



PSMD's fear for Sikazwe, Kaizer, Munir explains govt confusion

THINGS FALL

APART IN PF - CK

By Mirriam Chabala

Chishimba Kambwili says Public Service Management Division (PSMD) Permanent Secretary Boniface Chimwali must be fired for instructing his Northern Province counterpart Elias Kamanga to exculpate himself to a State House civil servant and a PF cadres.

In a recorded phone conversation, Chimwali was heard blasting Northern Province PS Elias Kamanga for suspending his deputy without permission from him and further revealed that he was under pressure from Freedom Sikazwe, Kaizer Zulu and PF cadre Munir Zulu. **To page 5**



Theft accused magistrate Maggie Tantameni talks to lawyer Keith Mweemba after appearing in court yesterday - Picture by Zondiwe Mbewe

FRA fails to purchase targeted 500,000 tonnes of maize grain

By Abraham Kalito

The Food Reserve Agency (FRA) says it won't manage to purchase the targeted 500,000 metric tonnes of maize this crop marketing season, but insists that the country will be food secure because it already has 300,000 tonnes of the commodity in stock.

And the FRA has so far closed down 60 satellite depots, which were inactive across the country due to the unavailability of maize. In an interview with News Diggers! in Lusaka, FRA

board chairperson Joe Simachela said the agency has so far purchased only 170,000 metric tonnes of

maize and would not reach its usual 500,000 metric tonnes target as maize was inaccessible. **To page 6**

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Businessman in court for altering age on NRC to get benefits quickly

By Zondiwe Mbewe
A 49-year-old businessman of Lusaka's Kamwala area identified as Daniel Kapakala has appeared in the Lusaka Magistrates' Court for fraudulently altering his age on the NRC to 50 years to qualify for getting his benefits ahead of time. However, Magistrate Nsunge Chanda has ordered that the accused be remanded in custody, and has further enhanced his bail conditions to K10,000 in own recognize with two working sureties in the like sum, after he informed the court that he had actually received the said benefits when a chief security officer at National Pension Scheme Authority (NAPSA) had told the court otherwise. In this matter, Kapakala is charged with one count of

uttering false documents and had pleaded not guilty. It is alleged that Kapakala on July, 2018, in Lusaka, knowingly and fraudulently, did alter a document namely a claim form for Zambia National Provident Fund and a certified copy of his NRC. When the matter came up before Magistrate Chanda for trial, Tuesday, a chief security officer at NAPSA Augustine Chishimba, 43, testified that between October, 2017, and January this year, the authority received a number of names of people claiming their benefits, and it was discovered that most of them had altered their age to qualify for them. "Between October, 2017, and January, 2018, the authority received a number of names by people who were claiming

their benefits, which we discovered were fraudulent as most were altering their age to qualify them to get their benefits. I started to obtain all the NRCs for people who were not qualified to get their benefits. The qualification age is 50 for those claiming benefits," Chishimba narrated. He said that in June this year, he visited NAPSA's Society House office where he discovered two NRCs, which had been altered, one belonging to the accused and the other one to a Mr Henry. "In respect of the case today, on June 25, 2018, I went to Society House office where I instructed the people who were working on the front desks to give me NRCs for those who came to claim, but were under-age. On that

particular day, two copies of NRC were retrieved, one for the accused who was 49 years, and the other one for a Mr Henry who was 48 years," he added. Chishimba testified that after collecting the NRCs, he told the customer management services to inform him whenever these two names brought their claims. He further testified that in July, he received information that Kapakala had taken his claims and, when he perused through the claim forms, he discovered that Kapakala had altered his age from 49 to 50 years. "On July 17, 2018, whilst at Levy Business Park where the Head Office for NAPSA is located, I received information from customer service that one of the

names, Daniel, had filed their claims. When I collected the claim file and perused through and compared the NRC I had obtained earlier in June with the latest one, to my amazement, on the claim forms the accused had indicated that he was 50 years, and on the NRC I noticed that there was an alteration on the date of birth," Chishimba disclosed. He further testified that when Kapakala was interviewed, he admitted that his real age was 49 and that it was his friend who helped him claim. He said the matter was then reported to Central Police, adding that altering documents was a big problem to the institution. However, when Kapakala was told by the court to ask the witness questions, he asked Chishimba whether NAPSA had paid him his benefits.

it was due to him. She informed him that another charge would be added to his already existing one. "...Which makes the case worse that you have received the money. Meaning the charge which is there, they will include another charge that you have received the money yet you are not 50 years," Magistrate Chanda said. In his defence, Kapakala asked for forgiveness, saying he thought that NAPSA had sat and agreed on his payment. Magistrate Chanda, however, informed Kapakala, who was on police bond, that he would not go home because he would now be remanded in custody. She said Kapakala could have informed NAPSA when he received the money. "NAPSA has to know that you received the money, this one you are not going home. I need your sureties here because you already received the money because you could have gone to NAPSA when you received the money. [I'm sure] you are even regretting to show the court the message," she said. Magistrate Chanda further enhanced Kapakala's bail conditions to K10,000 in own recognize with two working sureties in the like sum. The matter has been adjourned to October 23 for continuation of trial.



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Headman faces arrest for failure to show up in court

By Zondiwe Mbewe
The Lusaka Magistrates' Court has ordered a 43-year-old headman of Shibuyunji District to appear in court on October 17 for sentencing in a matter where he's charged with one count of assaulting a 57-year-old woman or he risks being arrested. Wellington Habenzu is alleged to have beaten the woman with a stick, injuring her left leg and leaving her with a swollen shoulder and chest pains after suspecting her of killing his pregnant cow. Habenzu was found guilty of assaulting Lucia Mweenga by Principal Resident Magistrate David Simusamba and is on police bond. However, since his conviction, Habenzu has never appeared in court for sentencing. And when the case came up for sentencing before Magistrate Simusamba, Wednesday, Habenzu was again not present in court. His representative explained to the court that he had a bereavement, hence his failure to show up. However, Magistrate Simusamba threatened to put him on warrant if he again failed to appear at the next session. "If he doesn't come on October 17, he will be put on warrant," warned Magistrate Simusamba. And speaking after the court session, the complainant's relatives argued that the accused did not have any bereavement, it was just a tactic to miss court. They added that they saw him outside the court premises in his vehicle.

PF Zambia’s worst tragedy – Kambole

By Mirriam Chabala
Kalabo central UPND member of parliament Harry Kamboni has charged that allowing the Patriotic Front to govern Zambia was the country’s worst tragedy. And Kamboni says he was shocked to hear Minister of Finance Margaret Mwanakatwe announcing a new tax on powdered milk for infants when she is also a woman. Debating the K86.6 billion 2019

budget presented to Parliament by the Minister of Finance on September 28th, 2018, Kambole said the country would lose more assets if the PF government continued to acquire loans. “Corruption has been really costly to this country. We are all suffering now because all these loans were gotten illegally. I have consulted very seasoned professors in law and they have said these loans are supposed to pass through the

Parliament, which they didn’t do. They get the loans secretly and everyone is being made to pay back. We are taxing people and these taxes are not coming back to Zambia, it’s going to China and other countries. This budget Mr Speaker is China one, Chambia one. Our local lending institutions are now burdened, it’s too much. The government has borrowed too much even from local lenders, to a point where now some of

them are suffocating. If you go anywhere [people are saying] ‘the government owes me so much, I haven’t gotten my money from the government. And social responsibilities in this government are all gone, we have just learnt that University of Zambia will be cut and put into parts, and who are going to do the other [things]? The Chinese! NRDC is sold to who? The Chinese! ZNBC is no longer ours, even Kenneth Kaunda International Airport will be taken,” Kambole said. “And when I look at this debt plan here of getting another loan when we are so bad at paying back, getting another loan to pay interest, then I see us losing a lot of institutions. The questions is, what did the PF government come for? I think the worst tragedy for Zambia was to allow the PF to come to government. It has brought misery, it has brought confusion, they use deviant rule on things that are straight forward. You don’t pay students their allowances, what do you expect them to do? How will they complain? Then when they come you say ‘it’s that man there because he doesn’t like me’. I think we need to be more serious than that. We need to be very serious. The

Kwacha has gone down because of loans, things have gone up because of these loans. Everything now it is loan first and then country second. You can’t run the country like that. In a normal country I think we should have called for early elections because surely the PF government, whether we like it or not has failed on how to run this country. They should call for a workshop and we will give them ideas.” Kambole said his party, just like many other Zambians did not support the 2019 national budget because it was destroying the country. “As UPND we don’t support this budget, from Kalomo central, we don’t! And even Zambians don’t support this budget because it is destroying us, leaving us naked. Let me now go to taxes Mr Speaker, the purpose of taxes is to offer service. Not where you tax people, you send money outside the country. All the tax that we are paying now, it’s going to China and all those we are owing. So what am I paying tax for? This is supposed to offer services in schools, it is supposed to offer services in hospitals and it is supposed to offer services to the police. But because you don’t have

money, you employ cadres who will shoot innocent women. What kind of people are those who will throw a [teargas] cannister in a university that they didn’t build? I have never seen buildings being burnt by the same people who are supposed to protect you and when it happens they say ‘it must be that one in the opposition’. When the Kwacha goes down, it’s the opposition. We must learn to face reality!” exclaimed Kambole. “Face reality and solve problems, that’s why we are there in leadership. Leadership is not about roses. Mr Speaker, I was shocked. I was hoping that this budget being done by our mother, it would consider the fate of children. Children who are born in prison are not given any share by this government. They have to depend on their mothers and in circumstances where the mother is HIV positive, the child will depend on donated milk. How could you put tax on powered milk? The PF are even destroying children, this milk is eaten by children so how do you put tax on milk? What is the motive? Honestly we can’t feel pity that children should grow well? That is the responsibility of leadership, but we put in tax.”



Electoral Commission Of Zambia Commissioner, Ambassador Ali Simwinda with Mr Henry Ngilazi Charge d’Affaires at the Zambian Embassy in Belgium. Commissioner Simwinda is in Brussels attending the High Level Conference discussing the future of international election observation. The conference is organised by the European Parliament’s Democracy Support and Election Coordination Group and the European External Action Service and is taking place at the European Parliament in Brussels.

Kasama PF complains of lack of funding to hold intra party elections

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
Some PF councillors in Kasama District of Northern Province have complained that they have no capacity to sponsor the ongoing intra-party elections as the party has not funded them. But provincial party chairman Lazarus Bwalya says Kasama councillors are just playing to the gallery, arguing that funds for elections have been released. In an interview with News Diggers! the councillors complained that they had each been given responsibilities to undertake during the elections without any sort of funding. They further complained that even when the party Secretary General visited the province to launch the elections, he never met any of the councillors except for senior party officials. “There is nothing that we have at the moment in terms of funding. It is true that we have

not been funded. He (Mwila) had a meeting at a lodge I think three days ago with provincial chairman Lazarous Chungu Bwalya but we received nothing, all the wards in the constituencies. The party also has nothing, they are also asking for help from the MP. Yes we were told to source for funding but to tell you the truth we have no capacity to do that. For me I am totally stranded, I cannot even support any little. Accommodation I have no problem but feeding those who are coming to hold those elections, the fuel for using in the vehicles. So it’s quite a challenge,” said the councillors who declined to be named. Asked why they didn’t air their concerns to the party Secretary General when he visited the province to launch the elections, the councillors said they didn’t have a chance to meet him. “No, us councillors he didn’t meet

us but only the party officials. [he didn’t meet any of the councillors] unless individually or maybe one of the councillors who are very well known to him. But for us, he did not meet us. All we are saying is that we have no capacity. The little which I can contribute cannot accommodate all those programmes,” said councillors. But when contacted for a reaction, Bwalya said Kasama district councillors were only playing to the gallery because the funds had already been disbursed. “So why are you directing that question [to me] and not to the secretariat? Because the funds come from the HQ and the best you could have done is to confirm with other provinces whether the funds are not there. I was in Kasama district on Sunday and that Issue was not brought to me and I would have loved to see which councillor is that. And in Kasama district if you ask the honourable member of parliament, we were together when we addressed the entire party structure in Kasama,” explained Bwalya. “We had a meeting and everyone else was told what is expected of them during the elections. So I don’t think I can have an answer to that particular councillor. The only thing is that resources have been made available. First and foremost that particular councillor knows very well his responsibility in this particular intra-party election. Everyone has been given a responsibility including resource mobilisations to that effect. If it is from Kasama, they are playing to the galleries which I don’t like.”

PF can’t grow under an SG who is chased by his own members – Munir

By Mirriam Chabala
Patriotic Front (PF) cadre Munir Zulu has charged that the ruling party would have continued growing had Defence Minister Davies Chama remained as Secretary General instead of the current one who is always emotionally charged. In a statement shared on his Facebook page yesterday, Zulu narrated that Mwila was denied entry into Matero Constituency where he went to conduct ongoing intra party elections on Tuesday. He wondered why the party was still

refusing to accept that it had challenges. “Sometimes I wonder why we choose to leave in live denial. Today our party CEO [Davies Mwila] has failed to conduct intra party elections in Matero constituency because the grassroots don’t want him to impose a certain group of candidates on them. Instead they blocked his motorcade from getting to the venue. Now he has decided to hold Matero elections in Lusaka central at Mulungushi International Conference centre, non of the previous secretary generals of PF has ever been chased by their own members,” stated Zulu.

“When you tell them to say ‘allow democracy’ to flourish within [the party], they send thugs from intercity alleging we don’t respect them. When you tell them the truth then you have no respect for leadership, yet people are getting frustrated everyday. In my view, the party will grow if we had Hon Davies Chama as Secretary General than the man we have now. It’s difficult to reason with people that are always emotionally charged. Anyway, let’s see how the ending of these intra party elections will end. My hope is that we have less bloodshed because the way things are moving awesh (no).”

By Zondiwe Mbewe
Ministry of Justice permanent secretary in charge of administration Thandiwe Daka has testified in the Lusaka Magistrates’ Court that the threshold for the procurement of goods and services by a director at Zambia Law Development Commission (ZLDC) is K50,000. In this matter, ZLDC director Hope Chanda is facing two counts of corrupt acquisition of public property. Chanda 42, of Lusaka West is alleged to have between June 1,2016 and June 23, 2017 in Lusaka, willfully failed to comply with laid down procedure by awarding a contract in the sum of K60,000 to Chipo Mushota Nkhata for consultancy work in the Law reform audit, a matter which involved ZLDC a public body. In count two, it is alleged that Chanda between January 1, 2016 and March 31, 2016 in Lusaka, willfully failed to comply with laid down procedure by awarding a contract in the sum of K61,306.00 to Vinnid innovations to provide catering services for the gender based violence fast courts launch, a transaction which involved the ZLDC. However,when the matter came up, Tuesday, before magistrate Greenwell Malumani, Daka,

Ministry of Justice PS testifies in ZLDC case

46, testified that the set threshold for the director was in line with the public procurement regulations. She testified that according to local laws and regulations, the procurement of goods and services should be done in line with the applicable public and procurement laws and regulations. Daka said the ministerial tender committee did procurement consultancy above K50,000 threshold. “Grant aided institutions falling under Ministry of Justice include ZIALE, ZCID, ZLDC, Judicial Complaints Commission. All institutions I have mentioned except ZLDC and Judicial Complaints Commission have procurement committees. Ministry of Justice ministerial tender committee procures items above K50,000 for those institutions without procurement committees,” she said. “ZLDC also receives funding from corporating partners. To my knowledge, corporating partners will sometimes procure services or goods themselves. An institution can agree on what goods or services need to be procured and this may be done directly by the respective corporating partners. In another case, the monies will be transferred to the relevant body and the procurement will be done by that respective body. If a body is a public body such as ZLDC, procurements for goods and services should be done in line with the applicable public procurement law that includes the regulations.” Daka further testified that there was no controlling officer at ZLDC as far as she was aware. She however said that she was not aware of the engagement of services of Chipo Mushota Nkhata and Vinnid innovations by the ZLDC. In cross examination, Thandiwe said she was not aware where the funding for consultancy work in the Law reform audit came from. She further said the request for direct payment for the supply of refreshment was authorised by Finance and Administration manager and not the accused.



Zambia's Defence Minister Davies Chama ,Uganda's Foreign Affairs Minister Sam Kutesa and other delegates laugh during the 9th High level Conference of the regional oversight mechanism of the Peace, Security and Cooperation framework for the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Great Lakes Region at Speke Munyonyo Resort Hotel in Kampala, Uganda on Monday - Picture by Salim Henry

Sata kept us on our toes as he fought corruption in govt – Mwenye

By Mukosha Funga
Former Attorney General Musa Mwenye says late president Michael Sata kept everyone on their toes as he fought corruption because living a lavish lifestyle could get one fired. And Mwenye says the fight against corruption must also be extended to those in the inner circle for it to be meaningful. In an article shared on his Facebook page yesterday, Mwenye recalled that Sata had made some positive strides in the fight against corruption during his short stay in office. “Late President Michael Sata’s stay in office was very short but in that short period, I saw some concrete steps in the fight against corruption. In the first instance, even if some may argue that it was merely rhetoric, he spoke against the vice publicly at every opportunity he had. I joined the Government in December 2011 and by 2012 the Anti Corruption Act 2012 was enacted to reintroduce the abuse of authority offense that had been removed from the law by the previous Government. Shortly thereafter, the Financial Intelligence Centre was made operational and it appears that there was a deliberate effort to appoint individuals who had a track record of standing firm on principle against Government into key institutions. The tenure of the office of Director General of the Anti Corruption Commission was strengthened entrenching the security of tenure of the Director General who could only be removed by Parliament,” Mwenye narrated. “Some serving Ministers, who were close to the President were fired on allegations of corruption and were subjected to investigation and prosecution.

At least one Minister was actually convicted for corrupt activities. One permanent secretary was fired for accepting to be flown to a mine by a mining company while a State house aide also lost his job for allegedly receiving money from someone in order to arrange a meeting with President Sata.” He stated that civil servants were very careful not to flash lavish lifestyles during Sata’s time. “All of us were on our toes and a lavish lifestyle could get you fired, as one Permanent Secretary who threw a lavish party found out. Other officials met a similar fate. One time, the Chairman of a large mining company came to Zambia for a meeting with the President. He entered the President’s office with a large hamper loaded with gifts, late President Sata, in his usual brush way, told this gentleman that he didn’t need his gifts because the Zambian people took care of him. The meeting was immediately cancelled and the gentleman was asked to walk out with his gifts and to arrange for a fresh meeting. Clear signals were sent,” Mwenye stated. Mwenye attributed the strengthening of the economy under late president Levy Mwanawasa to his adamant approach on the fight against corruption. “We must say it and say it very clearly, corruption is a cancer and it is destroying African economies. The fight against corruption is a non partisan issue and if done sincerely and impartially, it is an indispensable

tool for the development of our countries. A 2005 study, estimated that the Global cost of ‘bribery’ alone (not including other forms of corruption), was 2% of world GDP. When we add other forms of corruption, the cost is much higher. The remarkable economic growth of countries such as Singapore under Lee Kuan Yew, South Korea under General Pak, Malaysia under Mahathir Bin Mohamad or even our fellow Africans in Rwanda under President Paul Kagame, shows that fighting the vice of corruption helps

economic growth. The opposite is also true. Where corruption increases, economic failure follows because the economic interests of the corrupt are always against the public and country’s interests,” Mwenye stated. “The late President Mwanawasa MHSRIP had a lot of foresight when he made a very resolute stand against corruption that saw some of his closest allies and friends investigated, prosecuted and in some instances convicted. Although I am sure there are a lot of other factors that contributed to the very strong

economic showing under him, I have no doubt that making the fight against corruption part of his economic strategy helped.” And Mwenye concluded that the fight against corruption should not only be targeted against political opponents but be extended to the inner circle. “Corruption can not be fought through cosmetic window dressing measures. It has to be fought by tangible measures that start from those who are powerful. For those in power, corruption should not only be fought when it is targeted against

political opponents. And for those in opposition, corruption must not only be condemned when allegations are made against political opponents. We must fight corruption and condemn it even when it affects those in our inner circle – the fight against corruption is not a bludgeoning weapon to hit political opponents with. It is serious But business that affects the lives of the poor people who will go without services because someone has decided to line their pockets with poor peoples money,” stated Mwenye.

Tshuma’s husband wants marriage to continue

By Zondiwe Mbewe
Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) director Mary Tshuma’s husband Kudakwashe Tshuma, a pastor of Beam of Hope International Ministries, has asked the Lusaka High Court to dismiss his wife’s divorce petition with costs, arguing that their marriage has not broken down irretrievably. The pastor has further denied his wife’s allegations that he has affairs with a number of women saying the allegations are imaginary. In May this year, Tshuma had filed for divorce, accusing her husband of being in a habit of threatening to kill himself and also having inappropriate affairs with other women but had however, wholly discontinued the petition in June without giving any reasons. But last month, Tshuma again filed a petition in the Lusaka High Court to dissolve her marriage saying her husband had behaved in such a way that she could no longer live with him. But in his answer, Pastor Tshuma stated that he had no extra marital affairs and further argued that the allegation was imaginary. He however admitted that at some point, he had attempted to drink Omo bleach due to the false accusations by his wife and repented from it.

Pastor Tshuma denied ever trying to throw himself in a swimming pool at their matrimonial home. He further stated that he had never beaten his wife or assaulted her as she had alleged. Pastor Tshuma further denied been confrontational with Mary’s children and her family saying he only corrected them when they behaved in a manner that he saw not right, mostly with the consent of his wife. He further denied complaining to Mary in the middle of the night about him being left with no property in case of her death. Meanwhile, Pastor Tshuma denied being dishonest with money. “The respondent denies being dishonest with money. The respondent denies that he kept the petitioner short of housekeeping money. It is only that he could give the little that he had at the time because he had no meaningful source of income until now that his car business has started operating,” he stated. Pastor Tshuma appealed to the court to dismiss Mary’s divorce petition with costs on grounds that their marriage had not broken down irretrievably.

By Mirriam Chabala
Chishimba Kambwili says Public Service Management Division (PSMD) Permanent Secretary Boniface Chimbwali must be fired for instructing his Northern Province counterpart Elias Kamanga to exculpate himself to a State House civil servant and a PF cadres. In a recorded phone conversation, Chimbwali was heard blasting Northern Province Permanent Secretary Elias Kamanga for suspending his deputy

PSMD answering to Kaizer, Munir shows the worst confusion in govt – Kambwili

without permission from him and further revealed that he was under pressure from Presidential Affairs Minister Freedom Sikazwe, President Edgar Lungu’s political advisor Kaizer Zulu and PF cadre Munir Zulu. Chimbwali further went

on to instruct PS Kamanga to call Sikazwe, Kaizer and Munir to exculpate himself to them for the decision he made to suspend an erring government officer without their permission. But commenting on the matter in an interview

with News Diggers, Kambwili who doubles as National Democratic Congress (NDC) leader and Roan PF member of parliament wondered why Kamanga needed to have the permission of the trio before disciplining

and erring officer. “I have said that where PF has reached now is what we call ‘Things Fall Apart’ part one. Surely, to suspend a civil servant you have to ask Kaizer who is also a civil servant. And what has Kaizer got to do with the running of the entire civil service? Kaizer’s job is at State House. He has nothing to do with the civil service. Freedom Sikazwe is a Presidential [Affairs] Minister, his jurisdiction is Presidential Affairs. Munir Zulu is just a nonentity who has no position in PF and in government. So when you see people like Chimbwali behaving like that, you should know that even himself he doesn’t work independently. He is given instructions by these same people that he wants to give instructions to all Permanent Secretaries,” Kambwili said. The former chief government spokesperson added that he was anxious to see the reaction of President Edgar Lungu against Chimbwali. “We have now to wait and see the reaction of Lungu, this Chimbwali must be fired. He must be fired for making a call to his fellow PS to say what he said because he is a disgrace to

the system. To tell the whole world that for him to make a decision, he is guided by Kaizer Zulu, Munir Zulu and Freedom Sikazwe. No wonder... because that man is in charge of employment, no wonder wrong people have been employed in government because he gets permission from these people (Kaizer Zulu, Munir Zulu and Freedom Sikazwe). I can only ask him to resign on moral grounds for bringing shame upon the civil service,” he said. Meanwhile, Kambwili warned the PF government to leave PS Kamanga, saying he did a commendable thing by suspending his deputy who had erred. “Kamanga was doing the right thing, and no one should play with Kamanga. Nobody should tamper with Kamanga because Kamanga was doing the right thing. Of late we have been complaining of indiscipline in the civil service and we have been blaming Permanent Secretaries for not taking action. But here is a PS who takes action and he is blamed. How? For me Kamanga was doing the right thing and he needs support, we should not allow anybody to intimidate Kamanga,” said Kambwili.



L-r: South Sudan President Salva Kiir, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, President Edgar Lungu and other Heads of State after the conference for the 9th High level meeting of the regional oversight mechanism of the Peace, Security and Cooperation framework for the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Great Lakes Region at Speke Munyonyo Resort Hotel on Monday - Picture by Salim Henry

PSMD orders PS Kamanga to exculpate himself to Kaizer, Munir

By Joseph Mwenda
In a leaked audio, Public Service Management Division (PSMD) Permanent Secretary Boniface Chimbwali is heard blasting Northern Province Permanent Secretary Elias Kamanga for suspending his deputy without permission from him. In the recorded phone conversation, Chimbwali reveals that he is under pressure from Presidential Affairs Minister Freedom Sikazwe, President Edgar Lungu’s political advisor Kaizer Zulu and renowned PF cadre Munir Zulu. Chimbwali goes further to instruct PS Kamanga to call Sikazwe, Kaizer and Munir to exculpate himself to them for the decision he took to suspend an erring government officer. **Chimbwali:** I have on the other phone a query that you have suspended your deputy permanent secretary. **Kamanga:** Hello Sir? **Chimbwali:** Have you suspended your deputy permanent secretary? **Kamanga:** Yes sir, I was calling you actually in the office in the morning but you were not available. **Chimbwali:** No, I was not available but is it true that you have suspended your deputy secretary permanent secretary? **Kamanga:** Yes sir, we have charged him and we have referred the matter to the disciplinary committee. **Chimbwali:** But when you suspended him, according to the information you are saying that you were guided by PSMD to charge and

suspend him. Whom did you speak to at PSMD? **Kamanga:** Who says I was guided? **Chimbwali:** I am speaking with... you call Kaizer Zulu now and explain how and who guided you to suspend your DPS. **Kamanga:** Well, I think I was guided by my human resource department and development team. We had a meeting and discussed the matter... **Chimbwali:** But did you specifically seek my personal guidance to suspend him? Because they are saying “it is you Chimbwali who guided Kamanga”. I have not spoken to you today... **Kamanga:** That is not true, who is saying that sir? That is not true, I think people are... you see the problem is that people like to interfere. You can ask even my minister, at no time did I ever mention you. I said the matters that I have charged him with, I have brought them before PSMD before and I have already discussed with him, only that now I decided to put it in writing. I have never put anything in writing. And the minister is aware, I have never written anything. The only person who raised the issue was ba Honourable Sikazwe, and I said ine as far as I am concerned, this matter we discussed with the human resource people. Human resource even went to him. They spoke to him as well ba DPS and they guided me. Me I am guided by my personnel people I not guided by anybody, i am guided by people in HR not yourself sir. Today I was trying to get hold of you, you can even ask deputy secretary to Cabinet ba Kangwa, I personally said I have not spoken to PSMD

and I am trying to get hold of him I have failed. I tried to get hold of SC I failed, then today I phoned ku office, I phoned your secretary ku office she said you were not around. I phoned on your mobile, someone else answered and said bali mu meeting ba boss. Then I phoned Mrs Kapiya and we spoke to her and explained exactly what happened. Then she said ‘in fact what you do, proceed like that then once you have proceeded, you make a recommendation. Whatever recommendation you are going to make, you forward to us as PSMD, then we will forward to Secretary to the Cabinet. Or Forward to Secretary to Cabinet for our attention. That is what I was advised. **Chimbwali:** Nomba nga ba Sikazwe, naba Kaizer ubebele ukweba ati ine ninebo micitile advise ifyo ninani (Who told Mr Sikazwe and Mr Kaizer that its me who advised you to do that?) **Kamanga:** Efyo ndelanda (that’s what I am talking about) because ilyashi ilyo (that story) boss... first of all, it’s just indiscipline. Because ine nga chakuti bandembela charge (If I was charged by), whether nimwebo nangu niba Secretary to Cabinet, these are administrative matters. How do we begin to bring in political offices? I don’t know mwandi me I am shocked. Now it means umuntu nga alufyanya ifintu ifwe tatwakulalandako (If someone errors we will not be talking) Because when we talk... this is amazing me to be very honest. Because these things are provided in the disciplinary code. When someone makes a mistake. you write to them and ask them to exculpate

themselves. So what have I done wrong? **Chimbwali:** Do you have the number for Honourable Sikazwe? **Kamanga:** Honourable Sikakwe? I don’t think I have on this phone. **Chimbwali:** Okay, I am going to send you the number for Honourable Sikazwe and Munir Zulu and Kaizer Zulu, I want you to call them now and tell them exactly the fact that you have not spoken to me. **Kamanga:** Eish, awee mwandi **Chimbwali:** You know I am very very upset with the reports which are going round that you spoke to me and you spoke kuli ba Kangwa, I am not aware. **Kamanga:** But who did I... uuuhm uuuhm (chuckles) **Chimbwali:** I am just from speaking to Honourable Sikazwe, KZ and Munir Zulu. Just now I am going to send you the number just now. I want you to call them and explain to them exactly what you have told me. Because when they told me I was swearing because I couldn’t believe that you could have manufactured a lie of that magnitude over a person you have not spoken to. **Kamanga:** Nomba uko balifumishe (where did they get that story) because me I have never spoken to Kaizer Zulu since when, I have never spoken to ba Sikazwe, I don’t even have the number for Munir Zulu. **Chimbwali:** Alright, just now, I am sending you the numbers, call them. Once you have clarified this issue please let me know. **Kamanga:** Uuumh! Awee mwandini. Okay.

Police cannot investigate its own actions in UNZA fracas, argues TIZ

By Mukosha Funga
Transparency International Zambia (TIZ) has called for the formation of an independent Commission of Inquiry to probe the recent riots at UNZA which led to the subsequent death of a fourth year student Vespers Shimunzila. And TIZ has expressed disappointment at government's lack of concern and sympathy following the death of Shimunzila who died of suffocation after the police fired teargas canisters in her room during a riot at the university of Zambia last

week. In statement, TIZ President Rueben Lifuka also condemned the reaction from Zambia police officers during the riot who applied excessive force on students. "Transparency International Zambia joins the rest of the nation in mourning the death of a young life -Vespers Shimunzila. This death is one that could have been avoided in a nation where the heavy handed approach and use of excessive force by the Zambia Police, is frowned upon. The unprofessional conduct of the Police is

not a development that has come about overnight. We have witnessed, in the last couple of years, a Police Force which has proved wholly inadequate in terms of modern crowd control and management of riots and other public disturbances. It is a pity that Zambia Police, which re-branded itself as a Service- continues to retain remnants of its past self during the one party participatory democracy era of UNIP. Citizens who should be protected by the Police are now victims. From whom then should the

citizens seek protection? In the case of this recent riot, while we condemn in the strongest terms the riotous behaviour of students and the stoning of innocent motorists on the Great East Road, we equally find unacceptable the decision by the Police Officers to fire tear gas into crowded student hostel areas," Lifuka stated. "We further wish to place on record our total dismay at the manner in which the Executive, led by President Lungu, has responded to this incident. The palpable lack of sympathy for the

loss of life, characterised by the nonchalant response by President Lungu when asked to comment on this incident; the politically laced remarks of the Minister of Higher Education in Parliament, as [well as] the insensitive tweets from the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, all go to demonstrate how unmoved this government is by the loss of Vespers' life. President Lungu and his cabinet should have taken time to comfort and mourn with the family and assure the people of this country that such heavy handedness by the Police, will be addressed as a matter of urgency," Lifuka stated.

He said the police should not be entrusted with the responsibility of investigating the UNZA fracas, but an independent commission of enquiry. "Going forward, we demand that a Commission of Inquiry, which is independent of the Police, is constituted and allowed to inquire not just into the causes of this recent riots and the Police reaction, but to equally propose measures to restore harmony and promote peaceful means of conflict resolution. The Commission of Inquiry should review the preparedness and professional competencies of the Zambia Police to handle public disorder events. We are mindful that in a democratic society, there will be many occasions when citizens protest or express themselves

in a manner that may require crowd control. The concern is that our Police is not modernising its operations to meet the needs of today. There are better ways of crowd control and breaking riots than the use of tear gas. It is folly of us to expect Zambia Police to conduct a thorough and independent investigation into its own doing. We already know who caused the problem but what we need is an independent inquiry to investigate what triggers the police service to use maximum force even when it is not necessary and the situation does not warrant it," he stated. TIZ further demanded that government through the Higher Education Minister, Prof Nkandu Luo, reconsiders the ban on student unions in institutions of Higher learning. "Students Unions are an important bridge to addressing some of the grievances that students may have. In the absence of these structures, the student body - including unscrupulous persons, will take advantage of this vacuum and foment trouble. We continue to urge the university students to seek avenues to dialogue on matters affecting them. Stoning motorists, some of them their own parents or guardians, is not a solution. Students should not alienate the general populace, who not only support them in their quest to attain higher education, but also pay taxes which contribute to the students' loans that they receive. Society is anxious that you our young Zambians complete your studies and effectively contribute to nation-building," stated Lifuka.

"Transparency International Zambia, would like to urge government to come up with a lasting solution to the perennial problems faced by the two largest public universities. The problems at UNZA and the Copperbelt University, are well catalogued but what is in short supply are bold tangible decisions to redress the situation at hand. Poor funding to these two institutions and erratic release of funds for student related allowances, has always been a driver of student unrest. It is time that, through joint effort, a more enduring solution is found. We cannot continue losing young lives simply because successive governments have failed to find the right solutions for the challenges at hand."



Information and Broadcasting Services Minister Dora Siliya tours the Talent Factory Academy for Southern Africa at ZAMCOM institute in Lusaka yesterday

FRA fails to purchase 500,000 MT maize target

By Abraham Kalito
The Food Reserve Agency (FRA) says it won't manage to purchase the targeted 500,000 metric tonnes of maize this crop marketing season, but insists that the country will be food secure because it already has 300,000 tonnes of the commodity in stock. And the FRA has so far closed down 60 satellite depots, which were inactive across the country due to the unavailability of maize. In an interview with News Diggers! in Lusaka, FRA board chairperson Joe Simachela said the agency has so far purchased only 170,000 metric tonnes of maize and would not reach its usual 500,000 metric tonnes target as maize was inaccessible.

"Reaching the target, I will not lie to you, I don't think so. The target, we will remain sceptical, but what I can assure you is that we will be food secure. That's because we have about 300,000 metric tonnes already in stock. So, we are food secure for the whole of next year. That's the reason why you have always noticed that we make these reserves. Usually, we would buy more for storage that's why you will also notice that the President [Edgar Lungu] had to ban the export of maize. So, we are food secure and there is no need for the citizens to panic because we have enough in stock. But in terms of meeting out target, that one we do not anticipate," Simachela said. "And now, if you have noticed

because of the export ban, most of the prices of maize have gone down. Remember, we had a lot of private sector participation this month and that's what had caused the prices of maize to go higher, but after the release of funds from the Ministry of Finance, my information is that there has been an increase in the purchases also. But we cannot reach the 500,000 metric tonnes target, we do not anticipate that. But I can assure the nation, through the media that, we are food secure. If we had started at zero then there was going to be reason for concern, but we started with 300,000 metric tonnes. With that, I can tell you that, we will have enough to last the whole lot of next year."

And Simachela said the agency has so far closed down 60 satellite depots, which were inactive across the country due to the unavailability of maize. "Kindly note the review of satellite depot performance is being done monthly, the first being on 8th September 2018, when 81 inactive depots were earmarked for closure and 21 were requested to be open, hence from the total 796 opened on 8th August 2018, 60 were effectively closed remaining with 736 depots. The second review is due this week (second month) and we await regional submissions by Thursday to close off depots that are inactive. Main attributes are no more maize grain inflows at those particular satellite depots," said Simachela.

By Zondiwe Mbewe

The Lusaka Magistrates’ Court has set October 31 as date for hearing the State’s response to the preliminary issues raised by the defence on why Lusaka based magistrate Maggie Tantameni should not be tried by a fellow magistrate in a theft case.

Magistrate Tantameni is jointly charged with a public prosecutor from the National Prosecutions Authority Francis Mphanza and two court officials for allegedly stealing 34 Kilograms of ephedrine valued at K1, 870.000, property of government.

The matter was however adjourned yesterday due to the absence of the second accused, Mphanza who had recently lost his wife.

Court adjourns Tantameni’s case

At the last sitting, magistrate Tantameni through her lawyer, had asked the court to refer her case to the Constitutional Court in order to determine whether she can be tried by a court of equal jurisdiction.

Her lawyer, Prosper Muyatwa had submitted that the Constitutional Court should render it’s opinion on whether the principal resident magistrate Kenneth Mulife, who is the complainant in this matter on behalf of the judiciary, can allocate the case to a Chisamba based magistrate Susan Mangalashi, who was also a magistrate like

her.

“This honourable court has similar authority as accused number three and for this court to try A3 on matters she dwelt with during the course of her duties as a magistrate will be a gross assault to the course of justice,” he said.

And when the matter came up for a response from the State before magistrate Mangalashi, Wednesday, the defence asked for an adjournment saying the second accused person was absent in court because he had a bereavement.

“Accused number two is not before court because he has a bereavement. He lost his

wife and burial took place yesterday. It is because of these unforeseen circumstances that we seek for an adjournment so that A2 will be present before this court,” the defence said.

The State did not object to the adjournment saying the circumstances were indeed unforeseen.

They however made an application to add another prosecutor to their team.

“My learned colleague Mr D Manda will be joining in prosecuting the matter,” they submitted.

Asked if there was anyone one else the parties wished to add to their teams, the State said

they were yet to add two more although only one was present in court whereas the other one was yet to confirm.

The matter has been adjourned to October 31 for a response.

In this matter, Tantameni is jointly charged with Felix Mkandawire a court interpreter, Francis Mphanza a senior public prosecutor and Didie Kangwa a senior clerk of court with three counts of abuse of authority, removal of property under lawful seizure and stealing by persons in public service.

In count one, it is alleged that Tantameni and Mphanza

on November 8, last year, in Lusaka being persons employed in the public service as margistrate and senior public prosecutor respectively, jointly and whilst acting together, did use the position of their respective offices to obtain property, profit or benefit for themselves or another.

In count two, it is alleged that Mkandawire, Mphanza and Kangwa on November 8, last year in Lusaka, jointly and whilst acting together knowingly and with intent to hinder or defeat the process, did conceal 34.0 kilograms of ephedrine valued at K1, 870. 000. The ephedrine was taken under the process of authority of the court of Tantameni.

And in the third count, it is alleged that Mkandawire,Mphanza, Tantameni and Kangwa between November 8, 2017 and December 30, 2017 in Lusaka, being employed in the public service as court interpreter, senior public prosecutor, magistrate and senior clerk of court respectively, jointly and whilst acting together did steal 34. 0 kilograms of ephedrine. The drug was valued at K1, 870.000 the property of Government of the Republic of Zambia which came into their possession by virtue of their employment.

ConCourt wants State to respond before subpoena of Ngulube, Sakala

By Zondiwe Mbewe

The Constitutional Court has ordered that the State should be allowed to respond to the Application by former Director of Public Prosecutions Mutembo Nchito to summon former Chief Justices Ernest Sakala and Mathew Ngulube.

Mutembo had applied to the Constitutional Court for a subpoena against former chief justices Ernest Sakala and Mathew Ngulube, demanding that the duo appears before the Constitutional Court as witnesses over the manner in which the tribunal that presided over his removal from office conducted its business.

Mutembo also applied to subpoena tribunal secretary Mathew Zulu who he wants to produce documents that were used in the Justice Annel Silungwe-led Tribunal that recommended his removal from office to President Lungu.

When the case which was scheduled for commencement of trial was called, the Court asked Mutembo to proceed with his Application to summon the former chief justices at which point Mutembo asked the Court for directions stating that he needed to be

told by the Court whether the matter would proceed with only him speaking (ex parte) and if not, who was going to respond since the matter was proceeding in open court.

The Court then ordered that the State should be the one to respond to the application to summon the former chief justices and asked the Solicitor General if he was ready to proceed in the

afternoon.

Mwansa then charged that Mutembo had disregarded the orders and directions of the Constitutional Court because he had not served them any witness statements as earlier ordered by the court.

Mutembo however told the Court that it was unfair for the State to accuse him of disregarding the court’s orders and directions

because the Constitutional Court is still new and its practice and procedures require the guidance of the court.

He also said that he had the right to call witnesses as he saw fit.

He said each party was free to plan its case.

After the Solicitor General said he needed two weeks to respond Mutembo wondered what they would be saying

when it was his right to call witnesses.

The Constitutional Court has adjourned the matter to November 18, this year and further stressed that Nchito should file and serve witness statements on the State.

This is the matter in which Nchito is challenging his removal from the office of DPP arguing that it was illegal and should therefore be declared null and void.

Opposition rise against Chinese article in the Times of Zambia

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Speaker of the National Assembly Dr Patrick Matibini says he will render a measured ruling at an appropriate time concerning a matter where Times OF Zambia has been publishing some news stories in Chinese.

His ruling was made after Monze Central UPND member of parliament Jack Mwiimbu rose to seek for the Speaker’s ruling on why the cited public newspaper had repeatedly been publishing

articles in Chinese and not in any Zambian languages.

About a week ago, there were social media debates about why Times Zambia had been published articles in Chinese and after Information Minister Dora Siliya suggested that they were trying to survive the harsh market.

Mwiimbu told the house that the language was discriminatory to the Zambian people as no one could interpret it and that it was against constitutional

abrogation.

“Mr Speaker I rise on a point of order pursuant to Article 23 of the Constitution of Zambia dealing with the issues of discrimination.

Mr speaker, it’s true that this country by virtue of the Constitution and the provision I have quoted, the Government of the Republic of Zambia by itself or through it’s agencies should not be discriminating against anyone who is a Zambian or resident in Zambia. Mr Speaker, I’ve noted that the

Times of Zambia which is an authority funded by the public tax payer has been discriminating against Zambians and against the majority of Zambian tribes in this country. Mr speaker, I have a copy of the Times of Zambia published on Tuesday October 9th 2018 and it’s edition number 18197. Mr speaker, on page two of this publication, there is an interpretation I presume by the Times of Zambia on an article that appeared on the first page of the Times of Zambia and is being replicated on the second page of the Times of Zambia and the headline [is] ‘SADC mutes DRC peace,’ Mwiimbu said.

“And the article Mr Speaker is in Chinese. There has been no such article in Bemba, in Tonga, in Lozi, in Lunda or in any other language in this country of the people who reside in Zambia. We are aware Mr speaker that the official language in this country is English. Why is the government finding it proper and prudent in its wisdom to start interpreting articles that are appearing in the newspapers to interpret

them in Chinese.”

At this point, opposition MPs started making gibberish Chinese commentaries as they were heard shoulting ‘Ummmmmm Chambia, Chambia, nihou...’

Mwiimbi further asked the speaker if the Minister of Information was in order to allow such a thing to continue happening at the expense of the majority Zambians.

“Is the honourable Minister of Information Mr Speaker in order to remain quiet and not inform us that Chinese is now an officials language in this country and that we can start speaking Chinese? is she in order to discriminate me and other people in this country in preference of Chinese? Is she in order to abrogate the Constitution of Zambia?” Mwiimbu asked.

In his ruling, Dr Matibini said he would render a measured ruling on the subject.

“My ruling is that I need to have recourse to what is being alleged in the point of order, study the same and also render a measured ruling on the subject. So in that regard I will reserve my ruling,” said Dr Matibini.

Bus fares go up by 22 %

By Mirriam Chabala

Bus operators have hiked passenger fares by 22 per cent across the board following the upward adjustment in the fuel pump prices by the Energy Regulation Board (ERB).

Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA) Head of Public Relations Fredrick Mubanga announced in a statement that this decision was arrived at after the agency held a meeting with Bus and Taxi Owners Association of Zambia (BTOAZ), where it was tentatively resolved that fares be increased by 22 per cent across the board.

Mubanga however stated that the fares would be less than 22 percent for certain routes, as guided by fare charts that will be prepared by the BTOAZ in consultation with RTSA.

“During a meeting this week, the bus operators requested to vary their current Road Service Licences (RSL) by making adjustment of bus fares as stipulated under the Road Traffic Act No. 11 of 2002. Thus the desired increase have been effected after approval by all concerned stakeholders including the Ministry of Transport and Communications. The move is in line with the conditions under which the Road Service Licences (RSL)

are granted. Subsection 12 (d) of Section 108 of the Road Traffic Act No. of 2002 underscores that a person applying for a road service license, and a holder of such a licence applying for its variation, shall submit to the Director the rate of fares of the proposed services,” stated Mubanga.

“Therefore, following the said meeting, the bus fares have been increase by a maximum of 22 percent effective 08th October 2018. However, for certain routes, the fares will be less than 22 percent as guided by fare charts that will be prepared by the BTOAZ in consultation with the RTSA.”

Jealous down, President Edgar Lungu has shown some intolerance against abuse of public resources in this donor aid scandal. Finally, we are proud that he has stroked his long stick in the right direction. This is what we expected from him when he first announced that he would fall like a tonne of brick on offenders.

In our view, the question of whether it is right for him to fire or suspend government workers who are suspected to have been linked to the theft and misappropriation of donor aid without first letting them undergo an investigation process, is very simple. Our position is that there is nothing wrong with asking a public office holder to step aside while a probe is being done. As long as there is no prejudice on the suspects and when they are found innocent, they are called back without making them suffer any discrimination, then it is right.

Responsible governance entails that those at the top must perform the oversight role of ensuring that those operating below them adhere to the principles of public accountability. Failure of that interprets poor leadership skills on those in charge of a nation, and the consequences are a vote

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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Suspensions must start from within State House

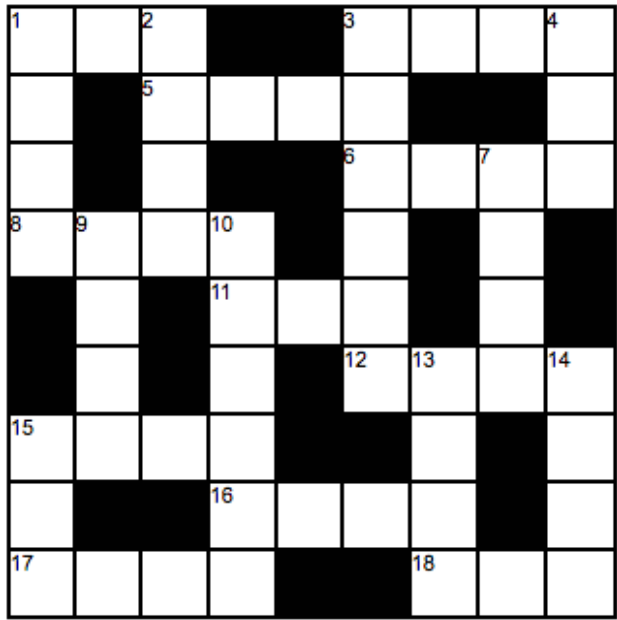
of no confidence. It seems our Head of State has finally decided that he will not keep quiet while theft of public resources are being reported in the face of an outraged public. It appears the President is sending us a signal to say that he has been silent for too long, and it is now time to act. We wish the President well on this experiment, as he is obviously trying to see how much public and donor confidence he can retain. But this oversight role that President Lungu seems to have embarked on is not supposed to be selective. It must be holistic and across the board. That way, people will believe that he has genuine intentions of cleaning up the system. We agree with him that the system is rotten, and civil servants as well

as political appointees, have been invading national coffers, looting at will knowing nothing would happen to them. In just less than a month, President Lungu has fired a Cabinet Minister, suspended a Permanent Secretary and a head of a parastatal institution. This is a serious amount of venom to spit out over just one scandal. The question is; what about the others who are connected to theft and corruption in this same government? Why have they remained untouched? Is it only donor money, which is painful to lose? Is it because the British have demanded a refund of their money while the Zambian people never ask for a refund of their stolen taxpayers' money? Surely, there has been plenty of scandals exposed in the Auditor General's public expenditure reports as well as in the Financial Intelligence Centre Trends Report. If our President can wipe his glasses and look again, he will see that he is actually searching too far. Corruption is germinating right there in his office. If he checks his drawers, he will see it and he knows who took it there. Like we have explained, these suspensions of public officers based on theft allegations, are in order. But they can only be justified if everyone in government is receiving equal treatment. In our view, the closer you are to the President, the sooner you must leave if linked to corruption. At least that is the normal way of looking at things. But it seems

in our current set up, the President is immune and free to benefit from corruption, and that immunity has been abused and stretched to cover everyone else around him. How many scandals have we seen involving those that surround President Lungu? They have been linked to fraud in financial reports, they can't explain their sources of income, but they have become stinky rich within a short period of time with properties everywhere you turn. How can it be that the President doesn't see or read any of it? People are very observant and they know when they are being fooled. We have heard from those that have grown up, lived and worked with President Lungu. We are told that he is a

good man who is being damaged by the people around him, both at State House and in the party hierarchy. They are telling us that the Presidency has been hijacked by President Lungu's sponsors. It is easy for us to believe this because we heard it from his mouth in 2015 that he had no presidential ambitions in his life. We can't, therefore, doubt that he has surrendered the Presidency to those who have a desperate ambition to control the country's resources, but have no means of democratically ascending to the position. Our concern is that if President Lungu chooses to be longsighted by failing to see the criminality going on within his circles, and only flex his muscles on those who are at a distance, it will destroy him. These people are not elected individuals, so they will use his name in every fraudulent transaction, and it will be the President to pay when the time comes to face the voters again. Should President Lungu fail to win the 2021 elections, since he has already declared himself a candidate, we will be covering his news from the Lusaka Magistrates' Court. The people he is protecting will be turned against State witnesses.

Crossword puzzle 206



“When a plutocracy is disguised as a democracy, the system is beyond corrupt.”
- Suzy Kassem

- Across**
1. More than chubby
3. Shoe filler
5. Army no-show
6. Telltale sign
8. Dance movement
11. Dazzle
12. Mantas
15. Elm or oak
16. Between shoulders and head
17. Camper's shelter
18. It rises and sets
- Down**
1. Needless concern
2. Not wild
3. Rose or lily
4. Sardine container
7. Not difficult
9. Split apart
10. Mom or Pop
13. Poses questions
14. Largest organ
15. Preschooler

Solutions to puzzle 205



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.

MoF's appointment of Tax Review Committee to deal with mine concerns over revised policy

Editor,

"Before implementing a new tax, research should be done on its implications. It does not make good business sense for

govt to increase or introduce taxes only to be challenged by the tax payer that such taxes will end up crippling their business and then govt goes to revise them." - Evans Mwamba

"Govt should have stuck to Mwanawasa's windfall tax approach and Mineral Royalty Tax formulas. We are fortunate to still have Mr. Ng'andu Magande. It would not hurt to seek counsel from such a patriot." - David M Mwanangombe

"How much will the Tax Review Committee be paid? Allowances are one way of wasting resources. This consultation should have been done during budget submissions." - Leyton Mulele

"Wouldn't it have made more sense to look at the issues prior to the budget being presented? Because what I see here is that, not only mines see this as retrogressive, even some, if not all businesses, are now thinking of the cost of acquiring software, which were not even in their budgets, among many other costs." - Solomon H Phiri
"The only variable in the equation of national development that is missing in our country is good leaders." - Jones Mulunga

"Who's interest does the Zambia Chamber of Mines serve? What percentage of the profits do these mines bring back to Zambia?" - Tapela Chimphonda



Mutembo exposes former Chief Justices Ngulube, Sakala

Editor,

"Well spoken, Mutembo." - Isaac Mpilipili

"So, what Mutembo is saying is there was a very dangerous cartel whose aim was to get rich on the expense of FTJ Chiluba. If the whole Chief Justice was in the forefront of receiving money from that organisation, which was only created to fix FTJ, then one may be right to say there was a conspiracy at the highest level to make Chiluba a villain so that few can become rich. We

wait to hear more from Mutembo." - Chrispin Chanda

"Chiluba was naïve and careless with state resources, so it was not at the expense of Chiluba; I think they just took advantage of who he was." - Evans Singoyi

"Expose them now; don't wait for tomorrow. Zambia would have been rich by now." - Sunday Nkombalume

"The truth shall come out no matter how long it takes!" - Grafter Mundi

ND OPINION on PF's abolishing of UNZASU

Editor,

"Wow, very profound words there News Diggers! Only a fool will be stiff to listen to such an emotional massage." - Violet K Kapepa

"Well said, Editor." - Wanosha Wanosha

"What do you expect from a minister who uses her face to think? The problem I've noticed is that she thinks she's Shaka the 2nd." - Mukuka Jackson Nawa

"Let the students from these universities start a demand for the removal of Mr Nkandu Luo from that office. Mr Luo is bitter with students and he'll never love them no matter what. As long as he remains the minister, this nonsense will never come to an end, he has over lived his usefulness; it's time to retire him from active politics." - Divine Ceejay Katota

"Let's put our votes together and make change in 2021, people! RIP Vespers!" - Stanley N Kedgery

"It's always been obvious that the abolishment of UNZASU was not in any way for the welfare of the students" - Joseph Chiti

Bangladesh court sentences 19 to death over 2004 attack

Dhaka, Bangladesh - A Dhaka court has handed down death penalty to 19 people, including two former ministers, and sentenced a top opposition leader to life imprisonment over a 2004 attack on the current Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The special court awarded life imprisonment to Tarique Rahman, exiled son of former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia. Zia is already languishing inside a Dhaka jail following her conviction in a corruption case, which came in advance of the country's general election scheduled to be held by the end of the year.

Rahman, who is the acting chairman of the opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), was jailed for 10 years in absentia in the same corruption case as her mother. He has been living in exile in London since 2008.

The security in and around the special tribunal in the capital, Dhaka, was beefed up anticipating protests from BNP leaders and activists. Senior BNP leaders, including former State Minister of Home Affairs Lutfuzzaman Babar and former Deputy Minister of Education Abdus Salam Pintu, were given capital punishment for hatching the plot to assassinate Hasina. The "August 21 grenade attack case", as it is known in Bangladesh, relates to the deadly attack on a rally organised by Hasina's Awami League (AL) in Dhaka in 2004 when she was the opposition leader. Hasina narrowly survived the attack after some of her party leaders formed a human shield around her, but up to 20 people were killed, including top AL leader Ivy Rahman.

The case documents "meticulously designed plot" to assassinate Hasina hatched by the BNP. The BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami coalition government, which was in power at the time of the attack, was accused of scuttling the investigation to protect the masterminds.



People fill bags with sand at the Lynn Haven Sports Complex while preparing for major Category 3 Hurricane Michael in Panama City, Florida. AFP

According to the documents submitted by the prosecution, the attack was carried out by the armed group, Harkat-ul-Jihad (HuJI). Citing the alleged involvement of Mufti Abdul Hannan, the prosecution also alleged the purpose of the attack was to establish "fanatic Islam" in the south Asian country.

Hannan, a senior HuJI leader accused of multiple attacks in Bangladesh, was executed last year. The BNP alleges that Hasina is crushing dissent and putting rivals behind bars to strengthen her re-election bid.

AL JAZEERA

Ugandan Oxford student Lulu Jemimah ties knot with HERSELF

A single woman who grew tired of being asked when she was getting married has made the extraordinary decision to tie the knot to herself.

Oxford student Lulu Jemimah, 32, was fed-up of her family lecturing her on the importance of settling down with the right man. But marriage is the last thing on her mind as she studies a masters in creative writing at the prestigious university. So, in a bid to get her parents off her back, she decided to stage a mock wedding and sent formal invites out to her nearest and dearest. She hired a dress, walked through the venue to the traditional wedding march and even gave a speech to her guests explaining the lack of a groom.

Lulu admits her Ugandan parents are baffled by her decision - but said she feels it was the perfect commitment

to herself and her studies. The entire day cost just £2 - for her taxi to the pub venue - as she managed to get the

rest of her big day for free or as gifts from friends. Proud singleton Lulu said: 'I have a strong passion in

life and I am committed to achieving my goals at becoming an academic. 'But all my family wanted to ask me was when I planned to get married - which is very important back in Uganda - followed by when I would be having children and starting a family. 'My father wrote my wedding speech when I turned 16. Every birthday my mother prayed for me and in recent years this has included a plea for a good husband. 'But I just didn't want to think about walking up the aisle. It's not the thing which keeps me up at night.' Lulu previously worked as a freelance journalist and a communications consultant for the International Organisation for Migration. But in 2013 she received a BA Media (film) scholarship from Macquarie University in Australia. After completing her undergraduate degree, she turned her attention to the UK and applied to Oxford University to do a masters, which she started in August 2017. DAILYMAIL



50 dead in Kenya bus accident

Fifty people have been killed in a bus accident in western Kenya early on Wednesday, authorities said.

Witnesses and police on Wednesday said the bus swerved off the road while driving down a steep slope, and rolled into a ditch at 4 am local time (0100 GMT) in western Kericho county. According to police, the bus was travelling from Nairobi to the western town of Kakamega and was carrying 52 passengers.

Rift Valley regional police boss Francis Munyambu told the Associated Press that survivors from the bus were receiving treatment at local hospitals. The Kenyan Red Cross wrote on Twitter that the bus had overturned. However, more details on the cause of the accident were not immediately available. Official statistics show that around 3,000 people die annually in road accidents in Kenya,

but the World Health Organization estimates the figure could be as high as 12,000. In December 2017, 36 people died in a head-on collision between a bus and a truck in the east African country. In 2016, more than 40 people died when an out-of-control fuel tanker rammed into vehicles and then exploded on a busy stretch of highway.

AL JAZEERA

Nsombo fails on her vow as Buffaloes contain NAPSA

By Alex Chilumbwe

Green Buffaloes netball team yesterday beat NAPSA 37-32 in week 14 of the NAZ super league, a week after NAPSA coach Pauline Nsombo vowed to end the combatants’ unbeaten record this season. Buffaloes started on a high with four intercepts in the first quarter of the game while their national team playmaker Beauty Nakazwe benefitted a lot from her shooter Harriet Mwenya’s clever passes that penetrated NAPSA’s defence. The first quarter ended 12-9 in favour of Buffaloes. Relentless Buffaloes kept adding nets to their score sheet in the second and third quarters with most saves coming from floating wing defender Gift Buunga, otherwise popularly known as ‘Stop Children,’ owing to her masculinity and ball judgement. Buffaloes led by 9 in the third quarter. A very youthful and resilient NAPSA rose to the challenge in the fourth and final quarter by managing six intercepts and four sure saves that reduced Buffaloes lead to 4 from 9. Fans’ displeasure forced a substitution for Mwenya and game time for Patricia Kumwenda which cost Buffaloes 3 nets. The two sides traded scores until Buffaloes made another

sure serve through their national team’s first choice goal minder Besiya Katete. Nsombo was quick to blame time for her teams loss after the game. “They have fought hard and if time was on their

side, they would have leveled up or even won the game,” said NAPSA coach Pauline Nsombo. Meanwhile, Buffaloes coach was happy to have won, but bemoaned missed chances. “A win is always good although they got me sweating in the last quarter. They gave away eight chances that would have given us better aggregate,” said Buffaloes coach Catherine Chanda. Buffaloes still tops the table with 47 points in their unbeaten record while NAPSA is third with 42 points. The league has since been suspended for a week to allow successful hosting of the Zambia Air Force (ZAF) Commandant’s Tournament scheduled for 13th October, 2018.



Roger Federer defeats Daniil Medvedev 6-4, 4-6, 6-4 in a thrilling second-round encounter at the Rolex Shanghai Masters. aol.co.uk

By Alex Chilumbwe

Footballers and Allied Workers Union (FAWUZ) has asked soccer fans in the country to desist from dividing players by supporting selected names in the national team. FAWUZ general secretary Linos Chalwe noted that soccer fans were fond of demonizing and exhibiting hate towards some players while showering praise on selected few. Chalwe said this in an interview with Goal Diggers! “Nothing is wrong with fans having a favourite player. The problem begins when they

Don’t divide players, FAWUZ begs fans

say bad things about other players yet they are all part of the team. It is not right to support only three players yet you know they will always be eleven on the pitch. Your three favourites will be assisted by those you do not like; so hate speech against your least favourites should not be heard at all. We are One Zambia, One Nation in everything that we do so let us be supporting everyone who has been chosen to represent the country,” advised Chalwe. And former national team and Red Arrows coach Honor

Janza resounded on the need to blend experienced and inexperienced players in order for them to share game experience and skills. “Younger or fresh faces to the national team can indeed learn one or two things from longer-serving players in the national team. It does not matter how tactical or swift a fresh face is, one can still learn from more experienced players the same way old players can also learn something from fresh ones. There would be a gap if most of the experienced players retired before younger ones are groomed,” Janza said. Janza further cited Ghana and Morocco as countries that knew how to blend players. “These two countries always have new faces in the national team and they do just fine. I believe it is because they understand how important it is for players to learn from one another so that there is consistency in their national teams,” said Janza.

Africa Cup offers Salah chance to regain scoring touch

Liverpool star Mohamed Salah gets a chance to rediscover his scoring touch when he plays for Egypt against eSwatini (formerly Swaziland) in the Africa Cup of Nations this week. After notching 44 goals for the English Premier League club in all competitions last season, the 26-year-old has managed only three this season, and just one in eight games since August. When Salah last played for his country, he scored twice and missed two penalties as the record seven-time African champions romped to a 6-0 win over Niger during September. Niger are ranked 105 in the world -- 31 places above eSwatini -- so Egypt can realistically hope to score goals this Friday at the Al Salam Stadium in Cairo. Salah is the pride of Egypt having won the best goal and finished third in the best player category behind Luka Modric and Cristiano Ronaldo at the recent FIFA awards. He is also among 30 contenders for the Ballon d'Or prize bestowed annually by France Football magazine. His recent scarcity of goals for Liverpool, and being substituted in a match at Chelsea, has drawn sympathy from Egyptian pundits.

"Salah must not look back at last season, whether it was his goal scoring or his exceptional form," said Islam el-Shater in Al-Masry Al-Youm. "He must do what his manager (Jurgen Klopp) asks of him so that he does not lose his starting place." Another columnist in that newspaper, Mohammed el-Bourmy, wrote: "Salah is being compared to Ronaldo

and Messi and some possibly believed he could score 40 to 50 goals every season. "He is not required to do that, but rather to have a good season with 20 goals to his name and enjoy himself." Leading football commentator Hassan el-Mistekawi noted that "the Salah smile is missing since the start of the season because of the pressure he is under to score".

While Egypt can boast of Salah, eSwatini have a caretaker coach and no stars with the squad comprised of locals and a sprinkling of players with South African second-tier clubs. The countries will meet twice during the Cup of Nations window with the return match next Tuesday in Manzini, where the southern African nation lost 2-0 to Tunisia last month.

Tunisia tackle Niger, whose squad have been complaining of a "beans-and-water" diet and unpaid bonuses, and must believe they can collect maximum points to stay top of Group J. Struggling Gabon must have been encouraged by the two goals Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scored for Arsenal against Fulham as they begin life under new coach Daniel Cousin. *AFP*

Paul Pogba wants a Frenchman to win the Ballon d'Or but does not believe it should be him

Paul Pogba says he would love a Frenchman to win the Ballon d'Or, but does not believe it should be him. The Manchester United midfielder was named on the 30-man shortlist for the award for the best player of the year, with the winner to be announced in Paris on December 3. There were seven Frenchmen named on the list after helping Les Bleus win their second World Cup in Russia this summer.

Chelsea midfielder N’Golo Kante and Tottenham goalkeeper Hugo Lloris are in contention, along with Paris Saint-Germain’s Kylian Mbappe, Atletico Madrid’s Antoine Griezmann and Real Madrid’s Champions League-winning duo Raphael Varane and Karim Benzema. “Whether it’s Grizou (Griezmann), Kylian (Mbappe) or Raph’ (Varane), they deserve it much more than me,” Pogba told AFP.

“I can not designate one. But I hope with all my heart that this is one of the three. “One of the four also because there is NG (Kante). That’s all I hope for anyway, because there are many who deserve it. I do not put myself in.” Every Ballon d'Or since 2008 has been won by either Cristiano Ronaldo or Lionel Messi and the pair are both among the favourites again this year. *SKysports*

CHIPOLOPOLO WIN AT LAST

By Alex Chilumbwe
Chipolopolo coach Sven Vandenbroeck has recorded his first home win as Chipolopolo beat Guinea Bissau 2-1 in their

AFCON qualifier clash at National Heroes stadium in Lusaka yesterday. The win keeps alive hopes for copper bullets to qualify for next year's

AFCON as they need back to back wins in order for them to book a place. It was a rocky start for the 2012 African Champions as most of their passes

were incomplete, thanks to the macho Bissau rivals. Numerous attempts of building from the back characterised the Zambian game plan but to

no fruition. Both sides secured two corner kicks between the 8' and 27' minute and it was from the second corner for Chipolopolo boys that

FC Metz's Stopilla Sunzu struck home through a header to give Zambia a lead. Meanwhile, ZESCO United's Cletus Chama and Red Bull Salzburg's Enock Mwepu launched series of clever attacks that bore no goal until the last whistle of the first half.

Giggs plays down fears over Bale injury ahead of Wales v Spain clash

Ryan Giggs has played down fears over the fitness of Real Madrid forward Gareth Bale despite ruling the Wales forward out of Thursday's friendly with Spain. Bale has been troubled by a groin injury in recent weeks and was forced off in the closing stages of Real's defeat at Alaves on Saturday. But Wales boss Giggs is still hopeful that Bale will make the Nations League tie away to the Ireland on Tuesday, and predicted that he would be fit for Real's next game against Levante. "Gareth has got a little bit of muscle fatigue and he won't be involved against Spain," Giggs said. "We don't want to take any risks and we are monitoring it every day. I would say he is 50-50 at the minute for the Ireland game. "He feels good but we have to weigh up the risk whether he can be part of the game on Tuesday." AFP



Green Buffaloes' Justine Shonga found the back of the net in the 53rd minute to give Zambia a 2-0 advantage in after another counter attack launched from the back by Enock Mwepu. Guinea Bissau made three consecutive penetrations through the Zambian defence where one resulted into a corner that yielding no goal at all. Sven resorted to substitutions in the 75th minute by replacing Enock 'Computer' Mwepu with South African based Salulani Phiri while Mwepu's club mate Patson Daka replaced Orlando Pirates' Augustine Mulenga. Kennedy Mweene's mistake 10 minutes before full time saw Guinea Bissau take one back, and Zambia's retaliation profited Chipolopolo nothing more - ending the encounter at 2-1. Zambia now has four points, leveling up with Guinea Bissau and Mozambique.