed that it was inhuman to slap a woman.

He said the officer was supposed to protect civilians and not beat a defenseless woman.

"From where I have come from, its inhuman to slap a woman. He is [a law enforcer] meant to protect us, civilians but he is using his training and

his energy to beat a defenseless woman. I have never seen such a thing in my life to be honest," he said.

The accused is also alleged to have made job offers to the couple to have the matter

dropped.

And a 35-year-old man of Lusaka's Kanyama Compound has denied stealing K206,812 cash belonging to his former employer, Swiss Bank.

John Mulenga, currently unemployed, is charged with one count of theft by servant.

Particulars of the offence are that Mulenga, between April 27, 2017 and April 30, 2017 in Lusaka, being employed by Swiss Bank as Marketing and Executive officer did steal

K206,812.50 cash, property of the said employer.

And when the matter came up for plea before magistrate Simusamba's court, the accused denied the charge.

The matter has been adjourned to September 12, 2018 for commencement of trial.



President Lungu in Kalulushi on Tuesday - Picture courtesy of Smart Eagles

Govt acting like a union leader for telecom companies - Wynter

By Sipilicwe Ncube

Rainbow Party leader Wynter Kabimba says it is shameful that government is acting like it is a union leader for mobile service providers at the expense of the citizens who voted it into office.

Reacting to the announced 30 Ngwee internet tariff in an interview, Kabimba said it was illogical for

government to protect foreigners at the expense of Zambians.

"The question is, this is a government for who? I thought that it would be a government for the people. They were not voted into office by mobile [providers], they were voted into office by the people of Zambia. So if there is anybody that they should protect, if there

is anybody whose interest they should have at heart is that of the voters that put them into office. And they can't start acting like they are union leaders on behalf of mobile providers. That is irresponsibility on the part of government. We don't expect government to act as a union leader on behalf of investors. They should even be ashamed to make such a

statement, but the problem is that this is a government that puts the interest of foreigners [first] before the interest of its own citizens. That is what they are doing in terms of land allocation, that you and I would find it very difficult to acquire a piece of land and a foreigner would find it very easy to acquire the same piece of land," Kabimba said.

Kabimba said citizens were within their right to cut costs by making internet calls.

"If people are exercising cost saving measures, how can that be a problem for anybody? It means citizens are being prudent about how they use their money and people are degenerating more and more into abject poverty. So they have to

be careful with the little money that they have and how they are going to use it in communicating with others. So I don't think that the principal should be that people should spend money in order to keep others in employment. I think people should spend money so that they can get the value of their money as they spend it. I think the argument that it is threatening jobs is certainly a one sided argument and a selfish one. I think the person who is spending that money must have a choice how they spend the money," said Kabimba.

"So if I am going to spend my money to communicate with you (interviewer) using a method that is cheaper than speaking on the phone, then I'm a prudent spender. And I think that's what citizens must be encouraged to be so that as they spend little, then they can save. And if they are able to save, then there will be money in the banks and other financial institutions to lend out to others and also they exercise provident that the day when they don't have the money, they can go to the bank and get back their savings."



In Lusaka yesterday, some Muslims take a selfie shortly after performing Eid prayers, an Islamic festival to commemorate the willingness of the Prophet Abram to follow God's command to sacrifice his son - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

BoZ projects inflation to remain above 7.5%

By Stuart Lisulo

The Bank of Zambia (BoZ) says inflation for the remaining period of this year will remain above 7.5 per cent in view of the upside risks that include higher than anticipated food prices.

And BoZ governor Dr Denny Kalyalya says efforts at fiscal consolidation will not be realised this year if Zambia exceeds a budget deficit of more than 7.8 per cent.

Meanwhile, Dr Kalyalya said the deteriorating Turkish economy should not be expected to have any negative impact on Zambia's prospects to refinance the US\$750 million Eurobond.

Speaking during the BoZ Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) announcement in Lusaka yesterday, Dr Kalyalya said the annual rate of inflation for the remaining period of this year will remain above 7.5 per cent in view of the upside risks that include higher than anticipated food prices as well as a likely hike in fuel prices.

"Inflation is projected to remain above 7.5 per cent in the second half of 2018, and to be anchored around seven per cent, the

midpoint of the 6-8 per cent target range, for the remainder of the forecast horizon. There are, however, elevated upside risks to the projected inflation over the near-term," Dr Kalyalya told journalists at the Bank's headquarters.

"These include higher than anticipated food prices and fiscal deficits as well as a possible rise in domestic fuel prices, owing to the upward movement in the international crude oil prices. In addition, higher than programmed external debt service payments could have an adverse impact on inflation through the exchange rate channel."

He did, however, add that inflationary pressures are likely to ease in the medium-term.

"It is, however, projected to slowdown and remain anchored around the mid-point of the 6-8 per cent target range over the remainder of the forecast horizon. The forecast horizon is the third quarter of 2018 to the second quarter of 2020," Dr Kalyalya added.

And asked what impact the approval of government's K7.2

billion supplementary budget will have on widening the fiscal deficit even further, he noted that it is likely to remain above seven per cent.

Dr Kalyalya said that efforts to achieve fiscal consolidation will not be realised this year if Zambia exceeds a budget deficit of more than 7.8 per cent.

Government's supplementary budget approved last month will see around K3.6 billion diverted for domestic and external debt obligations; K1.3 billion to be spent on completing infrastructure projects and K2.3 billion will cover shortfalls on government-support programmes, by-elections and the recruitment of a further 3,700 medical personnel.

"On the supplementary budget, the revision that we are talking about in the [fiscal] deficit has to do with that also. The deficit is likely to be above seven per cent. What we are really concerned about is that, if we are really to demonstrate fiscal consolidation, our deficit for 2018 has to be less than the 2017 deficit. So, the magic number is 7.8 per cent. If we exceed that, then, really, our efforts are not bearing as much

fruit," Dr Kalyalya replied.

When asked whether the efforts to refinance the US \$750 million Eurobond will be achievable given the deteriorating state of the Turkish economy, he said the state of that country's economy should not be expected to have any negative impact on Zambia's prospects to seek refinancing.

According to Bloomberg, some Turkish companies operating in that country are saddled with hundreds of billions of dollars in foreign debt amidst a fresh economic downturn that has seen the Turkish lira plunge as much as 42 per cent this year, and raising the spectre of contagion into Europe and across other emerging markets.

"Refinancing is a tool, it's there. It is a question of 'will you be able to gain it at a price cheaper than you borrowed?' What has to be looked at in our current case is where is the Eurobond trading? I think the Eurobond is trading around 13 per cent so that is the real price at which one will be negotiating. You have to take into account that, although they [Turkey] are having problems, it's not government per

se, which is being brought into the picture; it's the investors, the business people. So, there is still a possibility that you will find some people who would want to invest somewhere else to get their money," Dr Kalyalya explained.

"So, [if] that country has got a problem, it doesn't preclude it to invest. So, that shouldn't be the concern; the concern is, do you find somebody who has got the capacity and would be able to offer you at a cheaper price than what is happening at the moment?"

Earlier, Dr Kalyalya announced that the BoZ's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to maintain the Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) at 9.75 per cent, while also keeping the Statutory Reserve Ratio (SRR) at five per cent in a bid to induce lower interest rates and revive economic growth.

According to Dr Kalyalya, commercial banks' nominal average lending rates, which had previously been declining, inched up to 24.3 per cent in June this year, up from 24.1 per cent in March.

"The lending rates, the trend of declining has stalled," said Dr Kalyalya.

By Joseph Mwenda

Amos Chanda is so treacherous that in order to protect himself from going to jail, he will negotiate to be a State witness against President Edgar Lungu, Roan rebel PF member of parliament Chishimba Kambwili has charged.

And Kambwili has denied killing Delicious Kashimbaya, a Chingola resident, as alleged by Chanda who is State House Press Aide.

Kambwili and Chanda have been waging a war of words since last week, without counter accusations of theft.

Chanda has explained that he has not stolen any ngwee of public money and neither has he been involved in any corrupt activities. he also told News Diggers in an interview that some properties which he owns like the two green houses at his State Lodge farm were gotten on credit from Amiran.

But the former chief government spokesperson who also leads the opposition National Democratic Congress has insisted that Chanda is a thief because if he was a genuine entrepreneur, he would have been listed by Forbes Magazine among the top 10 African best businessmen.

“The boy has been caught napping because what I have disclosed is nothing but the truth and because he is so embarrassed, he cannot keep it but to phone me and to insult me. I am so shocked that you can get such behaviour from a Presidential Press Aide, more especially a Special Assistant to the

If Amos doesn't go to prison, he will negotiate to be State witness against Lungu - CK

President for Press and Public Relations. The boy has stooped too low for his job because if I have said anything which is not truthful about him, he can seek recourse in court but to start calling me early in the morning and start insulting me, I don't think that's the behaviour you expect from someone in his position, that behaviour is for thugs. But I will forgive the boy because the truth hurts and I think he has found himself in a situation where I have exposed his corruption, which is nothing but the truth,” Kambwili said.

“If he was such a gifted businessman who can make so much money in two years, to own all that property that he has gained, why didn't he do it when he was outside State House? I made my money outside government but why [is it that] all of a sudden, Lungu, Kaizer Zulu, Amos, should make so much money in the last two years that they cannot even account for? Are they telling me that they have just been gifted with business when they are in State House? You can read between the lines that the young man is just a simple thief who has not worked for anything but he has gotten whatever he has through corruption

and shoddy deals. And my advice to him is that stop insulting people when they talk about your corruption. If I have said anything that he is not happy with, he should go to court.”

And Kambwili denied having killed anybody.

“He is saying I have killed people, he is in government, why haven't they arrested me? He is saying there is a policeman who I hit with a metal bar in Luanshya and up to now the man is lame, I really don't understand this boy's thinking because he is in government, he works for the President. Why haven't they instructed the police to arrest me? What is so special about me that I have murdered a person, I have maimed a person, making him permanently lame but I have never been investigated by the police? I have never been called by the police to go and answer to a query over the death of anybody,” he explained.

“I am so shocked that he can associate me with the death of Kashimbaya because Kashimbaya died when I was in Chingola and nobody, not even his relatives or police pointed fingers at me. I am hearing it for the first time from Amos that I am the one who killed Kashimbaya. Now if Amos has got

details of how I killed Kashimbaya, why hasn't he gone to the police? Then the police are useless, I killed Kashimbaya, State House has got details and they are just watching me? Kashimbaya died in the 90s I think, he was a colleague, we were working together in ZCCM and that's all I know about him. When he died, I even went for his funeral because he was living in the neighbourhood and I have never been accused of killing him. And he says I fired a gun in open court? First and foremost, I have never owned a gun in my whole life, even up to now I don't own a gun. I don't remember at any time in Chingola, or you can ask people in Chingola where I opened fire in the magistrates' court. Never! Surely you can open fire in a magistrates' court and they just leave you like that?”

He expressed concern that Chanda had wrong information about him.

“This boy has got so much wrong information about me. He doesn't even know me. And he is saying when I was dealing with scrap metals, that's when I hit this policeman in Luanshya with a metal thing, first and foremost, I left Luanshya in the mid 80s after completing school and I never did

business in Luanshya or worked in Luanshya, that's why I am saying the boy doesn't know me. I grew up in Luanshya and when I finished secondary school, I never went back to live in Luanshya, I was living in Chingola and all my scrap metal business was in Chingola. I only went back to Luanshya in 2006 when I went to stand for elections. So where did I do scrap in Luanshya and hit a policeman with a metal thing?” he wondered.

“That's why I took him to court so that he can go and justify and today I did very well because I recorded him which is very good evidence for me as we go to court. When he was telling me that I am a thief, I never called him to insult him, when he said I killed people, I never called him to insult him, I went to court because that's what genuine people do, I took him to court. But I am so shocked that the boy has a habit of calling me to insult me almost everyday and are these the people that should be working at State House? Are these the people that Lungu should be calling his advisors? He deserves to be fired under normal circumstances.”

Meanwhile Kambwili argued that Chanda did not spend US\$6,000 on green houses as he

claimed.

“And let me tell him that I know all the figures, how much he paid to Amiran for the job that they did at the farm. Let him not mislead the people that he paid \$6,000 for each of the Greenhouses and if Amiran wants to join in the lie, tell them that they will burn their fingers because this government will not be there in perpetuity. I have got all the information and it will come out at the right time. If greenhouses were costing \$6,000 all farmers would have had them. So don't let that boy think he is clever because his days are numbered,” he charged.

“So Amos is certainly an excellent businessman. For a man who was not only driving a Spacio, renting a flat and surviving off Fred M'membe till 2012, to land on such wealth he certainly deserves to feature on the Forbes List of top 10 African entrepreneurs. His supersonic rise to such enormous wealth despite him being unemployed four years prior to his first and lower level civil service appointment only points to one thing, he is a shameless and reckless thief without a conscience like I already told you. And typical just like his boss who moved from having less than 3 million to 23 million in one year.” Kambwili charged that Chanda would turn against President Lungu.

“Let him keep talking and telling us what else he knows and owns, and the country will keep a record so that when the day of reckoning comes, he can be interviewed at 08 hours in the morning, arrested at 10 hours, brought to court at 14 hours, put on his defence at 16 hours and convicted at 17 hours before surrendering him to Chimbokaila at 18 hours. That young boy will have an express trial which will be concluded in a day because he's too careless. Amos is going to jail, mark my words,” said Kambwili. “I really pity my brother Edgar, because if that boy doesn't go to jail, he will negotiate to be a state witness against Edgar. That is how treacherous the boy is. If Edgar sees a human being in that boy, then he is in trouble. If that boy can turn against Fred M'membe who fed him for four years, sent his children to school and supported him for nothing, then Edgar will be in problems soon.”

Kwacha depreciation triggered by US Fed interest rate hike - Hamaundu

By Abraham Kalito

The kwacha's depreciation in recent days has been triggered by the strengthening of the US dollar against other emerging market currencies, says financial market analyst Mambo Hamaundu.

The kwacha has continued depreciating against major currency convertibles to hit above the K10.00 per dollar mark in the final week of August.

According to Bank of Zambia data released, Wednesday, the kwacha depreciated by 1.4 per cent against the US dollar to an average K9.89 in the second quarter ending June 30.

However, the local currency maintained a depreciating trend to break the K10.00 per dollar psychological barrier in August to

hit current trading levels of between K10.15 and K10.30 for bid and offer respectively by mid-August.

Hamaundu attributed the recent depreciation of the kwacha to the appreciation of the US dollar against other major currencies following an upward adjustment of interest rates by the US Federal Reserve, America's central bank, which has hiked interest rates twice so far this year, the most recent being in June.

He noted that Zambia's money market remains turbulent and easily affected by external forces.

“You see, our market is turbulent; it's a very difficult market to read. But clearly, one thing we cannot run away from is perhaps the demand for forex has been quite high. And

secondly, the dollar generally, has strengthened against almost all international currencies. It has strengthened against the (SA) rand; the pound; the euro. So, I think what has happened in America is also affecting us here in Zambia. I think in America they have raised interest rates to strengthen their currency. And we are seeing the reflection of that on the kwacha losing strength. So, the main driver really for this depreciation of our currency could be attributed to the appreciation of the American dollar,” Hamaundu told News Diggers! in an interview in Lusaka.

“The bonds could have an effect in two ways. Where there is an option for bonds, if you we have a lot of foreigners coming to buy and invest

in dollars, or to buy these Treasury Bills, you know it will support the supply of foreign exchange, and that could lead to an appreciation of the kwacha. You know, where the bonds have matured, and the investors decide not to re-invest and others take out their money, there could be pressure in terms of demand because if they are foreigners, they would want to convert their kwacha's into dollars; and that could put pressure on the currency and that is how the kwacha could probably be affected.”

BoZ data further noted that the kwacha's depreciation during the second quarter occurred despite the increase in net supply of foreign exchange, mainly from the mining industry.

By Daniel Chansa

The Copperbelt University Joint Stakeholders Unions have resolved not to release the 2018 Sessional results until the Ministry of Higher Education receives their submissions on the need to oust their Vice-Chancellor Naison Ngoma.

The Joint Stakeholder's Unions comprise of the Copperbelt University Senior Administrative, Professional and Technical Staff Union (CUSATSU), Copperbelt University Academics Union (CBUAU) and the Copperbelt University and Allied Workers Union (CBUAUWU).

In a letter dated August 22, 2018 addressed to the Chairperson Copperbelt University Caretaker Committee and Copperbelt University Kitwe, the unions have stated that they

CBU lecturers resume protest against VC, withhold results

will not release the results until the CTC submits recommendations to the Higher Education Minister. "RE:NONRELEASE OF THE 2018 SESSIONAL RESULTS UNTIL CTC SUBMITS RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AD HOC JOINT COMMITTEE TO THE MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION. The above refers. We wish to bring to your attention that the General meeting of the Copperbelt University Joint Stakeholder Unions held on 21st August 2018 resolved that members of staff will not release or upload the 2018 sessional

results until the Copperbelt University Care Taker Committee (CTC) submits RECOMMENDATIONS to the Minister of Higher Education based on the findings of the ad hoc joint committee's report. This has arisen due to the way your Copperbelt University Care Taker Committee (CTC) has handled the report submitted to it by the Joint Ad hoc Committee which you constituted on 4th April 2018 to investigate the allegations of incompetency and maladministration levelled against Prof. Naison Ngoma by the Copperbelt University stakeholder unionized

workers," read the letter. "It is sad to note that your Care Taker Committee has decided to keep the recommendations and report of the Joint Ad hoc Committee as a secret for reasons best known to yourselves despite numerous attempts by the Stakeholder Unions to meet you the Chairperson and the entire CTC to get updates which have proved futile. Sir, as you are aware, you have not updated the Copperbelt University Joint Stakeholder Unions despite the request made by the unions in a letter dated 25th July 2018. In this letter we the stakeholders

Unions requested you to urgently call for a meeting on Tuesday 31st July 2018 to receive the report. From the Ad - hoc joint committee in the presence of all CTC members and quickly call for a meeting to brief the joint stakeholder Copperbelt University unionized workers about the findings of the ad hoc joint committee. Further, on 1st August 2018 we the Stakeholder Union Executives further requested that CTC meets us on Thursday 2nd August 2018 immediately after the scheduled CTC meeting. This was in the spirit of interaction and to clarify

issues that lead to industrial disharmony if not adequately addressed. It was and is our firm understanding and which you are very aware of that the decision by your CTC to constitute a Joint Ad hoc Committee was an indication that the Care Taker Committee had studied the grievances brought before it by us the three Unions and weighed these against section 7 and 8 of part 1 of the Third Schedule of the Higher Education Act No. 4 of 2013."

The unions have stated that no board of examiners will sit until what is lawful is done. "To this effect and for avoidance of doubt, if your Care Taker Committee does not forward recommendations of the ad hoc joint committee's report to the Minister of Higher Education and subsequently the findings are not made known to us the Copperbelt University Stakeholder Unions, the ongoing 2018 Sessional Examination results shall not be released. Consequently, no Board of Examiners will take place until you do what is lawful. The Deans, Directors and Heads of Departments in all the Schools have been copied and should take this as the Unions official position and should not victimise our members for NOT releasing or uploading the 2018 sessional results," read the letter.

Farmer sues Musoma, others over land

By Zondiwe Mbewe

A Lusaka-based farmer has dragged Zambia Republican Party president Wright Musoma, Peter Chanda and other unknown persons to court for illegally grabbing his land.

Aaron Chungu has also sued the Attorney General in place of the Commissioner Lands and Surveyor General.

Chungu is claiming for an order that he is the legal owner of the property, an injunction restraining the defendants from taking possession of the land they have illegally been offered and damages for trespass, mental anguish and inconvenience.

In a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court, August 21, Chungu stated that the first defendant, Peter Chanda, second defendant Musoma, a Lusaka-based politician and the third defendants who were unknown, were recipients of offer letters from the Commissioner of Lands offering them a subdivision of land created out of his property. "The plaintiff is a Lusaka-based farmer and legal owner of real property known as Subdivision No. four of Subdivision 'G' of farm number 4142, Lusaka. The fourth defendant, Attorney General, has been sued instead of the Commissioner Lands and Surveyor General pursuant to Section 12(1) of the State Proceedings Act chapter 71 of the Laws of Zambia," read the statement of claim.

He said he bought the said property sometime in 1996 from one Keith Singumbe Mutupo at K6,000,000, unreleased.

Chungu further stated that upon obtaining the Certificate of Title for the property, he was taken to the site and he immediately began developing it by erecting a perimeter wire fence and building a two-bedroomed structure for his caretaker to live in.

He stated that after some time, his neighbour approached

him and informed him that he had in fact built his structure on their land and that, after verifying this information with the land surveyors, it was established that indeed he had built his structure on his adjoining neighbour's land.

Chungu stated that he moved to his rightful property and begun building his two-roomed caretaker's house inside his property after his neighbour agreed to pay him for the property he had built on his land.

He further stated that he also erected a wire fence around his property and put up a steel gate, which was still standing today although most of the security perimeter wire fence had been vandalized over the years.

Chungu disclosed that after he visited his farm in 2018, he discovered that his property had been subdivided by some surveyor under the instructions of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveyor General's Office.

"On the weekend of June 16 and 17, 2018, the plaintiff visited his farm and found that his property had been subdivided by some surveyor under the instructions of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveyor General's Office. Upon inquiry at the Ministry of Lands, the plaintiff was informed that the Commissioner of Lands re-entered his property on March 21, 2018, after he allegedly failed to make appropriate representations following the registration of the Commissioner of Lands' Intention to re-enter his property in August 2016," read the statement of claim.

He stated that he protested the development and informed the officers in the Commissioner of Lands office that he had not received any notice of the commissioner's intention to re-enter his property.

Chungu stated that when he demanded to see a copy of the letter carrying the

commissioner's notice, the officers of the Ministry of Lands failed to produce the letter, but the ground rate statement for the property showed that the records were now showing that the property belonged to one Aaron Chungu who resides in Chingola.

He averred that the officer's failure for the Ministry of Lands to produce the letter carrying the Commissioners of Land's intention to re-enter his property and the fictitious Chingola address, was a calculated move to fraudulently present a picture to the Commissioner of Lands that he had nothing to say against their intentions to re-enter his property, when he had plenty to say about it.

Chungu stated that he challenged the officers that such a letter had never been delivered to him, but the officers changed their story and informed him that he had failed to develop his property in accordance with the lease terms and conditions.

He stated that after three officers from the Ministry of Lands visited the site, they saw for themselves what

was on the ground, namely; the new beacons, which were conveniently placed inside the existing beacons to conveniently exclude the structure and the gate, both built by the plaintiff, so as to portray a picture that these were not part of the developments of his property.

Chungu stated that despite the visit, no action had been taken to get the Commissioner of Lands to reverse his decision to re-enter and subdivide his land and offer it to the first, second and third defendants without affording him an opportunity to be heard on his intention. He averred that other than complying with the lease terms and conditions, he had also been paying ground rates over the years with the result that the Commissioner of Lands had no legal basis to re-enter his land.

Chungu stated that some unnamed individuals who had been offered subdivisions of his land had even started uprooting his poles and beacons showing the boundary of his property.

He lamented that he had suffered loss, great anguish,

mental distress and had been subjected to humiliation and inconvenience.

"In spite of repeated reminders from the plaintiff to the defendants to stop the illegal land grab they had engaged in, the defendants had continued to harass the plaintiff by repeatedly and wrongly entering his land at will resulting in his losing income as he cannot deal with his land as he wishes because of unwanted disturbances on his property," read the statement of claim.

Chungu is claiming for an order and declaration that he is the legal owner of the property and an order that the notice of intention to re-enter and the certificate of re-entry registered against the property were fraudulently, illegally and unlawfully processed and are, therefore, null and void.

He is further claiming for an injunction restraining the defendants from taking possession of the land they have illegally been offered or allocated, damages for trespass, damage for mental anguish and inconvenience, costs and other relief.

DEC nabs 3 farmers for cultivating cannabis

By Abraham Kalito

The Drug Enforcement Commission (DEC) in Muchinga Province has arrested three small-scale farmers and four persons in Lusaka for unlawful cultivation of fresh cannabis plants weighing over 700kg and trafficking in heroin respectively.

DEC public relations officer Theresa Katongo stated that the suspects are currently in police custody and will appear in court soon.

"The DEC in Muchinga Province has arrested three small-scale farmers for

unlawful cultivation of fresh cannabis plants weighing over 700kg. Chibesa Lungu, 32, a small-scale farmer of Zoole village in Chama District has been arrested and jointly charged with Mike Lungu, 44, a small-scale farmer of the same abode for unlawful cultivation of fresh cannabis plants weighing 415kg and dry loose cannabis weighing 26kg. Also arrested is Patrick Nkowani, 33, a small-scale farmer of Chama District in Muchinga Province for unlawful cultivation of fresh cannabis plants weighing 315kg and Chiza Miti, 32, of Tom Village in Chasefu District

for unlawful cultivation of fresh cannabis plants intercropped with tomatoes weighing 27kg," stated Katongo.

"Meanwhile, the Commission in Lusaka has arrested and jointly charged Adrian Mwanza, 23, and Frank Sichula, 23, of Chaisa compound for trafficking in 56 sachets of heroin. Others arrested and jointly charged include: Boniface Lemba, 28, of Matero Township and Richard Mambwe, 21, of George compound for trafficking in 24 sachets of heroin. All suspects are currently in police custody and will appear in court soon."

We were convinced with almost absolute certainty that the exchange of insults between State House Press Aide Amos Chanda and the opposition NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili was as a result of one of them having too much to drink, or perhaps waking up on the thorny side of the bed.

How else would one explain that kind of speech without any intoxicating influence? That is why when we read the exchange between the top ranking government official and the highly influential political figure, we concluded that it was a regrettable incident that would be followed up with a lot of remorse.

We have to be very frank and sincere in this opinion by stating that we took a sympathetic position towards Mr Chanda because we felt; like any other human being bound to error, he had failed to control his emotions and landed himself in awful waters.

We imagined Mr Chanda explaining himself to President Edgar Lungu what was going through his mind for him to utter those remarks against Mr Kambwili. We felt sorry because we imagined the punishment that President Lungu was going to mete out on him for disgracing the decorum of State House.

But we were very wrong. Just a day after the publication of the exchange of insults, we woke up to a supplement of vulgar coming from State House. Not only was Mr Chanda adding worse insults; but he was

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

Diggers! is published by NEWS DIGGERS MEDIA LTD
Temp 8, Alex Chola Road, Nyumba Yanga, Lusaka.
PO Box, 32147. Cell: +26077122344/0965815078
Email: editor@diggers.news/mukosha@diggers.news

To advertise in the Diggers! ePaper or website:
Call +260953424603/+26077122344 or
Email: advertising@diggers.news or visit us at
Temp 8, Alex Chola Road, Nyumba Yanga, Lusaka.

Lungu is insulting, Sumaili is smiling

actually bold enough to call Mr Kambwili so that he could tell off the “stupid stinky rabid dog” that he was ready for a fight.

Now, we credit Mr Chanda for being pompous and arrogant; and many people who held his position before were not any different. We also know that he likes to refer to people who piss him off as buffoons, but he doesn't suit this extent of insulting language. This tongue he has exhibited is probably known to his family and very close friends, not the general public.

This might also be the very first time that the citizens of Zambia are hearing that kind of language from the presidency, without any consequences. Many things are said within State House, but what actually goes out to the public is usually sieved to ensure that the presidency

maintains its sobriety and dignified decorum. It seems that principle has been suspended, and that is what is bothering us.

We hardly care about Mr Kambwili because he is not in government anymore. He can live any life he chooses and sin at will if it pleases him. Those who feel insulted by the member of parliament are also free to drag him to court. In fact, we have said this before that we agree with those who feel Mr Kambwili is bitter because he was removed from government. Many wrong things that he is pointing at today are those that he defended when he was on the payroll as Chief Government Spokesperson.

But when he calls President Edgar Lungu a thief, a pompwe; regardless of the language he uses, the solution is not to insult him back but to arrest him for Defamation of the

President. That is what everyone is waiting for.

We have said before that if President Lungu is innocent, let the police arrest Honourable Kambwili, charge him and make him prove his allegations that President Lungu is a thief. Let him go and point at what the Head of State has stolen. Failure to do this will only encourage more Zambians to conclude that their President is a criminal because he has failed to challenge his accuser.

That said, we are now convinced that State House has instead resolved to retaliate with insults. We have now realised that there was no mistake made in the first place. This was all well calculated and planned. It has dawned on us that Mr Chanda was not drunk after all when he wrote to Mr Kambwili, and neither is he regretting any of the words he used. The

fact that he could boldly repeat his insults shows that the State House official is insulting in his official capacity.

This now raises two cardinal questions. Is Mr Chanda acting on instructions from the Head of State? We say this because we know that Mr Chanda has a lot of respect for President Lungu and he would not do anything that attracts ridicule on the Principal. Like he has told us himself; when he goes on TV to talk about government policy and to respond to opposition critics, it is President Lungu who sends him.

Are we wrong then to take it that President Lungu tasked Mr Chanda to insult Honourable Kambwili? Is this our President speaking through his spokesperson? Considering that we have not heard our Head of State reprimand his advisor, we will then conclude

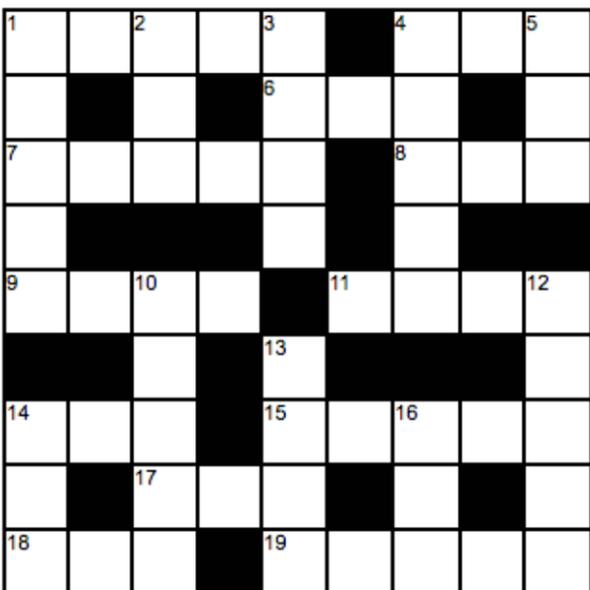
that President Lungu has finally responded to Honourable Kambwili.

With that in mind, the next question begging an answer is; where is Rev Godfridah Sumaili, the Minister in charge of National Guidance and Religious Affairs. Where is the God servant chosen to inculcate morality in the people of Zambia? Why is she silent? Is it because it is her boss and her employer who is insulting? Why is madam Godfridah hesitant to come in the open and condemn this language?

Madam Reverend, remember you were asking the people of Zambia, through Parliament, to approve a budget for your activities. You said you would travel the breadth and width of this country to preach the importance of morals and values that define us as a people of Zambia. What do you have to say about this collapse of morals right inside State House? Is this our new national identity?

Abusa, show some relevance here. Prove to the people of Zambia that you are not just drinking free tea and drawing taxpayers' money at the month end without working for it. This is the first real challenge for you. Gather your courage and call Mr Chanda; ask him what is going on and then come back to the people of Zambia with an explanation. You accepted to be the judge of morality in this country and now your Creator is speaking to your conscience. Are you serving Lungu or Mulungu?

Crossword puzzle 171



“To be of good quality, you have to excuse yourself from the presence of shallow and callow minded individuals”
- Michael Bassej Johnson

Across

- 1. Road imperfections
- 4. Upper limb
- 6. Chicken lays it
- 7. Pizza topping
- 8. Possess
- 9. Parrot
- 11. Write with a keyboard
- 14. Sticky stuff
- 15. Time ____ Time: repeatedly
- 17. Pig home
- 18. Round baked dessert
- 19. Not so crazy

Down

- 1. Penniless
- 2. Me (French)
- 3. Appear to be
- 4. Severe suffering
- 5. Not a woman
- 10. Farm animal
- 12. Screw up
- 13. Picks up the tab
- 14. Service gratuity
- 16. Darken skin

Solutions to puzzle 170



Reader's feedback

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.

Mwanawasa's legacy

Editor,
"We miss him! Someone was a lawyer and suddenly has become "civil engineer". Unlike Mwanawasa, he is more obsessed with construction at the expense of law and order. That's why the country has been turned into a "construction site". Former First Lady Maureen Mwanawasa says her late husband, Levy, was obsessed with law and order because he understood that without

it society would become brutal and ungovernable. The country has witnessed a lot in terms of lawlessness where by political PF party carders have become more powerful than police, they have captured markets and bus stations, which used to be run by councils as a sources of revenue." - Martin Nyanjagha

"The only president who had a personal plan on how to govern! This man was God-sent in truth. He was a decent human being who was very real and simple! He gave us our dignity back!" - Joel Saniko Moonga

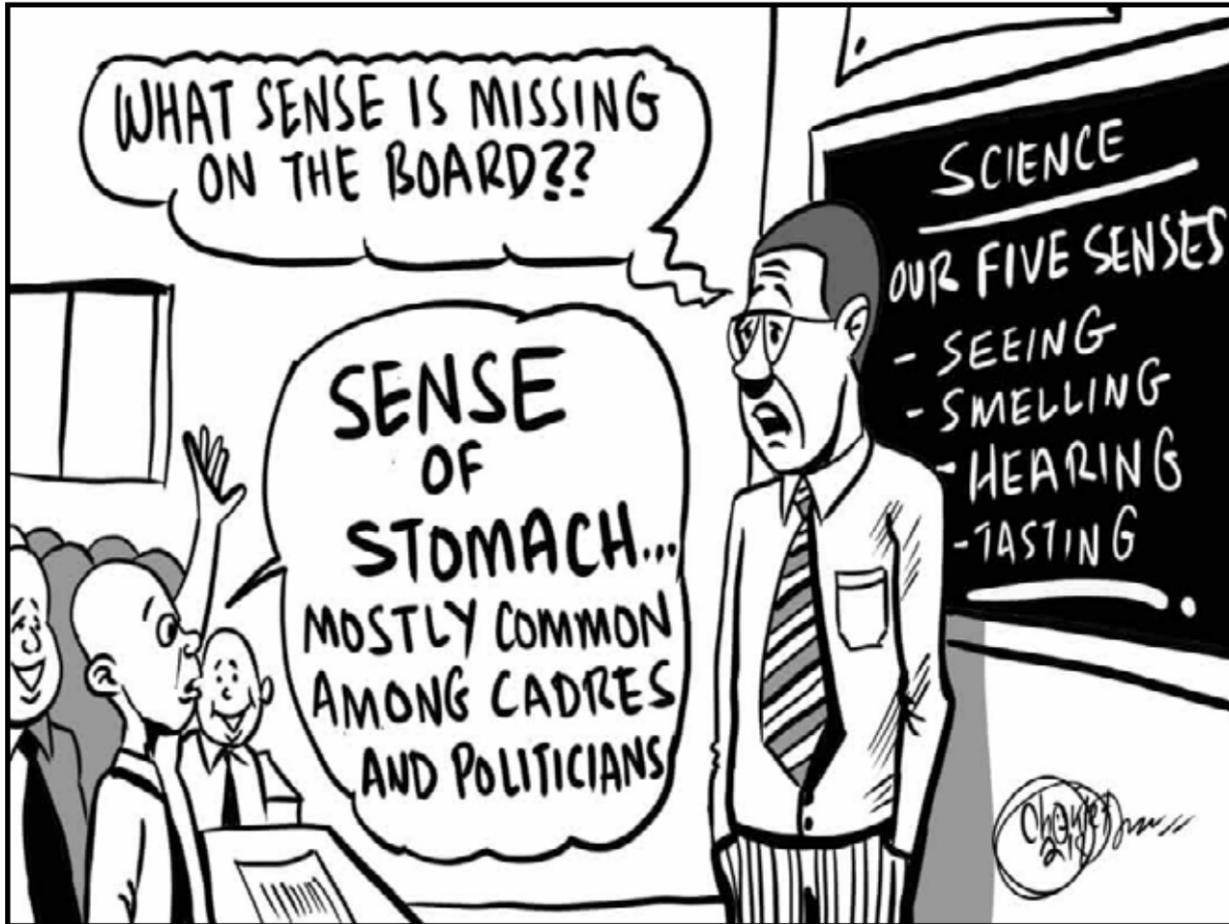
"One wonders if Lungu is truly a lawyer...or is it the other person who was? We expect him to use his law skills to promote rule of law and not what we have seen." - Boaz Chali

"Back in the day when Levy was in office we did not appreciate him. We didn't see it then, but his government was doing things and making decisions meant to benefit all Zambians. Debt was paid off, the Kwacha was doing very well against other currencies and his keep Zambia clean campaign improved the health of the entire population. Cabbage we called him, but he was a great man who focused of fighting corruption in his own government instead of targetting political opponents. If only we had appreciated his leadership then, we wouldn't be in such a mess today." - Rita Miyanda

"Instead of fighting corruption, the current regime is preoccupied with getting rich through dubious contracts from the Chinese, infiltrating the opposition by bribing cadres to defect leaving nobody to run the affairs of the country. The PF is so scared of losing power that they no longer care about the welfare of citizens." - Mutinta Mulonda

"Levy wasn't an angel and he had his flaws, but he's by far the best president we have ever had. RIP, big man." - Hilary Ngosa Ngoma

"Now, we have moved from prosperity to poverty due to corruption and lack of rule of law. The man was right. May his soul rest in peace." - Rhodes Chipengu



RTSA's insistence on not waiving traffic fines

Dear Editor,
"I am not surprised. It is too much money they have made in a short period to let go. How can they let go when they have already gotten tuloba and bought plots in advance?" - Kaingu Wakung'uma

"This man has abrogated the law for hiding those cameras and that's day light theft..." - Benjamin Kajoba

"Thieves...Hiding cameras on unmarked speed limit roads just to steal from its citizens... shame; it's more money out of our pockets for real..." - Dillon Mayangwa

"So, it's true that the government is broke such that the only way they think of raising money is through

taxing the people." - Wamu Simate

"It's a requirement by law to put a warning sign at any place where there are cameras (hidden or not). Good example, CCTV cameras in installed in various buildings." - Tresford Kaunda

"Lawyers, can you please assess whether this can be a good case for those who were fined before the RTSA put up the necessary road signs." - Jayc Mak

"How I wish we had an opposition party that can come up with a leader who can see and talk like Sata, and bring the wind of change (MHSRTP)." - Michael Singoyi

Zambians to get new "electronic passports"

Editor,
"Money-making venture for the government, the over-priced green passport is not even 10 years old and you want to bring in another?" - Prisca Bwalya Mutale

"We were changing passports recently, what was the point?" - Geoffrey Chiwaya

"Ba mbuli imwe. Just say you want money. Next it will be driver's licence, immigration permits, tittle deeds etc." - Andie Mubita

"They should be talking about Visa-free travels nothing is going to change here except to loot more money from us." - Jonathan Katandula

"Tax in disguise; PF govt too broke, next they will postpone 2021 general elections, citing lack of funds." - Kenneth Toza

"And when are NRCs getting modernised? They are so old-fashioned, no wonder foreigners can get them easily because they are not computer-based." - Paul Bwalya

"Dr Guy Scott said Zambians will sweat blood under Chagwa. How prophetic!" - Micky Jericho Nsangwe

"It's interesting how everything the PF does involves citizens spending more and more money. There are no plans to increase the countries productivity just plans to such the life out of the poor people." - Maria Langa

Zimbabwe's Constitutional Court will Wednesday hear an opposition petition seeking to overturn the presidential election result, in a legal challenge seen as unlikely to succeed despite allegations of vote fraud.

The Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) has accused the ruling ZANU-PF party and the election commission of rigging the July 30 vote,

Zimbabwe top court hears appeal against election result

Zimbabwe's first poll since the ousting of Robert Mugabe last year. Mugabe's successor,

Emmerson Mnangagwa, won with 50.8 percent of the vote -- just enough to avoid a run-off against the MDC's

Nelson Chamisa, who scored 44.3 percent.

"We have a very strong case and we are going to reverse

the electoral fraud," Chamisa told reporters this week.

"We are going to defend your vote, our vote, the people's vote. We have no doubt that victory is certain."

Mnangagwa, who has vowed to turn around Zimbabwe's ruined economy, hoped the elections would draw a line under Mugabe's repressive 37-year rule.

The election campaign was more open than previous votes, but was marred by the army opening fire on protesters, killing six, allegations of vote-rigging and a crackdown on opposition activists.

"I won the court case before it began," Mnangagwa said on the sidelines of a regional summit in Namibia at the weekend. "It's declared free and fair... why would I ever think that I will lose?"

- Biased courts? -

Senior ZANU-PF legal representative Patrick Chinamasa ridiculed the MDC's legal bid.

"Just as you cannot give life to a dead horse, even the best lawyers in the world cannot give life to a hopeless case," he said in a statement. "To those who voted for Chamisa, I ask you to gracefully accept defeat so that the country can move on."

The MDC has cited a catalogue of irregularities and discrepancies including more people voting at some polling stations than were registered.

The case, presided over by nine judges at the country's top court, will be broadcast live on state television. A ruling is expected by Friday.

Derek Matyszak, a legal expert at the University of Zimbabwe, said the opposition faced an uphill struggle given the courts' historic tilt towards ZANU-PF, which has ruled since independence from British colonial rule in 1980.

"The outcome is pretty predictable," Matyszak told AFP. "There is absolutely no chance of the election results being overturned."

"The judiciary (is) perceived to be partisan. Once the ruling is made, Chamisa will accuse it of bias and try to make political capital out of it."

The MDC's appeal, which was lodged hours before the deadline on August 10, has already forced Mnangagwa's inauguration -- planned for August 12 -- to be postponed.

International monitors largely praised the conduct of the election itself, although EU observers said that Mnangagwa, a former long-time Mugabe ally, benefited from an "un-level playing field".

The court could declare a winner, call another election, or order a run-off or recount.

The inauguration should take place within 48 hours of the court's ruling, according to the constitution.

N Korea's Kim condemns own country's health sector



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has denounced his own country's health services, state media reported Tuesday, criticising officials for being "very idle and irresponsible". Impoverished and isolated North Korea, which is subject to multiple sets of UN Security Council sanctions over its pursuit of nuclear weapons, suffers from chronic food shortages and inadequate health services according to international aid agencies.

Hospitals lack medicines, equipment, and trained staff.

While Pyongyang regularly proclaims its desire to provide its people with a better life, Kim roundly condemned its health system on a visit to a medical devices factory.

Some sectors "have made remarkable leaps forward in recent years" Kim said according to the official Korean Central News Agency, "but the public health sector has never done so and become more and more passive".

"There is no unit keeping its environment well in the public health sector, to say nothing of equipment modernisation," he added at the Myohyangsan Medical Appliances Factory. Such "field guidance" visits by the leader are the mainstay of the North's state media output, and a key part of the authorities' domestic messaging, sometimes lauding the quality of projects and sometimes criticising officials.

The ruling Workers' Party had stressed the need to improve health services, but "officials are very idle and irresponsible in doing so", Kim said according to KCNA.

In the Korean-language version, he berated them for "hibernating for a long time", adding: "Animals only hibernate once a year but the health sector has been holed up and hibernating for years and shouting empty slogans." Since his summit with US President Donald Trump in Singapore in June, Kim has stressed a focus on economic development, visiting industrial sites and factories across the nation.

In this year's "needs and priorities" assessment of North Korea, the UN Development Programme described its healthcare services as "inadequate", with a "lack of essential medical equipment, pharmaceutical remedies, appropriate referral systems, therapeutic equipment and assistive devices, as well as limited professional capacity".

"Furthermore, health infrastructure is poor with many [facilities] having inconsistent water, electricity and

heating," it added.

North Korea has called for an end to sanctions against it, while the US has urged the international community to maintain a tough approach until its complete denuclearisation.

Following several ballistic missile launches and by far the North's most powerful nuclear test last year, Kim declared the development of its atomic capabilities complete and said economic development was the new priority. *AFP*

Uganda army apologises for beating journalists

Uganda's army has made a rare apology after soldiers were caught on film beating up a journalist who was covering a demonstration supporting detained MP Bobi Wine on Monday.

Other journalists were also beaten as they were reporting on the protests.

An army statement described the soldiers' conduct as "unprofessional" and said they would be arrested.

There has been political tension in Uganda after Wine, and four opposition MPs, were arrested last week.

Wine, who was a well-known musician before being elected an independent MP last year, is leading possibly the first major popular movement against President Yoweri Museveni by young people, says the BBC's Catherine Byaruhanga.

Most Ugandans alive today were not yet born when Mr Museveni came to

power in 1986.

Earlier, New York-based Human Rights Watch called on the Ugandan police and military to stop attacks on the media and respect the rights of all protesters.

In footage shared online, Reuters photojournalist James Akena can be seen being beaten with a stick by two soldiers on a street in the capital, Kampala.

The beating carried on even after Mr Akena put his hands up and fell to his knees.

"The behaviour of the police or the security personnel has never been this way, so it is difficult to tell why this time round they have taken this new trend," Mr Akena told BBC Focus on Africa radio.

On Monday one person was killed and more than 100 arrested.

Last week, two journalists were arrested

as they reported live from the northern town of Arua, where Wine's driver was killed during a bitterly contested by-election, which was won by one of the MP's allies, Kassiano Wadri.

Human Rights Watch says the beating and arresting of journalists is evidence the Ugandan authorities want to cover up the conduct of the security forces.

In a statement, the army says it is committed to having a "strong partnership" with journalists.

Wine, whose real name is Robert Kyagulanyi, remains in detention and is due to appear before a military court on Thursday on charges of unlawfully possessing firearms.

His family allege he has been severely assaulted in custody, but the military, which is holding the MP, denies this.

President Museveni has dismissed the reports that Wine had suffered serious injuries as "fake news".

The five-time Ballon d'Or winner says that people around him like to see him dressed well and that it is an important part of modern culture

Cristiano Ronaldo has laughed off the assertion that he is "obsessed" by fashion but he does pay attention to the little details that can make him look better.

The Portugal superstar, who signed for Juventus this summer from Real Madrid, has various clothing brands covering everything from underwear to denim, but though he says that small details are important, he is not overly concerned by how he looks.

Speaking on his unveiling as DAZN's Global Ambassador, he was asked if he especially likes to get dressed up for big events.

"Not really. I don't believe I'm obsessed by looking good. I look good because I am," the 33-year-old said, laughing, before adding, "I'm joking!"

"I think everything's important to look good, to smell good. You know, it's not just women.

"The ladies like to see you dressed well - my girlfriend likes it, my mum, my sisters, everyone around me likes seeing people smartly dressed.

"Men or women, it's part of our culture. So it's good. It's not an obsession, but a detail here or a detail there makes the difference in my opinion."

Ronaldo, meanwhile, admitted that Juventus' fans played a huge part in luring him to Turin after nine years in the Spanish capital, where he enjoyed Champions League success on four occasions.

It was an overhead kick against the Serie A

Cristiano Ronaldo: I look good because I am!

champions that acted as a catalyst for him to move to Italy in the summer, with the five-time Ballon d'Or winner impressed by how his strike was greeted by the Juve fans.

Furthermore, he also lifted the lid on his hopes that his son, Cristiano Jr., might one day follow in his footsteps and become a professional footballer.

"He has a good body, he's fast, he has skills, he can shoot, but as you know he's going to make his decision and he's so young, I'm not going to pressure him. But that is of course a dream, to see my boy a football player," he admitted.

Ronaldo made his competitive debut for Juventus in a Serie A clash with Chievo last Saturday, in which his side claimed a dramatic 3-2 success. *Goal.com*



Green Eagles basketball struggle in super league

By Alex Chilumbwe

Green Eagles basketball club is likely to use a shorter route back to the B league as life in the super league has proved challenging. The

club has played five games and lost all of them despite their defensive name.

The Zambia National Service (ZNS) sponsored outfit got promoted to the

super league this season after finishing second in last year's B league games. The side has had no win since the start of their super league journey. In an interview

with Goal Diggers! Coach of the side Aggrey Kapalamata had views about the perpetual losses he was repeatedly recording. "I have young players who are

capable of delivering but they are still not conversant with endurance and keeping composure. They play well although there is a little bit of selfishness among them.

This is their first experience in the super league so they don't understand their failure to hold on to lead. In some games, they would lead through to the last six minutes of the last quarter and totally lose it. I know my obligation before me so I got homework to do with them. I know there are others that may laugh at us and I understand because they have no close relationship with my boys. It would be sad to go back to the B league just after one season," said Kapalamata.

The Midlands basketball league demands top two teams in the B league be promoted to the super league while the bottom two in the super league are pushed to the B league. In the 2017 season, Green Eagles and Bulldogs were promoted to the super league while Heroes and Blazers were demoted to the B league.

Barclays dangles K2.4 mn for trophy

By Alex Chilumbwe

Barclays Bank has this year invested K2.4 million for various activities involved in this year's 12th edition of the Barclays Cup that will kickoff on 25th September. And the bank has revealed it has made a generous top-up on the prize money for the winners of the tournament and other prizes involved in the tournament.

Speaking to the media in Lusaka yesterday, Barclays Bank managing director Mizinga Melu said the increased amounts for the prizes was a deliberate move aimed at boosting competition in the prestigious tournament, as well as the bank's mandatory citizenship empowerment programmes. "I'm pleased to announce that the prize money for the winner this year will be K400 000 as opposed to last year's K350 000. Runners-up have also been given a reasonable top-

up from K180 000 to K200 000. The coach of the tournament and the player of the tournament will both get K15 000 while a man of the match will win K5000 and a hospital cash plan that will cater to four extended family members. Our decision to increase the prize monies is very much based on the feedback that the community and our working partners gave us. They asked for big and we have given the tournament just that," boasted Melu.

The managing director also revealed the bank had decided to elevate the financial literacy programme that equipped footballers with knowledge of life after football. "We have been conducting financial literacy programmes for players involved in each edition of the tournament but this year we have decided to make it a nationwide programme. We know players

make a lot of money through this sport but realized they did not have enough knowledge of investment. They have to be able to live a decent life from their earnings and be able to support their families. And because we know how important that is, we decided to involve every football player by spreading the financial literacy programme across the country. By next year, a lot of footballers would have benefited from it," Melu assured.

She also revealed the tournament would next year be called the Absa Premiere Cup, a uniform name with the South African one who made the transition at the time Barclays Bank became a member of the Absa group.

And speaking at the same occasion, Sports Minister Moses Mawere said the improvement of the tournament's prizes were evidence corporate bodies had the capability

to improve sports in the country. "This is the way sports grows. Players will be highly motivated and the competitiveness of the tournament will be doubled. It is also worth to note that there are division one clubs that have been included in the tournament which is more reason people should support this tournament. Unrecognized talent will be seen from this," Mawere noted.

The minister said this in a speech read on his behalf by the ministry permanent secretary John Kapembwa.

The first games of the tournament will be on 25th September with the first game being Real Nakonde Vs Mufulira Wanderers at Nkoloma stadium while the second one will be between Young Green Buffaloes Vs Manchester United Zambia Soccer Academy at 13:00hrs and 15:00hrs in that order.



RHINO DOOR
BUILT • AFRICA • TOUGH

Suppliers of Trellis Gates Clear Burglar Bars
9 Parliament Road Olympia, Lusaka, Zambia
Contact details
0979469397 0977817602

Torres scores first Sagan Tosu goal in Iniesta reunion



Fernando Torres came off the bench to score his first goal for Sagan Tosu on Wednesday, breaking his duck for the J.League club.

Torres went seven league appearances without scoring for the club he joined after his Atletico Madrid contract ran out at the end of the 2017-18 season.

Sagan were already in front when substitute Torres made sure of his side's progression by tucking in a sweet low finish after brilliant play on the wing from Akito Fukuta.

Iniesta did not start the tie either, but the Barcelona icon has had a more successful start to life in the J.League than Torres.

The 34-year-old has already scored twice for his new club, with Vissel Kobe fourth in the table, while Torres' Sagan languish in 16th.

"Today is a very special day, after all these years and so many great moments together we meet again in Japan," Iniesta wrote on Twitter. "So happy to see you again, my friend, I wish you all the best."

Torres also marked the reunion with his former international team-mate on social media.

"Football leaves you these good moments, we started playing together at 15 years old in the national team," Torres posted on Instagram alongside a series of snaps of himself and Iniesta.

"We have shared some of the best moments in our careers and today we return to see each other in Japan. Always to pleasure to see you my friend." *Goal.com*



Thailand's Pornchai Kaokaew (left) in action against Malaysia during the men's sepak takraw final at the Asian Games in Palembang yesterday - AFP

Guardiola proud to work with 'special' Kompany



Guardiola described Vincent Kompany as "something special" as the Manchester City captain celebrated the 10th anniversary of his arrival at the club.

The 32-year-old has struggled with injuries since Guardiola arrived at City, making just 28 Premier League appearances in the Spanish coach's first two seasons at the helm.

"When one guy is with the same club for 10 years it's because he is something special," he told CityTV.

"So you have to be so proud like I am to work with you this period. Now will be our third year - thank you so much."

Kompany's team-mates joined the celebration of his decade at City, with Claudio Bravo saying: "Very few players have the privilege, to have a career like you have, with this club."

Benjamin Mendy added: "You were born with this club!"

"You are a great guy, a good man, a good captain with a lot of experience." *Goal.com*

BARCLAYS DANGLES

page 11

K2.4M FOR TROPHY

