

Ministers wait 5hrs, Chinese see Lungu express

STATE HOUSE RUNS ON DEALS

By Abraham Kalito
Chishimba Kambwili has narrated an incident that happened at State House where a bag full of dollars which was being delivered to President Lungu's office by some Chinese accidentally opened and the money started falling down, much to the amusement of onlookers.

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One day, dollars fell off a bag delivered to Lungu's office by Chinese - Kambwili

Democracy can't survive without serious journalism - Bloomberg

By Mukosha Funga
Co-Founder of Bloomberg News Matthew Winkler says no democracy can survive without serious journalism. And Winkler has advised

African journalists to tell more stories using data as this is one way of ensuring factual reporting. In an interview with News Diggers! Sunday, Winkler, who

is in Zambia for the Africa Business Media Innovators Forum taking place in Livingstone from November 18 to 20, emphasised the need for good journalism.

Asked if he felt the future of journalism was at stake with the advancement of technology, Winkler said; "I definitely do believe that there is a great deal at stake and I do think that neither capitalist nor democracy can survive without serious and best journalism."

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People praying for God's intervention for Lungu to leave, claims Mulongoti

Lungu campaigns for illiterate Mangango PF candidate, says many MPs can't speak English

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Chief Madzimawe with Chipata District Farmers Association Coordinator Vigil Malambo at the News Diggers/ OSISA discussion Forum on Thursday

Abolish drought insurance, we'll deal directly with God, East farmers tell govt

By Zondiwe Mbewe
Farmers in Eastern Province have accused government of swindling them money through the payment of the

drought insurance cover, which is never paid to them as compensation despite the dry spells they face, as was the case last year.

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By Mukosha Funga

Founder of Bloomberg News Matthew Winkler says no democracy can survive without serious journalism. And Winkler has advised African journalists to tell more stories using data as this is one way of ensuring factual reporting.

In an interview with News Diggers! Sunday, Winkler, who is in Zambia for the Africa Business Media Innovators Forum taking place in Livingstone from November 18 to 20, emphasised the need for good journalism.

Asked if he felt the future of journalism was at stake with the advancement of technology, Winkler said: "I definitely do believe that there is a great deal at stake and I do think that neither capitalist nor democracy can survive without serious and best journalism. So we are committed, like so many news organisations, I hope,

Democracy cannot survive without serious journalism – Bloomberg

to the best journalism and the models are increasingly turning on the subscription dependency and how important that is but it is also turning on increasingly on the greatest philanthropists in the world, many of whom are business people, like Michael Bloomberg, but he is by no means the only one, who are recognising increasingly that the most successful capitalism like the most successful democracy needs the most robust journalism."

Winkler said he was optimistic that news consumers would support journalism via the subscription model once they decided that they

needed access to proper content in order to make decisions.

"So it is not just Bloomberg, you can look at the Washington Post and how it has evolved and it has become a much more robust, much more global, much more dynamic, much more digital product in journalism than what it began as a broadsheet journalism broadsheet. It is by no means the only example, recently, Times Magazine for example was purchased by Marc Benioff, who is the founder of Salesforce.com and he is every bit committed to making Time, which as you know was the magazine in the 20th century, still a

robust and vibrant media in the 21st century," he said.

"But beyond that, there are all kinds of things that news organisations are doing to make it clear how important subscription is – just as consumers value their health care, just as consumers value the air that they breathe, the water that they breathe, the food that they consume, so are they going to be equally discriminating about the information they get. Because they need the truth to make the best decisions so I do think the value of subscription is going to increase and I do think that more and more people, millennials in particular are going to say as far as quality

is concerned, I need to have serious journalism in my life if I am going to make the best decisions as I go forward. So the subscription model is going to become much more robust."

And Winkler advised African journalists to tell more stories using data as this is one way of ensuring factual reporting.

"What we try to do at Bloomberg is to be able to as much as possible be able to compare one country to another country, one region to another region, one economy to another economy, in other words, it's to bring as much relative value to our reporting as possible and the reason why that's valuable is that it actually winds up engaging many of the people, many of the institutions which would otherwise not be so cooperative. Why is that? The reason is, at some point, the economy of Kenya will be compared to the economy of Nigeria, the economy of South Africa will be compared to Ethiopia and then these economies will be compared to other economies in South America or in Asia and the reason is exactly what Bloomberg does and that's what I try to bring across when I am in these long term conversations with journalists in Africa about the importance of making these linkages, the importance of understanding that the more you could compare the data of one economy to another economy, the more you can compare the data

of one company to another company the more you can compare the data of one market to another market, the more you are going to get," he said.

"And data is another way of saying facts and facts are the elements of news and that's what we need more in Africa, it is more facts and it is this relentless pursuit of data...I see no reason why this can't be applied across the board to all media here and I would encourage that practice because I think it is the best practice."

Meanwhile, Winkler explained why Bloomberg was investing in Africa.

"In some ways, in the 21st century, you could say at some point, it is about Africa, it is about Africa for the basic reason that the demography as you may know is that there are more young people in Africa than probably anywhere else. So this is where industry and global economics are going to converge and Bloomberg has now, for the fourth year, committed itself to, as much as it can, elevating the awareness, the importance of Africa especially in the context of business, financial economic reporting and bringing African countries into a global conversation about the most important issues which obviously include climate change, health care and the global economy...so what we are committed in doing is bringing together leaders in media from all over the world, in Africa, we have tried to be as diverse as we can in the composition of the people who make up the forum," said Winkler.

"We have also tried to make the reach of the forum as broad as possible. We started in Johannesburg, next week we are in Kenya, last year we were in Accra and of course this year we are in Zambia in this beautiful place called Livingstone. The point is that we want to be expanding the competitiveness of African media, the ability of African media to reach into reporting that goes very deep in the economy, goes very deep in covering corporations, technology, global trade, all these issues which are at the centre of where power is and we ultimately obviously want to speak truth to power so here is hoping we are having a good impact."



Some vulnerable children and parents jostle for food aid at Kamwala mosque during the Islamic celebration of the birth of Prophet Mohammed yesterday - Picture by Jean Mandela

Pafyuma says there's no unfairness in distribution of CDF

By Mirriam Chabala

Wusakile independent member of parliament Pafyuma Kalobo says there is no unfairness in the allocation of Constituency Development Funds (CDF) by government as it is being alleged by opposition members of parliament.

And Kalobo says he is not preoccupied with re election in 2021 because he has a five-year mandate in which he has to execute all the promises made in the last elections.

Speaking to News Diggers in an interview, Kalobo said those members of parliament who were claiming to have difficulties accessing the CDF from government were just politicking, explaining that there was no bias

whatsoever in the allocation of those funds.

"Me I don't like politicking. In terms of accessing CDF, there is no bias on the part of government. If they prepare the money and say 'we giving 100 people', then they will just give those 100 people without even looking as to who they are. Me I am an independent member of parliament, but [this year] I received CDF before even some of the PF members of parliament received theirs. Even other UPND members received their allocations earlier. And if you are to go to the Ministry of Local government, they will give you a list of the first round of people who benefited from the CDF allocation. And this issue is something I looked at because it

was another worry for me when I was coming to Parliament as a new member, I had that in mind because of the propaganda that I had been hearing that opposition MPs were the the last ones to receive CDF. But from what I have come to learn here, there is no 'biasness', that is just politicking. People should learn to put Zambia first, they should not advance personal interests," Kalobo said.

Meanwhile, Kalobo said unlike some of the members of parliament on the Copperbelt who were allegedly posturing for re-adoption in the 2021 elections, he was only interested in doing his best during the five-year mandate still had a long way.

"I want to indicate that I am not

one of the people lining up for adoption in 2021. Personally, me as a member of parliament for Wusakile constituency, I am not preoccupied with 2021. I have got a five-year mandate already and I have a duty to deliver in these five years that the people of Wusakile have given me. So why should I start looking for 2021? It's the people who are supposed to qualify me for our next term, after I have been performed. So me I am looking at this five-year mandate that I have been given already. The social contract I have with the people of Wusakile is from 2016 to 2021, I don't have a social contract with them after 2021, no. I have not been given that contract yet so I can't be preoccupied with it," said Kalobo.

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

The Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee (PAC) on Friday warned Copperbelt Permanent Secretary Bright Nundwe that next time he appeared before the committee for petty queries, it would recommend for his dismissal.

But Nundwe repeatedly praised his administration saying that it had done extremely well in terms of management of funds. The committee chaired by Muchinga MMD member of parliament Howard Kunda, however, wondered why the controlling officer would praise himself so much when he had so many audit queries regarding his management of public

PAC threatens to recommend Nundwe's dismissal

funds.

Among the queries that the 2017 Auditor General's report found with regards to wastage of public funds in Copperbelt Province were (a) unaccounted for stores amounting to K4, 200, (b) wasteful expenditure-NAPSA totalling to K18, 025, (c) irregularities in the sale

of bonded assets totalling to K966, 977, (d) over payment of salaries of K76, 284; (e) irregular payment of housing allowances to an officer who was already accommodated by government in amounts totalling to K6, 990, (f) irregular payment of night duty allowance amounting to K29, 632, and (g) irregular

payment of rural and remote hardship allowances amounting to K184, 284 among others.

After praising himself for "performing well" as a province, committee chairperson Kunda asked if the PS still thought he had done well despite the listed queries.

"I just have one last question for

you, do you still stand on your first stamen that you made there that you have done very well and that you have come here for us to praise you. Do you still stick to what you said PS?" Kunda asked.

In response, Nundwe insisted that his province had performed extremely well.

"Chair I am not trying to be comic but as a controlling officer, I always carry an inventory of what transpired in 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017, it was a graph. I still insist sir that Copperbelt has done exceptionally well but we still have a huge responsibility to make sure that we absolutely clean-up everything. So that's my language sir," Nundwe said. Kunda repeated his question for the sake of clarity.

"PS I will ask you again, with all these issues that you are regretting, you have answered here. Are you still sticking to what you have said because it is very important for records here, you have been consistently regretting. Do you still stick to what you said earlier? because I gave you counsel. So I want to find out [and] I will give you an opportunity again, do you still stick to what you have said?" he asked.

Nundwe said he would do better next time.

Kunda then warned him that the committee would recommend for his dismissal if he continued appearing for petty issues.

"Having said that I would like to mention to you that we see as a committee that you really need to work on record keeping. It is very clear from where I am seated here that record keeping is really a problem with Copperbelt Province. So we feel that that should be resolved. And also the issue of being proactive in dealing with issues, if you are proactive in dealing with issues, people will be coming to PAC to back you on the back all the time, but if you are being reactive to issues...and like you have shown here that some of your responses are after the audit queries. Most of the issues are just showing that you only referred to after being audited. [And] issues of subsistence allowances, lunch allowance, surely we should be talking about lunch allowances here? It is unacceptable. We are thinking that next time, we should be recommending something else, to just put pressure on you, possibly if you do not do the right thing, to even be fired [or] to be dismissed so that we can have people who are going to put in their best to ensure that public funds are protected," warned Kunda.

"So PS you have agreed with us that there are a lot of anomalies here that you would have resolved even before the auditors ensured even before the auditors, you would have resolved. And therefore next time we should not be talking about these issues that relate to lunch allowance. We will not accept that otherwise we shall start exercising our power in recommending for those punitive measures that have been put in this document (the Public Finance Management Act of 2018)."



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Zambia Association of Sisterhoods (ZAS) present some gifts at Lusaka's Roma Catholic Parish as they celebrated the diamond jubilee mass under the theme 'Celebrating with gratitude God's faithfulness and embracing the future with confidence' on Saturday – Picture by Tenson Mkhala

Sales Tax to slow down economic growth, manufacturers say

By Stuart Lisulo

The Zambia Association of Manufacturers has warned that Sales Tax will slow down the country's economic growth and encourage tax avoidance.

In a statement, Association president Roseta Chabala stated that the Sales Tax proposal as contained in next year's national budget will hinder economic growth as it would increase the cost of doing business for private sector companies that are already struggling to cope in a challenging economic environment.

Government is set to re-

introduce Sales Tax as proposed in the 2019 national budget from April 1 next year and replace Value Added Tax (VAT).

"Some of the measures in the (2019) budget broaden the tax base, which is welcome, but overall, they increase the burden of doing business, which is a cause for concern. The approach of increasing tax revenues through the implementation of the Sales Tax and revisions to other taxes, charges and fees will constrain growth, causing the private sector to further struggle in an already difficult business environment. In particular, we are concerned that the introduction of the Sales Tax will increase the cost of doing business and incentivise movement to the informal sector," Chabala stated.

"The lack of a refund mechanism will increase input costs and make tax avoidance more attractive and straightforward. Manufacturers will experience higher input costs, making Zambian products less competitive and increasing prices for consumers: we estimate that the Sales Tax could increase the cost [of] agro-processing by 10 per cent, stifling a growing sector that adds value to domestic produce."

And Chabala, who is also ZAMEFA managing director, called on government to address the country's debt position through the creation of an enabling environment for businesses to drive the country's growth.

"...This means: investing in the country's business capacity through a commitment to protect pro-growth spending on economic diversification and skills training, and improving the business climate through dismantling government arrears and improving access to credit through empowerment schemes; promoting growth and investment through a commitment to not increasing the cost of doing business and the development of a stable tax and regulatory regime that works for Zambian businesses," stated Chabala, who also advised government that the Industrial Development Cooperation's (IDC) role should be scaled back to making strategic investments as opposed to competing with the private sector.

I'm ashamed to be cited by Auditor General again, Chanda Kabwe laments

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Central Province Permanent Secretary Chanda Kabwe on Friday told the parliamentary Public Accounts Committee (PAC) that he will part ways with his provincial team should he be cited in the next auditor general's report.

Speaking when he appeared before the said committee to respond to audit queries cited in the auditor general's report for the financial year ended 31st December 2017, Kabwe was reminded that he had vowed not to appear before the committee this year.

"Definitely Honourable members you can see from my response, my posture is that I am not a happy person because these are simple things that we shouldn't be appearing before this committee. We should have dealt with them [and] I've told my officers and they will confess to themselves. I've told them [that] come next year when the audits starts, in the preliminary audits if there will be anything, we will separate ways with my team. That I've assured them. I don't want to

come here next year. Last year I said I don't want to come here [but] I am here [and] it's a shame on myself; although on a good side because the queries are not as they used to be showing that we are getting in the right direction. I have told them that some of these things we can resolve them at provincial level even without getting to PAC. Anyone who will be found wanting, there are enough laws vested in the controlling officer and secretary to the cabinet and we will deal with issues at provincial level," Kabwe told the committee.

He complained that operations in the province were hampered because of inadequate resources.

"We are not leaving the internal auditors. Our internal auditor is our backbone in terms of implementing or following the act (Public Finance Management Act). Sometimes our officers are not given tools that will help them to carry their job very well. To show commitment on my part, I have even released one of my

vehicles to internal auditors so that they carry their work. Even when director finance was appointed, tools were not given from the accountant general [so] I had to surrender again so that they carry on to do their work. That is commitment on our part and we hope that since the control of internal audit is here, they will be able to give our internal auditors tools so that they will be able to carry out their work. And I know that my office cannot function without accounts and audit [units]," Kabwe said.

Later, Committee vice chairperson Brenda Tambatamba who is also Kasempa UPND member of parliament asked if there were any measures to end the misuse of public funds.

"All these management responses are full of regrets, [now] as you were signing this document controlling officer, what is your posture to your staff going forward in terms of ensuring that there is accountability and that due diligence is taking place. What is your posture to your team

going forward?" Tambatamba asked.

In response, Kabwe responded that he had warned his staff that they would part ways if such cases repeated.

He also bragged that the province was thinking outside the box so as to open up other investment opportunities.

"Honorable chair as a province we are thinking outside the box to try and see how we can help government to complete some of these projects. And I am sure you supported us as members of parliament [because] we saw some of you during our investment expo. This is trying to help us open up rural areas such as Ngabwe. Because of our investment expo, we have an investor who is putting up 1,000 housing units in Ngabwe, we have an investor who is putting up a 100 megawatts of solar in Ngabwe because of our expo, we have an investor who is putting up a big plant which will be launched by His Excellency the president this Tuesday. All this is because of thinking outside the box," said Kabwe.

By Abraham Kalito

Chishimba Kambwili says prison facilities will be full of politicians, including President Edgar Lungu after 2021, adding that three quarters of those in the Patriotic Front would be arrested when the party loses power.

And the National Democratic Congress (NDC) party leader says he is dismayed that President Edgar Lungu has not learnt a lesson from former Presidents Frederick Chiluba and Rupiah Banda's prosecution to stop stealing from public coffers. In an interview with News Diggers in Luanshya, Sunday, Kambwili narrated an incident that happened at State House where a bag full of dollars which was being delivered to President Lungu's office by some Chinese accidentally opened and the money

Prisons will be full of politicians after 2021, says Kambwili as he narrates State House money scandal

started falling down, much to the amusement of onlookers.

"What happened one time at State house was embarrassing. Some people came to State House with a bag, and as they were going towards the Presidents office the bag suddenly opened and US Dollars started falling down. They closed the doors quickly and started picking Dollars. What happens at State House is dirty I'm telling you. Ministers are made to wait for four, five hours. Chinese businesses are busy going in and out with bags full of Dollars. We

know everything so don't think you are clever. We have reliable informants."

He said those in the PF were better off looking for where to hide after 2021 because no one would be spared from going to prison.

"I'm very worried with the current leadership in as far as corruption is concerned. They have turned this country into a money-making venture. And you see the whole essence of referring to history is to discard bad practices and keep good practices. What happened to Frederick Chiluba, what happened to Rupiah

Banda should have been lesson enough for these PF Ministers including His Excellence the President Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu. The corruption that they are involved in right from the top, to the Presidential aides, the Ministers and by the way, this new financial regulation that they are boosting about that will now improve the corruption status in Zambia does not extend to Ministers. It only ends up on Permanent Secretary going downwards. But more often than not, Permanent Secretaries and directors are given

illegal instructions by the ministers when they are doing their corrupt acts. So that one is of no consequences because the biggest corruption is at Ministerial level and at State House," he said.

"Look at the \$4.3 million tollgate, I don't think that was handled by Permanent Secretaries and below, that was handled by State House. We know that all the contracts that are given to AVIC International are actually given by State House through verbal instructions and you cannot stress the involvement of State House. But what I am trying to say is that these people should have learnt lessons on how Chiluba suffered through that prosecution, how Rupiah Banda suffered through that prosecution and how Richard Sakala was sent to prison. Its sad that they cannot learnt and I feel sorry. They seem not to learn but I can tell you that the prisons in 2021 after August will be full of politicians. I can rest assure you. And it will not be business as usual where people are acquitted of their guilty. We will make sure that whoever has dipped money in the public treasury; first and foremost, we will grab all the buildings that they had built using this illegal money. Houses, we know which houses they have built. We know what properties they own in South Africa, Dubai, Uganda, all those will have to account they will have to tell us how you got the money."

He said those who are dishing out money to the marketeers will also have to explain where they got the money from. "For the marketeers who are been empowered, but whoever is empowering the marketeers through stolen money will have to go in. the market money they have been saying is from President Edgar Lungu's pocket, today they are saying they have given over K50 million of market empowerment. Where has President Edgar Lungu gotten the K50 million in two years. Themselves are

telling us that he has given out over K50 million worth of market empowerment fund. That boy Tembo who is in the forefront of the empowerment, Permanent Secretary Chanda Kabwe who is the Patron they will all have to account where they are getting the money for market empowerment. That does not mean that we are against market empowerment, I have said it before that let the market empowerment be budgeted for by the state and let an act of parliament prescribe how that money shall be disbursed. We want clean money to be given to our marketeers," he said.

"We want to know where the K50 million has come from in two years because if you calculate from the salary of President Edgar Lungu with all his allowances, it cannot come to K50 million because President Edgar Lungu is not a business man. So, the question I want to ask President Edgar Lungu before its too late is; tell us where the money for the marketeers is coming from. When I come in, in 2021, it will be a different ball game all together."

Meanwhile Kambwili said President Edgar Lungu should name the Michael Chilufya Sata toll plaza after himself and instead name the Kitwe Mall after the late president.

"And let me appeal to President Edgar Lungu, if he has any respect for President Michael Sata, any respect at all, he should reverse the naming of the Michael Chilufya Sata toll gate. He should name that mall in Kitwe, the NAPSA mall as Michael Chilufya Sata mall. And let him name that toll gate as Edgar Lungu toll gate. Because Edgar Lungu is synonymous with taxes while Michael Sata is synonymous with Infrastructure development. What he has done is an insult to Mr Sata. And I have never seen an incumbent President naming certain infrastructure after himself. How? How do you say this is the Edgar Lungu mall when you are still in office? People should give names on your behalf. So, for the sake of the Sata family, name the Kitwe mall as Michael Sata mall and not Edgar Lungu mall. If he doesn't do it, when I come as President, I will swap them," said Kambwili.

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PATRIOTIC FRONT

We deserve your vote



Leaving no one behind

Part 2: The PF govt delivering its promised "human-centred development"; Driven by economic & social infrastructure development

By Davies Mwila

Infrastructure development is a crucial pre-requisite for industrialization and diversification of the economy. As John F. Kennedy once said: "It is not our wealth that builds our roads, but it is our roads that built our wealth!"

The Patriotic Front Government has embarked on a transformational agenda in line with the long-term aspiration of this country to become a prosperous middle-income country by 2030. In our pursuit of the African Union Agenda 2063, and sustainable development goals for 2030, our strategy is premised on sustainable Infrastructure Development.

In part 1, we discussed how the country urgently needs to accelerate its infrastructure development programme, to not only significantly improve the well-being of citizens countrywide, but to also make our country more competitive regionally.

The following sequel is written under the sub theme: Destroying The Unlearned Question That Asks, "Do We Eat Roads?" The Concrete Benefits of Infrastructure Development

The great physicist, Albert Einstein said that, "knowledge is having the right answers, and intelligence is asking the right questions".

In the context of infrastructure development, knowledge is having the right answers on the benefits of infrastructure development to Zambia which include the following:

- a) Higher Competitiveness: Zambia's infrastructure development drive will strengthen its economic competitiveness regionally and globally, thereby giving Zambia a better "business outlook" as an investment destination, instead of being an investment desert due to a lack of requisite infrastructure.
- b) Strong domestic market integration: All-weather rural and urban roads, adequate health facilities, Educational Institutions, to name but a few; will lead to a healthier population; greater integration of Zambia's domestic economy and commercial production from subsistence production levels which would significantly reduce poverty.
- c) Robust Growth: Infrastructure development in Zambia will lead to greater economic competitiveness and domestic market integration, making robust, faster and inclusive growth possible.
- d) Poverty and Inequality: Not all Zambians are able to meet the desired sanitary services and access to portable drinkable water by themselves. Therefore, by delivering social and economic infrastructure; the PF Government has begun to make it possible for all Zambians to access infrastructure, thereby, reducing inequality of access and poverty.
- e) Regional integration and economies of scale – an impossible task without infrastructure development

One of the key hindrances to sustained economic growth and development in Africa has been due to small and sparsely distributed markets. This realization has given rise to a continent-wide push for regional integration.

However, without massive and strategic investments in infrastructure development, regional integration is unattainable. Therefore, infrastructure development will facilitate regional integration, which will open larger regional and international markets and access to Zambian

products and services.

Further, it is important to note that one of the key hindrances for Zambia to realize economic diversification into the export of non-traditional commodities are factors that affect transaction costs such as infrastructure services (or lack thereof); low population (market) density as a single country or being landlocked (without access to sea) – which the PF Government is working to turn into a land-linked country. This lack of infrastructure development not only inhibits Zambia's comparative advantage in agriculture, mining, tourism and other sectors; but also hampers the deepening of diversification into other labour-intensive production and exports including agro-processing, manufacturing, and services. Infrastructure development will accelerate regional integration and help turn Zambia into a regional economic hub and preferred investment destination as enshrined in the PF manifesto and national strategic documents such as Vision 2030 and 7NDP.

f) Development breeds more development. The more a country develops (i.e., economic, social, environmental, human well-being development); the more it needs essential infrastructure to sustain its development successes and move forward on its sustainable developmental trajectory. If this were not so, the USA, China, Taiwan, Malaysia, South Korea and others would not be investing heavily in upgrading and building new infrastructure. They are doing so because, the "engines" of economic take-off and development need infrastructure development. Economic take-off and development cannot be built on the foundation of crumbling infrastructure. Infrastructure development further facilitates development in other sectors such as agriculture. Abandoning infrastructure development is saying, "let other countries in the region by-pass us in development, and let our domestic economy stagnate and then regress". This is not a future that any right-thinking Zambian citizen would wish for their country.

Based on this knowledge (that is, "having the right answers") vis-à-vis the benefits of infrastructure development to the Zambian economy; what should follow is "intelligence" in our discourse.

Albert Einstein once said; "intelligence is asking the right questions". In this regard, intelligent questions include: "what strategic economic and social infrastructure does the country need to deliver economic growth and development as a means to reduce inequality and poverty?" Such intelligent questions would lead the country to a state where politics become knowledge-based and intelligent, learned questions are asked. That is what will develop Zambia's economic, societal and political fabric. However, what happens if sections of society continue to deliberately peddle lies and falsifying facts to mislead the simple among us? Should our politics and all its participants then lower the level of debate to discuss lies, falsehoods, unlearned and unintelligent questions such as "do we eat roads"?

What then? What do we do?

The Holy Scriptures in 2 Timothy 2:23 command us to do this one thing:

"But foolish and unlearned (ignorant) questions (debate, disputes) avoid, knowing that do gender (generate) strife". Unlearned questions and lies shall therefore be avoided whenever cynics deliberately manufacture such in an effort to distract the PF Government from delivering a Zambia it

promised!

A Selection of Current PF Government Infrastructure Projects

The state and levels of development which Zambia wishes to emulate from countries such as Singapore under Lee Kuan Yew; China's transformation under Deng Xiaoping; South Korea; Malaysia and many others, was not built on thin air. It was through good policy and requisite infrastructure development, among others, which delivered higher development in these respective countries. As stated earlier in the paragraphs, "infrastructure is the foundation and core 'input' to all other 'output' or production process in an economy". Therefore, it is imperative that Zambia should develop its economic and social infrastructure to appreciable levels.

There are numerous infrastructure programmes which are currently being implemented by the PF Government under His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu. A few of such on-going infrastructure projects are as listed below:

- a) Road rehabilitation and construction through the L400, C400 and L8000 in order to link Zambia for robust economic growth and development and wider human well-being.
- b) Construction of hospitals and schools to ensure improved Health Service Delivery and producing a Knowledgeable citizenry for a more competitive, and knowledge-based economy.
- c) Promoting Urban Renewal and upgrades of squatter settlements through public channels and public-private partnership model.
- d) Construction of the Kenneth Kaunda International Airport, and the Copperbelt Airport, to strengthen domestic, regional and global economic integration.
- e) Other road works and bridges for local- and regional economic integration such the ongoing works on Kazungula Bridge.

Kazungula Bridge. Source: Zambia Business Times

Sketch map of Kazungula. Source: Daily mail

Mongu-Kalabo road (Zambia's engineering marvel). Source: Zedcorner.com

Mongu-Kalabo road. Source: Lusaka Times

Conclusion:

"Development" is not an abstract "pie in the sky". Development entails bringing about positive change. There is, and can never be, positive change (development) without economic and social infrastructure development. Infrastructure development and maintenance is a critical driver and input of economic growth and development, and has the potential to significantly improve the welfare of the citizenry in various ways including job creation-especially for the youth and local companies.

The foregoing is the reason why; the PF Government under the able leadership of His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu, is "delivering the Zambia it promised", using the "lever" of "economic" and "social" infrastructure development to accelerate robust "human-centred" development in Zambia.

Hon Davies Mwila
Secretary General
Patriotic Front

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Chief Mazimawe of the Ngoni people of Eastern Province has advised farmers to diversify from maize-growing, warning that the food crop has become too political to rely on for its cultivation and sale.

And the traditional leader adds that the maize floor-price which government sets for farmer does not always reflect the cost of producing the crop.

Chief Mazimawe was speaking during a public forum organised by News Diggers, the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) and Breeze FM in Chipata, Thursday, under the topic "Plight of a farmer Vs government's response; FISP, E-voucher Vs maize floor price".

"Currently, people have started receiving their inputs, seed and fertilizer, using the old system. So far non of our people have complained. The only problem is that the department of agriculture hasn't done much in engaging people and that's what always brings about problems during the time when government makes pronouncements on the prices of maize. Everybody understands that maize has become so political. We are even now discouraging our people

Do not rely on maize alone because it's a political crop, Madzimawe urges farmers



not to rely only on maize because it's more political and even the price that is pronounced sometimes does not reflect the cost of producing the crop," Gogo

Madzimawe said.

"Also, when it comes to making pronouncements, no one also engages the people to explain because normally what comes out

are complaints that the price is very low. So proper coordination hasn't been there. Also we haven't diversified much to grow other crops which can earn

our farmers an income which is at a profit."

And Chief Mazimawe observed that the tendency by the Food Reserve Agency to pay farmers late,

was a big problem because it was difficult for farmers to prepare.

"We also have this problem where farmers are paid after supplying Food Reserve Agency crops, after some months. This is a very serious problem because its difficult for the farmer to prepare. Stakeholders have raised this issue but FRA has failed to change. [This is why] I say maize has a lot of politics, because if FRA pronounces prices which reflects the real value, we might have a problem again where government fails to secure maize from the reserves," he said.

Chief Mazimawe urged farmers to find ways and means of standing on their own.

"If government wants us to grow maize, under National Food Security, we should produce this maize without the support from government. That will be the beginning of overcoming this cry of having lower prices," chief Mazimawe said.

He also added that farmers who feel government was not providing the much needed support were free to do away with the partnership, just like those who are in abusive marriages were encouraged to leave those abusive spouses.

Zambians are praying for God's intervention for Lungu to leave office, Mulongoti says

By Mirriam Chabala

People's party leader Mike Mulogoti says Zambians are always praying for God's intervention to have President Edgar Lungu leave office soon, adding that the Head of State's days in office are numbered.

And Mulongoti says President Lungu still does not understand how government operates despite having been a minister and member of parliament before.

Mulongoti who is former information minister and also served as Works and Supply minister, said the Head of State had caused so much pain and misery for the people and citizens were eager to see him go.

"Mr Lungu's days are numbered. No matter what he does, his days are numbered. We saw a very strong President called Kenneth Kaunda, his time to go came. We saw a strong President who bought so much material that even trees had Chitenge, Rupiah Banda just walked away. This one (Lungu) even worse. He has plundered the economy, he has plundered government resources to the point that to retain him, the level of anger he has caused in the hearts of citizens would cause violence for all of us," Mulongoti said.

"So his going away is the only option we have, we don't have any other option. If he thinks there is room for him then he's

cheating himself. Let him privately go to the citizens and talk to them so that he hears what exactly they are saying. They want him out. Others are praying for God to intervene in removing him. God can remove you in many ways. But because he's always drunk, there is nothing he can understand," said Mulongoti.

And commenting on President Lungu's concerns when he visited Solwezi last week, where he told Chief Chibwika of North Western Province that it was difficult for him to take development to opposition strongholds because he had no "special purpose vehicles" to do so, Mulongoti said President Lungu was looking for excuses to deny people development.

"Mr Lungu does not seem to understand that government is an all purpose vehicle which is supposed to cover the whole country. In government there should be no tribe, there should be no special people, there must be equity. So you can tell that he's such an ignorant person that he thinks government is for PF. Government administration is for the whole republic and when you are taking development, it must be taken on the basis equity, not on the basis of tribal or party affiliations. He amazes me with his level of thinking that a President who has got an administration which is supposed to cover the whole country has begun to complain that he

doesn't have a special vehicle. I don't know if he understands what a special purpose vehicle is," Mulongoti said.

"If government is not a special purpose vehicle, what then is a special vehicle in this country? It's becoming very evident that Mr Lungu needs a lot of help. It is no wonder he is discriminating some citizens, no wonder he's been very aggressive of citizens because he doesn't understand what he's doing. The constituencies in this country are not demarcated as per political party, they are constituencies demarcated for the Republic of Zambia. So whether the MP who comes from there is for the opposition, it is by choice of the people. There is no such a thing that this constituency is created for UPND, this one is for PF. So there is no reason at all why any normal thinking President must begin to say he can't take development somewhere."

Mulongoti wondered why it would be hard for him to take development to opposition strongholds when the national budget had already allocated funds to those constituencies.

"The sharing of resources is done in Parliament, and in Parliament you don't say 'because you are from Siavonga, in the budget you are not represented because you are from the opposition', there is no such thing. When planning of the budget is done, it covers the whole

country and that is what is expected. Because the minute they don't do that, they are creating contention. This is the complaint we've seen that some Provinces have got two universities while others have nothing. Some people have got huge hospitals and others have got nothing, that is what is bringing contention, and when you've got a President who thinks like that, he thinks he is handicapped by people who are supposed to work with him. The responsibility of President is not for a member of parliament," Mulongoti said.

He also wondered what President Lungu learnt in his many years of being a member of parliament.

"A member of parliament is a voice carrier on behalf of the people. Development is the responsibility of government through the civil service. But this man doesn't understand that, he wants to find excuses to deny people development. He was a member of parliament before but I don't know what he learnt from there. He was minister but I don't know what he learnt from there. There is a book called 'cabinet handbook' which describes the responsibilities of a minister per portfolio. He is the minister of the Republic. A minister's obligation is not to the party, they are ministers of government. They are PF in the party and they are ministers of the Republic," said Mulongoti.

We have seen the jubilation in the PF camp after the Constitutional Court upheld the election of Munali member of parliament Honourable Prof Nkandu Luo. It has to be stated that although we raise no eyebrows over this outcome, it is a judgment that does not change the facts around what transpired during the campaigns in Munali, and neither does it speak to the challenges confronting our politics and governance. It does not change the rising levels of intolerance and political violence in Zambia. It in fact demonstrates that the country's judicial and constitutional reforms have not helped to entrench and affirm good governance and the rule of law.

How did we get here? How did we get to a point where political competition is so intense that it's now a matter of life and death and not a competition to serve? How did we get to this point where evidence doesn't matter much in a court of law? Why are the stakes so high in Zambian politics? It is simply because politics seems to be the shortcut to wealth. It is because there is no "loss" in the ruling party's dictionary; it's a word they can never accept to hear.

But we have to be fair to Prof Luo. In fact, we admire her academic credentials and we have always held the view that she would have served the country a lot better in her professional field than in politics, but who are we to question her career choices?

Our point is that Prof Luo is not the problem, it's the system she serves

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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PO Box, 32147. Cell: +26 0965815078/0977708285
Email: editor@diggers.news/mukosha@diggers.news

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Let ConCourt declare Lungu too, so we get done with it already

under that is. A system that does not respect tenets of good governance. A system that is riddled by corruption and lack of foresight for the best interests of the country, and for the generations to come. We repeat, Luo is not the problem in Munali, but this system which she is part of; which she has helped to shape, grow and nurture.

The people of Munali have nothing to gain or lose from this judgment. If anything, the people of Munali know better not to expect that a by-election would do anything to improve their lives. At least, if they are angry enough to seek and effect meaningful change in that political office, they know their best prospects lie in 2021. That is the chance they have to overhaul the system and not changing

an MP under the same rotten system.

What do we find wrong with this judgment that has secured Prof Luo's continued stay in Parliament and at the helm of the Ministry of Higher Education?

Well, to start with, the video which formed part of the evidence in this petition matter is heart breaking. In this era of human rights and after so many decades of existence as a democratic state, such barbaric scenes of violence must never be heard of. We feel the court, most certainly missed an opportunity to punish perpetrators of political violence. And this being the final court of appeal in that regard, it has effectively set a bad precedent for the future and will not achieve the purpose of deterring

would be offenders.

We are not exactly worried that Luo has the protection of the court to hold on to her parliamentary seat, we are worried about the Constitutional Court because this is the new lifeline of the Judiciary in Zambia; it is the new face of the law! Sadly, this is a court that has discredited itself in the eyes of the public due to its controversial judgments. No one can save the face of the judiciary but itself, so far the ConCourt is creating a villain out of itself.

The second problem we have with this judgment is the delay. We reflect on Dr Sishuwa Sishuwa's recent query on the election appeal cases whereby he observed that given that there were relatively few cases before it, what could

have been the logical explanation for the delay by the Constitutional Court to determine the election appeal cases involving Margaret Mwanakatwe, the Lusaka Central Patriotic Front Member of Parliament and Prof Luo?

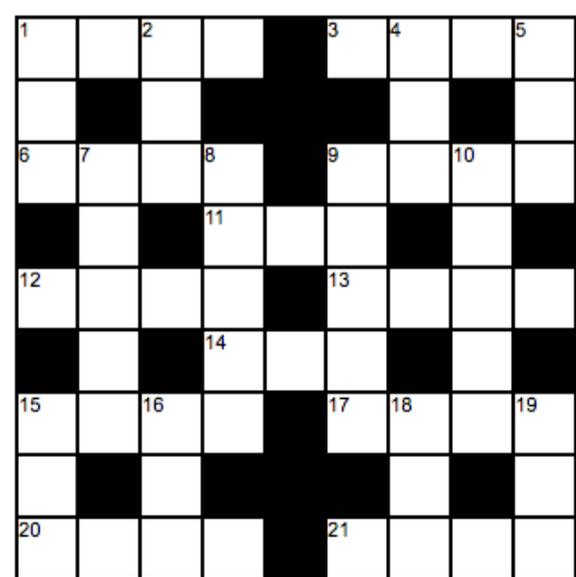
As Sishuwa explained, the first possible explanation for the delays in concluding these parliamentary election appeal cases is a consequence of the weaknesses of the existing law. While the Constitution requires the High Court to 'hear' and presumably determine a properly filed petition against an elected MP within 90 days, it does not provide for a specific timeframe within which a subsequent appeal to the ConCourt must be decided. This is an

institutional loophole that some judges may take advantage of to delay deciding appeal cases. This is a lacuna that should be rectified urgently because it potentially undermines the efficient administration of justice and enables judges that are susceptible to political and financial influence to hide behind its ambiguity.

As Sishuwa predicted, there is no doubt that the more plausible explanation behind the delays in disposing of the appeal cases is that this is a conscious political strategy that has been adopted by the ruling authorities. This strategy is one of pressuring the courts to make constant adjournments to the cases to avoid holding any parliamentary by-election in urban constituencies of Lusaka for fear of losing to the opposition. We can say the same about the unexplained delay for the ConCourt to set a date and deliver ruling in the matter where President Lungu's wish to stand again in 2021 is being challenged.

We have noticed that there are some citizens who still think that the ConCourt can pull a surprise on President Lungu. These are citizens who have consulted legal experts, and they have been assured that the law is very clear on President Lungu's third term bid. We have heard the same legal opinions, but we are not gullible. In fact, we feel it's unfair for the Constitution Court to continue keeping people's false hopes high. Let them call the case and declare Mr Lungu too, so that we get done with it.

Crossword puzzle 233



"Anything which is physically possible can always be made financially possible; money is a bugaboo of small minds."
- Robert A. Heinlein

- | Across | Down |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Adjust for pitch | 1. Service gratuity |
| 3. Make well | 2. Mesh fabric |
| 6. Trail | 4. Card game |
| 9. Opinion sampling | 5. Night school subj. |
| 11. Earth's atmosphere | 7. Later on |
| 12. Ticket part | 8. Custom |
| 13. Shrek, for example | 9. Check for typos |
| 14. Witness stand words | 10. T-shirt size |
| 15. Brood | 15. Long way |
| 17. Pedal pushers | 16. Superlative suffix |
| 20. Snitches | 18. Lodge member |
| 21. Take off the top | 19. Director Burton |

Solutions to puzzle 232



Reader's feedback

Lungu's threats on firing and hiring who he pleases

RB's snub of Mutati's card renewal exercise

Dear Editor,

"Yes, he has such powers, but time will come when he will know real power lies with the people when they fire him in 2021!" - Michael Sandala

"This man always says rubbish whenever he is at the airport." - Gregory Zaza

"He thinks he owns this country, wait till we show you the way out. It seems he has forgotten that he had to come in and thinks he was just created on that seat." - Silumesi Inyama

"Yes. That's my wise President. Fire your entire, rotten Cabinet and you resign in the best interest of the country." - Norman Chan

"We also anxiously are waiting to fire him also!" - Fernez M Scot



Editor,

"Rupiah is pro-Lungu; he only supported Mutati to split MMD and give an upper-hand to PF for his personal gain." - Edward Banda

"We warned Mutati that these people will just use and dump you; they made you declared as the president of MMD using their corrupt ways just to make an alliance. They even declared that Nevers was not the president of MMD. I hope you have learnt your lessons..." - Arnold Mulenga

"Zambian politics at play; Mutati having been used as a political tissue to clean the PF poop is now politically smelly?" - Wanosha Wanosha

PF's protests against 'Xenophobia'

Editor,

"Hypocrites! When two Chinese men killed a guard in Kasama on mere suspicion of stealing roofing sheets, did PF demonstrate against that xenophobic murder? Zambian workers are daily suffering verbal abuse from different foreigners. Who has ever protested? Waste of space." - Haagai Gondwe

"Foolish protesters!" - Billy Mumba

"This is foolish! What xenophobic?!!" - Bright Jalila

"I have never heard of Zambians mistreating or killing Chinese nationals, but I have heard Chinese nationals mistreating and killing Zambians." - Mwamba Edgar Swizz

"Even those they were offering solidarity to are laughing at them. Next time, ka Nathan must do a ka solidarity march in Kitwe, from Kawama to Chimwemwe, we see. Not Ndola where nobody

protested." - Victor Chansa

"The economy is really bad! People are now hired to protest for things they don't understand just because someone has been given a K50..." - Andrew Dre Kapenda

"The protest was for peace and

unity whilst vowing to not allow the UPND and its leader HH in the province; am I missing something?" - Evans Sikuka

"Nathan Chanda and his dull cadres don't even know what the word 'Xenophobia' means." - Chanda Emmanuel

"Big man, RB; he knows how politics is played." - Kahuma Chipoya

"Zambian politicians!" - Jack Mwape

"Mutati is done and dusted." - Moses Mumba

"No, people, this man is clever; he is working together with Mutati behind the door. He is even organising the people who will fund the party. The issue is he is scared of Lungu because if he starts supporting someone, Lungu will have those cases, which were in court during Sata, resurface. He knows that if ECL hears this, then he is going to be penalized for his old crimes." - Lewis Vita Miyanza

Kanganja's instruction to send erring officer to Shang'ombo

Editor,

"Instructions from the IG is confusing; transfer and fire? Which one comes first: transfer and fire, or fire and transfer?" - Jason Mwanza

"Transfer and fire at the same time? How???? Which one?" - Isaac Chiseke

"It shouldn't take the whole IG to make a ruling. Systems themselves got ways of firing and hiring." - Bex Maila

"Common practice in the police service. Social media just blows issues out of proportion. What happened to Vespers is worse than this. Personally, I'm not surprised." - Kelvin Mukube

"So, even those that are advocating for regime change; does HH have the capacity to change the whole civil service machinery to suit his whims and egos? Let's learn to critically and honestly analyse issues." - Steven Mazyopa

By Joseph Mwenda

Farmers in Eastern Province have accused government of swindling them money through the payment of the draught insurance cover, which is never paid to them as compensation despite the dry spells they face, as was the case last year.

Chipata District Farmers Association Coordinator Vigil Malambo has observed that there's disunity among farmers adding that if they do not speak with one voice to get the desired needs from government, they will continue being used as labourers.

This came to light during the public discussion forum organised by News Diggers, the Open Society Initiative for Southern

Abolish draught insurance, we'll deal directly with God, Chipata farmers tell govt

Africa (OSISA) and Breeze FM radio in Chipata, Thursday, under the topic "Plight of a farmer Vs government's response; FISP, E-voucher Vs maize floor price".

Eastern Province Permanent Secretary Chanda Kasolo who had confirmed his participation at the event failed to make it as he was reportedly on an emergency assignment

in Lusaka, and requested to postponed the event, a proposal which the conveners turned down, saying it would have been inconveniencing to other discussants and stakeholders. This left the forum with no government official to whom the farmers could direct their questions.

One of the farmers in the audience rose to

ask Malambo what his association was doing to help the farmers get compensation from the draught insurance cover they paid last year.

In his response, Malambo agreed that the Province experienced draught last season but the farmers were not compensated as promised.

"Last year, there was K100 that went towards

insurance. We have talked and talked and requested that a proper response be given in terms which farmers have been paid so far. Chipata was not spared, we had actually the prolonged period of dry spell, that's already an area where farmers should have been compensated, but nothing has actually been done. Farmers are complaining that they need the compensation and government doesn't seem to be concerned, no proper response is given," he lamented.

He said some farmers have called for the abolishment of the draught insurance policy, saying they would deal directly with God in an event that they receive below normal rainfall.

"All we can do now is to make an appeal to government that we need that money, 'where has it gone'? This is why when we went to one of the areas under Southern block, farmers said 'this time around insurance siti ifuna, tiza diling'ana teka na mulungu (we don't want the insurance, we will deal directly with God)'. Because they didn't see the value of ensuring their crops," he said.

And Malambo said farmers were also getting confused because of government's inconsistency in implementing the e-voucher program.

"Our farmers are also getting confused because of the inconsistency of government in terms of implementation of the e-voucher program. They were using cards [but] this year the cards are not being used. This is also causing challenge on some farmers. Because you will find that those that were on the e-voucher and had e-voucher cards, on the current program they have been left out. And they are beginning to wonder 'what's happening'? This has created a lot of enmity amongst themselves thinking that maybe its the corporative leaders who

have actually sidelined those farmers," he said.

Malambo further noted that government wasn't providing support in terms of monitoring farmers to ensure that they were utilising the inputs that they were getting.

"This program (e-voucher), much as it is costing huge sums of money on the side of government, it is sad to note that despite these huge sums of money, government is not supporting the ministry in terms of funds to monitor this programs. Some of the farmers are even selling the fertilisers. So how do you put so much money but then you don't provide support towards the monitoring to look at whether farmers are utilising the inputs that they are getting on the huge cost on the government side?" he asked.

He observed that there was disunity among farmers, adding that if they did not "repent", they would continue being used as labourers.

"Farmers also have their own problem. Just this year, the price for cotton was supposed to be K4 per kilo. But they took advantage and started telling our farmers K3.40 ngwee per Kg. I wrote a press statement to say 'please hold on your cotton, don't sell it. Let us push these people to increase the price'. If our farmers had heard what I was trying to advice by not letting that cotton be bought by the buyers out there just for a week, I think the cotton companies could have adjusted the price. There is disunity," he observed.

"You are not united and yet at the end of the day you complain of the prices. So that is one thing that weakens us because farmers no matter how much you advice them, each one has got their own problem and they will not listen to you. How I wish our farmers can repent. We need a repented farmer for us to push this agenda so that these private companies can hear from us. If we do not repent, we will continue being used as labourers so that we can produce that which they want from us. But if we are united and say 'no body is going to release this cotton, until they start paying at this price, the we are going to achieve our goal."



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This is one training I will not hesitate to recommend to others; this is what Zambia needs. We are sending more of our managers to the next training.

DANIES CHINSEDA, DIRECTOR GENERAL, ZPPA.

The content is very practical. The challenge is now on us to go back to our offices to implement the principles that have been shared here.

RODGERS MUYANGWA, MANAGER - ECONOMIC REGULATION ELECTRICITY - ERB

Above everything else, I highly valued the practical examples used during the training. We plan to send many other managers for John Maxwell training.

GIFT SIKAUDI, DIRECTOR- PLANNING, INFORMATION AND RESEARCH- ZEMA.

I thought I would be going out to attend to my office work, but once it started, I knew I could not afford to miss any of it - I had to stay right through it!

BRENDA MWILA CHIME - HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER, KARIBA NORTH BANK EXTENSION POWER CORPORATION (KNBEPC).

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On World Toilet Day, let us speak plainly about an issue that is often neglected

As World Toilet Day approaches and there is more and more discussion about the importance of dealing with human waste, many people will become embarrassed or shocked, and some would rather avoid the subject altogether. However, the sanitation crisis that exists in many parts of the world, and the impact it has on nature, cannot be ignored. A recent UN progress

report shows that with just 12 years until the deadline, we are seriously off track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal target of sanitation for all by 2030. These figures contribute to the global totals of 4.5 billion people living without safely managed sanitation, and 892 million people going to the toilet in the open. Human waste, on

a massive scale, is not being captured or treated properly, turning the environment into an open sewer. In streets and fields around people's homes, human excreta is spreading deadly diseases by contaminating water resources and farmland that communities rely on to survive. So, we must not only build more toilets for those who remain

unserved. We must also build more toilets that work in harmony with ecosystems. Nature-based sanitation solutions harness the power of nature to help treat human waste before it returns to the environment. Most nature-based sanitation solutions essentially involve the protection and management of vegetation, soils and wetlands, including rivers and lakes. For

instance, composting latrines capture and treat human waste on site, producing a free supply of fertiliser to help grow crops. And human-made wetlands and reed-beds filter contaminants out of wastewater before it is released back into water courses. Technologies like these, that expand coverage of sanitation services at the same time as protecting nature, must be a

bigger part of the mix as we work to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal target of toilets for all by 2030. The UN-led campaign ahead of World Toilet Day is titled 'When nature calls'; a play on words with a serious meaning. Nature is sending us a message that we must listen to and act upon urgently.

Our ecosystems cannot absorb an ever-growing volume of raw faeces. And billions of people cannot cope with the ill-health and indignity caused by ineffective or non-existent sanitation. The sanitation crisis, if allowed to continue, will undermine the overarching ambition of the 2030 agenda: to build safer, more resilient societies on a healthy planet. With just 12 years to go to the 2030 deadline, for the sake of people and the planet, we must redouble our efforts to provide universal access to toilets, leaving no-one behind.

By Rolf Luyendijk, Executive Director, UN-hosted Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC), on behalf of the UN-Water World Toilet Day Task Force

Edgar Lungu campaigns for 'illiterate' Mangango candidate

By Mukosha Funga

President Edgar Lungu yesterday asked Mangango residents to vote for PF candidate Godwin Putu even though he may not know how to speak English saying he would teach the aspiring member of parliament. And President Lungu says it is very hard to be humble when you have power. Addressing a campaign rally in Kaoma, Sunday, President Lungu observed that not everyone in Parliament knew how to speak English or pronounce certain words but they deserved to be given a chance to lead. "Don't even listen to the opposition when they come to tell you about Putu because Putu was in UPND, he got fed up and left. Now they are telling you that Putu is not a good man, they are telling you that Putu is not educated, what is that? In the village, if you find a beautiful girl and you want to marry her and

she says 'no, sorry, I am not interested', you are foolish to go and say 'she is not beautiful after all, she is a prostitute after all'. It is very disrespectful to the integrity of the young man Putu for the UPND to call him uneducated, he's unsophisticated, he can't speak English, and everything when they were courting him to be their member of parliament a few weeks ago but he said 'sorry, I am not going with UPND because UPND is a finished political party with no future'. Don't listen to the hatred and hate speeches of UPND," President Lungu said. "UPND is a very malicious party. They said for example that me I am very old, I can't even walk, I need a stick to walk. They are very unkind. They even said that I can't speak English. Don't worry, if Putu doesn't know how to speak English, he is my son, I will teach him how to speak English. This is because

we are endowed or gifted differently. Some people are very eloquent, they speak very eloquently and they move crowds. Some people don't even know how to pronounce words but they are there, they are human beings, give them a chance please. Are you sure all those members of parliament in the House in Lusaka all speak English, are they eloquent? Do they have charisma all of them? No." He said no one was perfect. "What is important is to communicate, to be able to make your point clear and be heard. On behalf of the people of Mangango, he will be able to do that. Putu is a young man, this is time for the youths. If you can't give young men and women a chance now, when are we going to give them a chance? You will be able to grow him into a leader yourselves. No one is perfect, everyone has imperfections but together

we can improve and become better. We need to know that wisdom and knowledge comes from above through the people here," President Lungu said. "Those who think are very intelligent are usually very foolish people. There is one leader who's been trying to be President forever but he has never made it. I will not mention him by name but you know him, he has been wanting to become a president since before I became a politician. But because he has no respect for his followers, God has said no. He doesn't respect his followers, he thinks because he has money, he is rich, he is the most wise." And President Lungu said it was very hard to be humble when one had power. "It is very difficult to be humble when you are powerful and a leader, that I will teach you to overcome," said President Lungu.

CIA concludes Saudi Crown Prince behind Khashoggi murder

The US Central Intelligence Agency has concluded Saudi Arabia's powerful Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman was behind the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, US media reported Friday, citing people close to the matter. The US assessment directly contradicts the conclusions of a Saudi prosecutor one day prior, which exonerated the prince of involvement in the brutal murder.

But The Washington Post, which broke the story, said the CIA found that 15 Saudi agents flew on government aircraft to Istanbul and assassinated Khashoggi in the Saudi consulate.

Queried by AFP, the CIA declined to comment.

Khashoggi, a Post columnist, had gone to the consulate to obtain documents necessary to marry his Turkish fiancée. Saudi Arabia -- which quickly dismissed the reported CIA findings -- has repeatedly changed its official narrative of the October 2 murder, first denying any knowledge of Khashoggi's whereabouts and later saying he was killed when an argument degenerated into a fistfight.

In the latest version presented by the Saudi prosecutor on Thursday, a 15-member squad was formed to bring Khashoggi back from Istanbul "by means of persuasion" -- but instead ended up killing the journalist and dismembering his body in a "rogue" operation.

The CIA examined multiple intelligence sources, the Post said,

among them a phone call between the prince's brother -- the Saudi ambassador to the United States -- and Khashoggi.

The ambassador reportedly told the late journalist that he would be safe to go to the consulate in Istanbul and get the papers he needed.

- 'Some things you can't do' -

But a Saudi embassy spokesperson said that Ambassador Khalid bin Salman had never discussed "anything related to going to Turkey" with Khashoggi.

"Amb Prince Khalid bin Salman has never had any phone conversations with (Khashoggi)," the statement posted on the ambassador's Twitter account said.

"The claims in this purported assessment is false," it said.

The US intelligence agency also said in determining the crown prince's role it considered him a "de facto ruler" of Saudi Arabia: "The accepted position is that there is no way this happened without him being aware or involved," the Post quoted an official

as saying.

That official dubbed Prince Mohammed a "good technocrat" -- but also someone unpredictable who "goes from zero to 60, doesn't seem to understand that there are some things you can't do."

The New York Times later reported that the CIA findings were also based on calls from the kill team to one of the crown prince's senior aides.

But the paper said that while the intercepts showed Prince Mohammed was working

to lure Khashoggi to Saudi Arabia, the crown prince had not said in the calls that he wanted Khashoggi killed.

The Times cited officials as saying US and Turkish intelligence so far have not found direct evidence connecting the prince to Khashoggi's killing.

Following the reports, US Vice President Mike Pence on Saturday said Washington "is determined to hold all of those accountable who are responsible for that murder."

On the sidelines of an

APEC summit in Papua New Guinea, Pence described the Saudi journalist's killing as an "atrocious" and an "affront to a free and independent press" but declined to comment on classified information.

The CIA conclusions threaten to further fray relations between Washington and longtime ally Riyadh, which has sought to end discussion of the murder and rejected calls for an international investigation.

"We are going to follow the facts," said Pence. **AFP**

CAR extradites ex-militia leader 'Rambo' for trial

An MP and former militia leader in the Central African Republic (CAR) has been extradited to The Hague to face trial for

crimes against humanity. Alfred Yekatom arrived at the International Criminal Court (ICC) detention centre on

Saturday.

The ICC alleges he was responsible for murder, torture, attacking civilians and using child fighters.

Mr Yekatom, known as "Rambo", led a Christian militia which formed after Muslim rebels seized power in 2013.

The group formed part of a band of mostly Christian militias, called the anti-Balaka, which rose up to counter the rebels.

The allegations against Mr Yekatom, which include war crimes, date back to late 2013 and early 2014.

Mr Yekatom was elected as an MP in 2016, despite being subject to UN sanctions.

He was arrested last month when he fired a gun in parliament, then ran away, after a row with a fellow MP.

This is the first extradition to the court from the CAR. The International Federation for Human Rights (known by its French acronym FIDH) said it signalled the authorities were committed to fighting against impunity.

Sectarian violence continues to grip the country, with nearly 40 people dying in clashes on Friday in the centre of the country.

Meanwhile, a UN peacekeeper died of injuries he received in a gunfight during an attack on a base in the west of the country. A priest was also burnt to death in a central town, and the UN said thousands of people were forced to flee violence. **BBC**



Anti-Ebola efforts suspended in DR Congo amid violence

Health authorities in the Democratic Republic of Congo have suspended efforts to contain an Ebola virus outbreak in the town of Beni because of worsening rebel attacks.

A militia attacked just "a few metres" from an emergency centre, the country's health ministry said.

Staff of the World Health

Organization (WHO) were forced to leave as a shell hit the building they were in.

It is not clear when the mission might resume.

The health ministry blamed the emergency centre attack on the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), a Ugandan Islamist militant group that has been active since the 1990s.

But it was not clear who had fired the shell that hit the house where 16 WHO staff were staying. It hit during exchanges of fire, and could have come from the militia, the UN peacekeepers or the Congolese army.

The staff members took refuge downstairs, before evacuating Beni for another city.

Health officials in the region

stopped giving vaccinations and other outreach work two months ago after a rebel attack in which 18 people died.

Seven UN peacekeepers and 12 Congolese soldiers were killed earlier this week during a joint operation against the ADF.

An Ebola outbreak in the region has killed more than 200 people since August. **BBC**



Jaden Smith reaffirms that Tyler the Creator is his boyfriend: 'It's True'

Jaden Smith continues to call Tyler, the Creator his boyfriend. While promoting his newest project, *The Sunset Tapes: A Cool Tape Story*, on Apple Music's Beats 1 Radio on Friday, Jaden addressed his recent

love proclamation. "I recently said that Tyler, the Creator is my boyfriend, and that's true. So, just so you know," he said. Jaden made headlines earlier this week, after appearing to share the relationship news at Camp Flog Gnaw on

Sunday night. While praising the rapper on stage, Jaden got real about his feelings for Tyler. "I just want to say Tyler, the Creator is the best friend in the world and I love him so f**king much," Jaden said. "And I want to tell

you guys something. I want to tell you. Tyler doesn't want to say, but Tyler's my mother f**king boyfriend, and he's been my mother f**king boyfriend my whole f**king life. Tyler, the Creator is my f**king boyfriend. It's true."

Hailey officially takes Bieber's name

Hailey Baldwin has confirmed she's a married woman after taking her husband Justin Bieber's name on social media on Friday. Her username on Instagram is now @haileybieber. The model, 21, remains @haileybaldwin on Twitter for now, but that may be because the username @haileybieber has been taken by someone else. She still goes by Hailey Baldwin on her verified Facebook as well.

The social media name change comes after Hailey stepped out wearing a coat with "Bieber" on the back and Justin referred to her as his "wife" in an Instagram post. Hailey and the singer tied the knot in a NYC courthouse in September when they went to pick up their marriage license. At the time, Hailey's uncle Alec Baldwin confirmed the news, saying the pair "just went off" and got hitched. It was later reported that because both Hailey and Justin are very religious, regularly attending services at Hillsong, they don't consider their marriage official yet because they haven't had a church ceremony. They are planning to



make their marriage official in the eyes of God through a second, formal wedding in a church in the near future.

While the couple has yet to have a proper ceremony, it seems Hailey is already making all the first steps

to make her new relationship status official in her work life. According to TMZ, Hailey recently filed documents to

trademark the name Hailey Bieber, which is meant to cover the possibility of a clothing project in the future. *Yahoo*

A video of Jaden's speech panned over to Tyler, who was seen shaking his head and seemingly denying Jaden's comments. ET has reached out to Jaden's rep for comment.

Though he briefly mentioned Tyler on Friday, Jaden more openly discussed his past relationship with girlfriend Odessa Aldon.

"I did really f**k up in my relationship with Odessa, and this song is kind of like me being like, 'Yo, I'm sorry,' because I am sorry, and I've already said sorry to her a million times, but this is me saying sorry to her again," he said of his song, "Fallen Part Two." "That's what this song is. It's kind of sad, high key. I made this in Hawaii, and I was sad." *Yahoo*

Kanye West donates \$150,000 to family of black security guard fatally shot by police

The security guard employed by the bar "was trying to save people's lives," according to Gregory Kulis, an attorney for the Roberson family, as reported by Chicago TV station WLS. "He was working security because a shooting had just taken place in the establishment."

On Monday, Roberson's mother, Beatrice, filed a lawsuit alleging the violation of her son's federal civil rights against the village of Midlothian and

the unnamed Midlothian officer who shot Jemel. Beatrice is seeking more than \$1 million in damages, CNN reported. The security guard employed by the bar "was trying to save people's lives," according to Gregory Kulis, an attorney for the Roberson family, as reported by Chicago TV station WLS. "He was working security because a shooting had just taken place in the establishment."

On Monday, Roberson's mother, Beatrice, filed a lawsuit

alleging the violation of her son's federal civil rights against the village of Midlothian and the unnamed Midlothian officer who shot Jemel. Beatrice is seeking more than \$1 million in damages, CNN reported. "This was going to be my baby's first Christmas with his dad and now he's going to miss out on everything," said Avontea Boose, the mother of Roberson's 9-month-old son, according to the Associated Press.

According to witness accounts,

a fight had allegedly broken out in the bar when someone began firing a gun. Five people were shot but the injuries to four of them, including the alleged shooter, were not life-threatening, said Sophia Ansari, a spokeswoman for the Cook County Sheriff's Office, according to The New York Times.

The police-involved shooting of Roberson is under investigation by the Illinois State Police.

Yahoo News

'Varane is my favourite!' - Van Dijk aims dig at Ramos amid Lovren row

Virgil van Dijk has weighed in on Liverpool team-mate Dejan Lovren's feud with Sergio Ramos, describing the Real Madrid captain as "not my type of defender".

Lovren mocked Ramos in the lead up to Croatia's Nations League victory over Spain on Thursday, claiming the Madrid man is made to look better by team-mates, and took another swipe after the game.

The Liverpool man was filmed in an Instagram video calling Ramos and the Spain squad "p*****", before uploading a picture of himself beating Ramos in an aerial duel in a separate post.

Ramos had attempted to defuse the row in a pre-game news conference, insisting he had no interest in responding to the initial criticism, but Lovren

claimed Luis Enrique's side lacked class in defeat. Van Dijk - who featured in Netherlands' 2-0 Nations League win over France on Friday - now appears to have thrown his support behind Lovren by saying that while he does rate Ramos, he prefers his Madrid team-mate Raphael Varane.

"He is a great player and I respect what he has achieved but he is not the best, he is not my type of central defender," Van Dijk told De Telegraaf.

"Ramos' team-mate at Real Madrid, Raphael Varane, is my favourite. He is an excellent defender and has already won a lot." *Goal.com*



Some ex-players bitter about England's success - Rooney

Wayne Rooney says some ex-England internationals are struggling to embrace the current side's success under Gareth Southgate.

Rooney's record-breaking international career finally came to an end on Thursday with his 120th cap against the U.S. national team at Wembley.

The DC United striker was a member of England's much-vaunted 'golden generation,'

who were often criticised for failing to live up to their reputation at major tournaments.

Rooney insists he has no bitterness about how his international career panned out, but says it's a different situation for some of his international teammates.

"I know there are some ex-players who I've spoken to who can't come to terms with England doing well,"

he said.

"That is wrong. I'm not like that. I'm a fan now. I want England to do well. I am proud to have played for England so many times and I always have been.

"I've had my time. I am happy with what I've contributed to the national team and I look forward now to the next few years and watching this team progress."

England's run to the World Cup semi-finals last summer helped reengage the public with the national team, many of whom had fallen out of love with the national team after repeated failures.

When asked to compare his England side with the current generation, Rooney added: "The team I played in had superstars, but this team has also got superstars.

"Harry Kane, Raheem Sterling, John Stones - one of the best centre-backs in world football. England have got great players and they've also got young players.

"I think this is a great squad, with other players who can come in if there are injuries. I have also seen first-hand that they are getting coached right, with good ideas, and the players are responding well to that. Hopefully this team can be the one to bring a trophy home.

"Everyone can see the potential in the team is huge. They have come off the back of a hugely successful World Cup, but in a strange way I think the game against Spain will give them even more confidence than what they did in the summer. That was a massive result, to win away in Spain.

To be around the squad, to see how Gareth is coaching,

was great."

While Rooney's international career was coming to a close on Thursday, Jadon Sancho's was just beginning.

The 18-year-old Dortmund stood out on his first Three Lions start against the USA and Rooney was impressed with what he saw at first hand.

"I'm not surprised by him. He is a fantastic talent," Rooney said. "I spoke to him before the game and he said he was nervous, which is normal, but the important thing for me was that he showed he isn't afraid to make mistakes.

"He's only 18. It happens. Of course you're going to make mistakes. I told him to have an impact and a few moments that people will remember - and he certainly did that."

Rooney also laughed off suggestions he was envious of Sancho, saying he is looking forward to watching the Dortmund youngster spearhead a glorious era for the Three Lions.

"I'm not jealous," he said. "I'm a fan now. I've had my time. Are you jealous of me because I'm younger than you? Of course I'm excited for him. I'm excited for all of them, I'm excited for England. This is a great opportunity for this group of players to make that next step.

"They've already got to a World Cup semi-final, but they can't sit back and be happy about doing what the 1990 team did. They have got the potential to go further. This is a young group of players, but I can see the mentality is right and they'll be pushing for more." *Goal.com*



Aihito Yamada is tackled by Owen Farrell and Mark Wilson during the Quilter International match between England and Japan at Twickenham Stadium on November 17, 2018 in London, United Kingdom - AFP

Maradona's Dorados into Ascenso MX playoff semifinals

Diego Maradona's Dorados are into the Ascenso MX semifinals after topping Mineros de Zacatecas on Saturday night.

A goal from Vinicio Angulo in the 65th minute was enough for Maradona's side, who picked up a 1-0 second leg win following a 0-0 draw in the opening leg.

Dorado's push was aided by a red card just moments after Angulo's

goal as Eder Cruz was sent off for Mineros to ease the thoughts of a comeback.

As a result, Maradona's side are into the semifinal after being closer to relegation than contender when the Argentinian legend took over in September.

Under Maradona, Dorados have lost just once in nine matches against Ascenso MX opposition after losing

three and drawing the other three games prior to his arrival.

Dorados, who entered the playoffs as the seventh seed, will need to win either the Apertura or next year's Clausura to qualify for the playoff to decide which team will be promoted to Liga MX in May.

Prior to managing Dorados, Maradona's most recent job was as manager of United Arab Emirates

club Fujairah.

Dorados will play the winner of Atlante's clash with Oaxaca in the semifinal round with first legs set for November 21 or 22 and second legs scheduled for November 24 and 25.

Both Atlanta and Oaxaca topped Dorados during the season with both sides picking up 1-0 wins over Maradona's team. *Goal.com*

By Alex Chilumbwe
 The Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) and football clubs have agreed to adopt a two tier league structure following the decision by Confederation of African Football (CAF) to change the interclub competition calendar. The decision to adopt the new league format was approved during a meeting held at Lusaka's Golden Peacock Hotel on November 10, 2018. The calendar which previously ran from February to November will now be running from January to June, and its second tier from July to November. "The Zambian Super League shall run from January-August with 16 teams that played in the 2018 season plus four newly promoted

FAZ adopts 2 tier league structure for 2018

teams from the four Zones but only for the transition period. A two tier league structure was adopted only for the transition period with the normal structure to commence in August 2019," read the statement availed to the media by FAZ. Teams in the 2018 season that occupied odd numbers will be in the same stream while teams on even numbers will play in the same stream.

LEAGUE JANUARY TO MAY STRUCTURE

GROUP ONE

1. ZESCO United
2. Green Buffaloes
3. ZANACO
4. Kabwe Warriors
5. Red Arrows
6. Lusaka Dynamos
7. Kitwe United
8. Nakambala Leopards
9. Circuit City
10. Prison Leopards / Real Nakonde

GROUP TWO

1. Nkana

2. Green Eagles
3. Power Dynamos
4. Buildcon
5. Nkwazi
6. Forest Rangers
7. Napsa Stars
8. Lumwana Radiants
9. Mufulira Wanderers
10. Manchester United Zambia Academy

Four teams from four Zones will be ranked according to points accrued and will join the two tiers in the same vein.

Two teams from each

stream (1 and 2) will represent the country in the CAF Champions League and CAF Confederation Cup respectively.

Then the two bottom teams from each stream will be relegated to the lower league at the end of 18 matches.

After the transition period, only 20 teams will remain in the League that will run in line with the August-May 2020 CAF Calendar.

Coach Mutapa names 25 - man U17 squad for AUSC competition

By Alex Chilumbwe
 Under-17 Coach Oswald Mutapa has named a 25-member provisional squad for the African Union Sports Council (AUSC) Region 5 games. Mutapa has retained the fulcrum of the Cosafa U17 squad with the likes of Morgan Botha, Vincent Chate, Richard Ngoma, Stephen Mungomena and Vincent Kalinda among others. The team enters residential camp on Sunday at the FAZ Technical Centre. Botswana will host the tournament that runs from December 7-16.

- (Goalkeepers)
 Phillip Malunga (Blue Bullets), Iford Mwale (Vector FC)
- (DEFENDERS)
 Billy Maipenzi (shamuel Soccer Academy), Vincent Chate (Free State Stars), Morgan Botha (Lusaka Sporting Academy), Alex Mwiingu (Kascol Rangers), Joseph Banda Sabobo (BSA Chiparamba), Toffee Msariri (Young Lusaka Dynamos)
- (MIDFIELDERS)
 Chiwisa Mannah (Lusaka Youth Academy), Lasmond Phiri (Blaze Sporting Academy), Peter Chikola (Garden Youth Academy), Stephen Mungomena (Kabangwe Academy), Daniel Tembo (Young Celtics), Joshua Mutale (Young Power Dynamos), Kelvin Mwanze (MUZA Academy), Albert Muchemwa (Vector FC)
- (STRIKERS)
 Rickson Ng'ambi (Choma Secondary), Boster Siyoma (Free State Stars), Chishimba Sebele (Young Red Arrows), Wilson Mwale, Harrsion Lungu (Kabide Academy), Benson Simwanda (BSA Chiparamba), Enock Sakala (Young Zesco), Vincent Kalinda (Chama Young Stars)



Barcelona's Leo Messi, Nusret Gökçe (Salt Bae) and Manchester United's Paul Pogba. Story on page 16

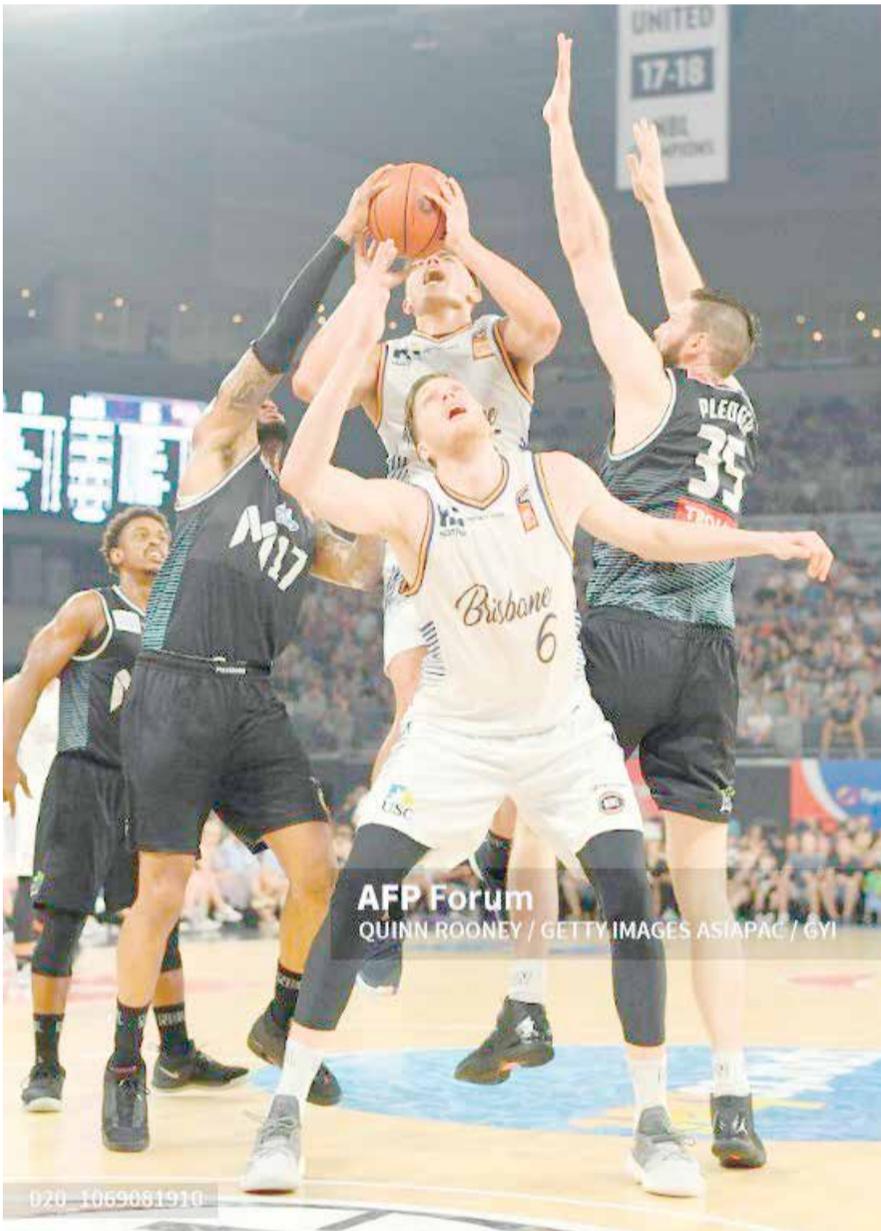
Chipolopolo knocked out of AfCON

By Alex Chilumbwe
 Zambia lost 1-0 to the Black Mambas of Mozambique in an AFCON qualifier played in Mozambique yesterday. The loss put the final nail in the Chipolopolo Boys's coffin as chances of qualifying for the 2019 AFCON tournament scheduled for Cameroon vanished. The clash was a seesaw battle with both teams having had equal scoring opportunities in the first half but both failed to find the back of the net at 45

minutes. Building from the back was ideal for the Copper Bullets but the Mambas stretched their defence skills and blocked crosses that could have redeemed Zambia's hope. The Mambas on the other hand launched more counter attacks whose end results were over the bar shots and wide attempts. The second half, however, saw Zambia struggle to cross the centre line, thus allowing Mozambique to play in the attacking area.

Everybody, including the fans in the terraces could see and feel the pressure, apart from coach Sven Vandenbroeck who failed to make helpful substitutions. High balls from the hosts amplified by speed proved hard for the Zambian defence to clear while Mozambique escalated its attack. It was Reginaldo Fait who eventually found the back of the net after Chipolopolo defenders failed to clear in the 64th minute. The goal resulted from a long

shot from outside the 18 box that hit two defenders and found Reginaldo's who simply tapped it in passed Kennedy Mweene. In the sixes and sevens of the game, Zambia intensified its zeal to score but with no success, as most passes became too ambitious while others were easily blocked. This marks Zambia's second successive failure to qualify and also the second defeat in a row under Coach Sven, a development that is likely to put the Belgian job on the line.



AFP Forum
QUINN ROONEY / GETTY IMAGES ASIAPAC / GVI

Reuben Te Rangi of the Bullets grabs a rebound during the round six NBL match between Melbourne United and the Brisbane Bullets at Hisense Arena on yesterday in Melbourne, Australia. AFP

Paul Pogba fuels Barca rumours after chilling with Messi

Lionel Messi and Paul Pogba might not be involved for France and Argentina during the international break but they did have time for a deep conversation while having dinner in Dubai.

Not available for their respective nations during the two-week break in their domestic campaigns, both have travelled to the United Arab Emirates for a short holiday.

Pogba missed Manchester United's last game at Manchester City due to a thigh problem, while Messi has only played once for Barcelona since breaking his arm in mid-October.

The pair bumped into each other while at Salt Bae's Turkish steak house and engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding a number of topics.

Reportedly, among them was Chelsea midfielder N'Golo Kante, who Pogba claimed marked Messi out of their World Cup round of 16 clash in the summer.

The impromptu meeting may

naturally concern United fans, who read with great interest speculation linking Pogba with a move to Camp Nou.

Reports in Italy claimed that the Frenchman agreed a five-year deal to move to the Catalan giants worth €100 million (£89m/\$114m).

Agent Mino Raiola made no secret of his desire to move his client away from Old Trafford after he was criticised by manager Jose Mourinho. Defender Gerard Pique said he would welcome the arrival of the 25-year-old if he did indeed complete a move to the La Liga champions.

"We would be happy to have him here," Pique said in August.

"I know little about what he is going through in Manchester and the relationship that exists [between Mourinho and Pogba].

"Pogba is a very good player, but a Manchester United player right now and we'll see if something happens in the future." *Goal.com*

By Alex Chilumbwe
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The clash was a seesaw battle with both teams having had equal scoring opportunities in the first half but both failed to find the back of the net at 45 minutes. *To page 15*

CHIPOLOPOLO OUT OF AFCON

...as coach Sven's job hangs in the balance

