



200 COPS CUT FROM TRAFFIC

Heads roll as Police Command fights corruption

By Mirriam Chabala
The Police Command has directed the transfer of over 200 officers across the country from the traffic section to general duties with immediate effect. The affected officers include 30 at Service Head quarters, 39 at Lusaka Division and 14 in Central Province. Others are 42 from the Ndola Traffic section on the Copperbelt Province while 39 are from Kitwe, 18 from Luanshya district and nine from Chingola among others. *To page 4*



Felix Mutati's MMD national secretary Raphael Nakacinda delivers his maiden speech to Parliament after President Edgar Lungu nominated him MP - Picture by Kanchele Kanche

Lungu will go on another vacation soon, says Amos

By Zondiwe Mbewe
President Edgar Lungu's Special Assistant for Press and Public Relations Amos Chanda says the Head of State can be within Zambia but still designate another person to act on his behalf. And Chanda has revealed that President Lungu will take another vacation within this festive season, but hastened to add that he is well. Meanwhile, Chanda has dispelled rumours that President Lungu has made

reshuffles to his Cabinet, saying it's still intact. Chanda was peaking during an impromptu ZNBC Special Interview programme, Tuesday. *To page 10*

Kawandami proves govt wrong, shows receipt of payment for furniture

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
The Ministry of Works and Supply has angered former Traditional Affairs minister Susan Kawandami for alleging that she was owing government for furniture. *To page 10*

We've had enough of PF - Chipimo

By Mirriam Chabala
NAREP president Elias Chipimo says he feels sorry for the PF because the Constitutional Court's upcoming ruling on President Edgar Lungu's eligibility to contest elections in 2021 has put them in a difficult situation. And Chipimo says the people have had enough of President Lungu and the PF. Meanwhile, Chipimo has wondered whether the PF leadership is comprised of thieves of leaders, saying he does not understand how they find it easy to steal money when they cannot steal ideas from the opposition. *To page 5*

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We don't expect ConCourt to disqualify Lungu - UPND

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Kafue PF member sues SG for illegal elections

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Mopani explains staff layoffs

By Abraham Kalito
Mopani Copper Mines Plc has refuted and described as inaccurate, reports that the company is currently retrenching huge numbers of staff due to the high cost of doing business. In a statement yesterday, the company stated that it was constantly reviewing operational costs ensure the company can continue operating efficiently, safely and sustainably. Mopani, the Kitwe-based Glencore subsidiary, explained that it had launched a Voluntary Separation of Service exercise two months ago for employees who wanted to take a voluntary separation package or go on early retirement. This comes amidst reports that the mining giant was laying off non-essential staff in response to the rising cost of doing business in a competitive environment characterized by lacklustre copper prices on the international market.

The heightened speculation of mass redundancies has compelled several stakeholders, such as the National Democratic Congress (NDC), who have advised Mopani to reconsider the downsizing of its workforce. “Mopani Copper Mines Plc can confirm that we have continued reviewing the costs throughout the life cycle of our operation to ensure the company can continue to operate efficiently, safely and sustainably in the face of the current high operational costs. In October 2018, Mopani launched a Voluntary Separation of Service exercise for employees who wished to take a voluntary separation package or go on early retirement. We have been open about this process, which has

been communicated to employees and the unions,” read the statement issued from Kitwe, Tuesday. “46 of the employees, who applied and met the criteria for voluntary separation of service, were released in November, 2018. Our priority for now remains to optimise operations and ensure we have a mine that provides a return on investment and long-term benefits for all stakeholders. The stories currently circulating, reporting large numbers of retrenchments are inaccurate. We are looking forward to the fruition of our investments in three new shafts (Synclitorium, Mindola Deeps and Henderson Shaft in Mufulira) and a new concentrator. Once all projects are fully commissioned, we will improve our production levels, efficiencies and safety, in addition to extending the life of the mines.”



Lands minister Jean Kapata with other delegates at the Climate Change Conference in Katowice, Poland

Musenge loses election petition appeal

By Zondiwe Mbewe
The Constitutional Court has dismissed NDC Secretary General Mwenya Musenge’s election petition appeal for lack of merit. The Court has since upheld Kitwe High Court’s judgement and declared Mwila Mutale as duly elected member of parliament for Chimwemwe constituency. In this matter, Musenge appealed to the Constitutional Court against the Kitwe High Court’s decision dated November 23, 2016, in which it held that the election of

Mutale as Chimwemwe Constituency member of parliament, was valid. Mutale stood as an independent candidate and polled 14,695 votes while Musenge, who stood on the PF ticket, polled 9,111 votes. Dissatisfied with the results, Musenge appealed the election results, seeking a declaration that Mutale was not duly elected, that his election was null and void and that, his seat should be declared vacant. He alleged that Mutale was not qualified for election as an MP under Article 51 (a) of the Constitution as amended, because

he was at nomination and election time, a PF member who had a position of Constituency Chairperson and that although he had tendered in his resignation letter, he pledged to campaign for the PF Presidential candidate and its councilors in the Constituency, which he did. Musenge had further alleged electoral malpractices and accused the Electoral Commission of Zambia of allowing Mutale to contest the elections despite receiving complaints against him. However, Mutale had denied the allegations

and stated that he was not a member of PF at the time of the elections. In its judgement, the Kitwe High Court ruled in favour of Mutale and declared him duly elected member of parliament. But Musenge consequently appealed to the Constitutional Court. However, in their ruling, Constitutional Court judges found that there was no convincing evidence to support the assertion that the election malpractices by Mutale and his agents were widespread and that the majority of the electorates might have been prevented from

voting for a candidate of their choice. “We find that grounds one, two, three and four have no merit and therefore, the entire appeal fails and we dismiss it,” said justice Palan Mulonda who delivered the judgment on behalf of Constitutional Court President Hilda Chibomba and Judges Annie Sitali, Mungeni Mulenga and Enoch Mulembe. He said Musenge needed to have adduced cogent evidence to show the effect of proved malpractices on the electorates. Justice Mulonda further said the evidence on record did not in the view of the court, satisfy the standard of proof set for election petition. “We therefore agree with the trial judge’s findings as regards the proved act of character assassination, that it had not been proved to a high degree of convincing clarity so that it could be sufficiently concluded that the voters were or may have been prevented from voting for their preferred candidate” said Justice Mulonda said.

Soldier in court for murder

By Zondiwe Mbewe
A 43-year-old soldier of Lusaka’s Army Headquarters has been dragged to court for murder. It is alleged that Likando Akelekwa of C16 Army Headquarters, on November 11, this year, murdered Margaret Chilufya. Akelekwa will appear in court on Wednesday for explanation of

the charge awaiting committal to the High Court. And a 33-year-old businessman has been dragged to court for allegedly assaulting Oracle Media proprietor Mutinta M’membe, thereby occasioning her actual bodily harm. In this matter, Lingsen Mwamwembe, 33, is alleged to have assaulted Mutinta, in

February this year. Particulars of the offence allege that the accused, on February 17, Lusaka, did assault Mutinta Bumba Mazoka M’membe, thereby occasioning her actual bodily harm. When the matter came up for allocation, Mwamwembe was not before Court. The matter has, however, been

allocated to Magistrate Mulenga. Meanwhile, a 27-year-old man of Chainda Compound has appeared in the Lusaka Magistrates’ Court for assaulting his mother. It is alleged that Ignatius Musonda, unemployed, assaulted Foster Musonda on November 28, this year, thereby occasioning her actual bodily harm.

Ministry officials in finger-pointing agony as they face PAC over misapplied K1.8m

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Officers from the Ministry of Gender on Monday kept shifting the blame to one another after failing to justify why K1.8 million meant for Economic Empowerment of Women was used to purchase two vehicles among other things. This was when the ministry Permanent Secretary Dr Auxilia Ponga and her officers appeared before the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee (PAC) to respond to audit queries cited in the Auditor General's report for the financial year ended December 31, 2017.

According to the audit query, the ministry misapplied funds amounting to K1,889,167.93 that were meant for Economic Empowerment of Women and promotion of Gender Mainstreaming were applied on unrelated activities such as purchase of motor vehicles, furniture, office operations and outfits for health week, among others. When asked to justify the misapplication, Dr Ponga said she was not the one who took action, but predecessor. "Chair, I am reporting at a time when I was not the one who took action and I

am saying going forward, we will do what is required of the ministry in terms of seeking authority to vary funds. I wasn't in office when this was done but I am aware of what the processes are and I am ensuring and assuring the committee that going forward, we will not misapply funds. We vary after seeking authority to do that," Ponga said. Solwezi West UPND member of parliament Teddy Kasonso then wondered where the supporting staff were when the irregularities were taking place. "This report is another one which is very bad,

that's my view and I am well informed that you are new in this ministry but however I want to know where was the finance director? Are you also new? There is a problem because there is rampant misuse of government finances. Where you there when these things were happening? when you freely went shopping to buy vehicles, when you had no money but you decided to use money for empowerment and went to Toyota Zambia and did the shopping, are you aware of the procedures of use of government money?" Kasonso asked.

Head of Procurement Chibuye Zulu at this point chipped in to supplement the responses and in doing so blamed the accounts department. "I would like to say that I was around when the procurement was done for motor vehicles. I do understand procurement but the mistake was made in accounts, the failure to vary funds. It was budgeted for under support to technological," Zulu said. Kasonso observed that Zulu's response and what was in the audit report were not matching and further asked Zulu if she was trying to mislead the committee.

"But we are being told here [in the audit report] that this money was not budgeted for, it is the money which was meant for empowering women and you decided to use K1.8 million to buy two vehicles. Was that the actual money which you [had] budgeted for or you are misleading us [that] what is here (report) is not correct?" Kasonso asked. In response, Zulu said; "We actually received a request from the department or GIT where they had requested that they needed to procure two motor vehicles and on that request they had put budget line." At this point, Committee Chairperson Howard Kunda asked a follow up question, wondering why Zulu had decided to go ahead with the purchase of motor vehicles using funds which were not meant for that project. "And you decided to use the other monies instead of using the budgeted for funds? And knowing that you are supposed to get authority from the secretary to the treasury so that you can vary these funds once you are given the authority, so you just went ahead and disregarded the law [and] just decided to misapply? Is that what you are saying that you are disregarding the law, you are just deciding on your own to use these funds depriving the budgeted for areas?" Kunda asked. Zulu then said the budget was already approved by the controlling officer. Dr Ponga then apologized

for misapplying the funds and assured the committee that the mistake would not repeat itself. "I apologise that varying of funds was not done which is a case of misapplication. However I just wanted to draw the committee to the attention of the fact in the activity being considered, there were to be 20 tractors which were bought. So the plan was to buy 20 tractors. The fault is not to have requested for varying of funds so that other required items for monitoring what we were purchasing could have been done. So I admit that we are at fault for not applying for varying of funds. However the equipment that was budgeted for was purchased in the total number that it was purchased for," Dr Ponga. And the committee asked why the ministry directly paid monies amounting to K531,000 to 10 employees of Medeem company instead of paying those funds to the company which was engaged to undertake a survey for the pilot mapping exercise of customary land allocated to women cooperatives in selected chiefdoms. Meanwhile, after being asked by Chinsali PF member of parliament Kalalwe Mukosa if she was competent to do her job, Zulu said she was. "I must submit that I am very competent. If you look at the query, all the procurement processes and procedures were followed. There is no query that is related to procurement on the purchase of motor vehicle. Varying of funds is a function of finance department. I did my part as professional as I could. On the next query of failing to follow procurement procedures, this one never passed through my office, it was handled by accounts and the user department," said Zulu. And Kunda told the controlling officer to be on stand-by as she could be called to re-appear again for other outstanding issues which she did not clear due to lack of supporting documentation.

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By Mukosha Funga
UPND national chairperson Mutale Nalumango says UPND does not expect the Constitutional Court to rule against President Edgar Lungu in the eligibility case on Friday. And Nalumango says Zambia needs to reshape the court system because it is bringing confusion in its current form. Speaking on Hot FM's Frank on Hot, Tuesday, Nalumango said her party

We don't expect ConCourt to disqualify Lungu - UPND

was not expecting the ConCourt to disqualify President Lungu from contesting the 2021 elections when she was asked to state what the

opposition party expected from the impending ruling. "He [President Lungu] has already told them [the judges]. Unless a shock comes, PF always wins,"

Nalumango said. "On the declaration, it is extremely possible [that he will be declared eligible], 90 per cent because of the precedence set."

Asked if UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema was ready to face President Lungu again in 2021, Nalumango replied in the affirmative.

"Why not?" Nalumango asked.

"Why not? Under an environment that is free and fair, that is balanced, he is very ready and Zambians are ready to vote for Hakainde. Zambians, this is the man. On Friday we were listening to another opposition leader who said 'this man is a unifier'. And indeed, after people tried to divide Zambia, I think he has worked to try and unite it. So he is coming in to unite Zambia and to improve the economy."

And Nalumango observed that the judicial system was confusing people in its current form as there was no proper hierarchy.

"I personally have a problem with the ConCourt for many reasons...even the Judicial Complaints [Commission], remember, in their report, they said

they didn't use the 14 days. The ConCourt must be looked at. There are many things that we have to reform if we have to move forward as a country and benefit out of our own institutions and systems. The courts today seem to confuse us because even to say who is the real leader of the Judiciary, who is the top, is difficult because the ConCourt is final in itself, the Supreme Court is final so who answers to who?" Nalumango asked.

"We are getting confused. We put this in place but it seems problematic and we need to reform. The ConCourt, the entire judicial system needs to be relooked at and we are hoping this can be done even before we come into power. We don't want to come in and look like we want to change everything, no. The good must stay but the ConCourt needs to be looked at. I don't want to start criticizing the judges themselves, no, but I am criticising the system. Is the system really working?"

Nalumango warned that it was dangerous to go through the next elections with the current judicial system.

"You have people appointed by the President. The President can stand on a podium and declare that 'I appointed those judges, they can't decide otherwise, it hurts! The Judiciary is a very important institution. When you talk about a failed state, it is the Judiciary because when people have no where to go and breathe, then they have to help themselves. It is dangerous so we need to reform, probably in the manner of appointments and in the manner in which the courts are joined together. We need a pyramid, there must be somebody of higher authority over everybody that people will appeal to if there is need but right now, it is not like that, this is a crisis," said Nalumango. "The Judiciary must be made strong. If we go into another election with that kind of behavior, where you go in and you feel unwelcome, right on face value, you feel you will get nothing, that is dangerous."



Chief Imenda of the Mbowa speaking people of Lukulu East district in Western Province prays for Bahaiti MP Harry Kalaba when he paid a courtesy call at his palace on December 2, 2018 – Picture by Tenson Mkhala

Zambia Police command transfers over 200 traffic cops to general duties

By Mirriam Chabala
The Zambia Police high Command has directed the transfer of over 200 officers across the country from the traffic section to general duties with immediate effect. The affected officers include 30 at Service Head quarters, 39 at Lusaka Division and 14 in Central Province. 42 are from the Ndola Traffic section on the Copperbelt Province while 39 are from Kitwe, 18 are from Luanshya district, nine are from Chingola and six from Mufulira, five from Chililabombwe district and seven are in Muchinga Province. The names, as contained in a notification addressed to all Police Commissioners are as follows: Service Headquarters (30) Simwinga Fredrick, Lungu Majory, Mukoma Medina, Chimwisha Sharon, Njovu Beatrice, Ndalama Modicai, Namulele Mubitelela, Malupenga Paul, Siame Charles, Kakamba Kakamba, Janza Lieu, Mumba Patrick, Ngandwe Grant, Thole Stave, Biemba Caroline, Sondashi Brenda, Mwansa Maggie,

Chiyabi Sharon, Kadolo Matildah, Fumbelo Stephen, Kakoma Bosco, Lweendo Mudenda, Cheelo Singu, Mukela Lillian, Chitundu Adrian, Pumulo Muyunda, Mundanya Ngebe, Chilyabufu Obey and Tilimboyi Memory. Lusaka Division (39) Muke Christone, Tembo Victor, Liselo Hilda, Ngoma Edward, Chilufya Beatrice, Sikopo Macwani, Mulenga Clement, Nkowane Matilda, Pobanga Mable, Phiri Mabvuto, Musole Morris, Mwanamwalya Mubiana, Chipepo Carol, Bunonge Naomi, Ndeleki O'brien, Lungu Elias, Munuunka Bridget, Chikwekwe Newton, Musonda Abigail, Daka, Nambela, Nyirenda, Mukoma, Kadingi, Kapita, Muchona, Maluba, Malupenga, Kunda, Limbambala, Mulundu, Mubiana, Nambela, Libingi, Musonda, Muchimba, Mwanza, Sibale and Tembo. Central Province (14) Bwalya Teddious, Muleya Chaplain, Tampwila Brenda, Hambaza Grey, Phiri Jarom, Hamiyanze Sydney, Chikamba Emmanuel, Chiluba Kenneth,

Lufunda Godfrey, Bwalya Joseph, Maamba Milton, Wamunyima Derrick, Kafunda Mildred, Kateule Mwape. Copperbelt Province, Ndola District Traffic (42) Sakala, Mungusi, Musaku, Banda, Simwinga, Mweemba, Liyungu, Muzwenga, Baleya, Malama, Kawana, Kalambatila, Kafupi, Phiri, Jere, Vincent Mukuka, Betty Muchimba, Patrick Musa, Chispine Chigumbe, Kaumba Kahuma, Allan Singombe, Fedelis Siamenso, Njekwa Mubialelwa, Mukande Simulilo, Lackson Kunda, Willian C. Mulenga, Mandefu Charles, Sinyinza, Mwale, Mushota, Banda, Kaunda, Miselo, Kakoma, Mukwato, Munyema, Bwalya, Mubita, Tobololo and Chingani. Kitwe Traffic (39) Obby Mweemba, Syansambala, Banda, Chiwala, Mutale, Kapemba, Magawa, Mwengo, kanjinji, Musakudzi, Chola, Mambepa, Kalawo, Nyambe, Zimba, Kenneth Luonde, Kebby Kibela, Phinius Habwaza, Samson Hara, Edwin Sikana, Chris Mwalongo, Lisulo Manga. Kaiti,

Kamwandi, Chinyanta, Mbambe Kakwete, Chibale, Chla Nsama, Nymabe, Katebe, Sinkala, Ichindi Muteba, Manda Rayson, Michelo Kennedy, Mwansa, Shamabanse and Malwale. Luanshya traffic (18) Chitambala, Chibulu, Simbeya, Mwanjwanthun, Shimumbi, Mutinta, Kalinde, Muleya, Mweemba, Katangala, Boyd Mambwe, Joseph Kambole, Fwambo, Kambilingoma, Mvula, Tembo, Munene and Shimishi. Chingola traffic (9) Musule Maybin, Bwama Namunji, Mulemwa Njai, Liyungu, Mweene M, David Mubanda, Sikanyika, Mubotana, Afumba. Mufulira District (06) Sikazwe, Chulu, Phiri, Mukuka, Mwewa, Wamundila. Chililabombwe traffic (05) Ketulu, Chola, Mvula, Nawakwi, Nkowane Muchinga Province Banda Lazarous, Kabwe George, Musukwa Evans, Himoonga Veronica, Chavula Josephine, Kyapwanyama Edina and Sipanje Boyd.

By Mirriam Chabala
NAREP president Elias Chipimo says he feels sorry for the PF because the Constitutional Court's upcoming ruling on President Edgar Lungu's eligibility to contest elections in 2021 has put them in a difficult situation. And Chipimo says the people have had enough of President Lungu and the PF. Meanwhile, Chipimo has wondered whether the PF leadership is comprised of thieves of leaders, saying he does not understand how they find it easy to steal money when they cannot steal ideas from the opposition. Speaking on Prime Television's Oxygen of Democracy programme, Monday, Chipimo said PF members had been caught between a rock and hard place over President

We've had enough of Lungu, PF – Chipimo




Lungu's eligibility to stand as President in 2021. "This week, we may know the fate of our embattled President Edgar Lungu. I actually feel sorry for the PF to be very honest because they have been caught between a rock and a hard place. I know they feel that they've sorted out this issue of the next election. I believe they think that they have all the money in the world and maybe they are thinking of

ways and means in which they can come up with a system that can ensure that their man gets over the line. But you know, there have been two other attempts at doing something like this and they didn't end very well. If you look at the attempt that was made by president Chiluba, president Chiluba could have had the constitution of the MMD changed in order to allow him to run for a third term,

but he would never have gotten past a constitution in people's hearts. And that's how the Oasis Forum was able to mobilise and unite the country against this idea that somebody could stay beyond the time that the Constitution had originally stipulated," Chipimo said. And Chipimo said the people have had enough of President Lungu and the PF. "I know that even in this case, look... even if we

haven't had enough of Edgar Lungu... really, we have, we have had enough of the PF!" he exclaimed. "We've had enough of his disappearing acts, even up to now. I know I am brining up yet another topic. But you know, Michael Sata used to say 'ubulwele bwa Mfumu litensha chalo (a king's illness shocks the entire chieftdom).' You can't just have somebody [disappearing]... if somebody is not well, I don't know what the state of his health is, but if he's not well, then let us know. We would like to be praying for him... but this question of eligibility, and I think that people have reached a point where they don't feel loved by this President. They don't feel loved by this party. Speak to anyone, even those in PF themselves, they are quiet, they are embarrassed because they are fully aware that things are not right. There are splits and divisions. We have KBF making statements and those statements are not contracted by others within his party. This is unprecedented." Meanwhile, Chipimo wondered why it was hard for PF to steal developmental ideas from the opposition when they could easily steal from the country's resources. "400,000 young Zambians are entering the job market every year; that means you have to create 1,000 jobs every year, and there is no way this government is going to be in any position to do that. But before anybody accuses of just condemning this government, we've put forward proposals [as NAREP]; we had a plan and I have spoken about it on many fora's. We call it the '20 per cent generation plan.' We've tried to say, really, look, use this and we have done that in a selfless way. The same way that Anderson Mazoka would put forward ideas, which Levy Mwanawasa would steal, but these people (PF) seem capable not of stealing ideas, but just to steal money! I think, make up your minds, are you thieves or are you leaders? You can't really effectively do both and build the nation," Chipimo said. He also challenged the Judiciary to tell the nation

about the challenges they were facing that was stopping them from fulfilling their duties effectively. "There should have been a process by which we are able to go to the courts of law say: 'look, this is a violation of the Constitution and we, therefore, need information so that we can verify whether or not the Constitution is being breached. But it's the same thing with the impeachment; things get to court, but nothing is being done about it. Why should it take the court years to determine an issue on an election petition? These things all undermine the confidence that people should have in the Judiciary. But I don't know what the problem is, but we need the voice of the Judiciary to come out and tell us, what exactly is the problem? Why is it that the appeals that were made to the Constitutional Court, which had strong evidence that indicated that things were not right, have still not been heard? I don't know, but really, it does lead to a situation where you have to question whether or not the confidence in the Judiciary can be restored," he explained. Meanwhile, Chipimo commended UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema for his commitment towards working with the opposition. "Hakainde is somebody I have known for many years, we were together at the University of Zambia, he was a year ahead of me and even as our careers were progressing, we were constantly interacting. So, he's someone I have a lot of respect for, that is why the time I was invited, I was very glad to attend the 20th anniversary celebrations of UPND. What I know about my friend, HH, is that he's a unifier, he's somebody who will take the time to bring different parties together and I know that from a personal experience when we were working on a project together, I was reluctant to continue to participate for various reasons, but he took the time to come to my office, sit down and plead with me that it is important that we remain as a team working on this. So, I am not in any doubt about working around an idea that would bring the opposition together," said Chipimo.

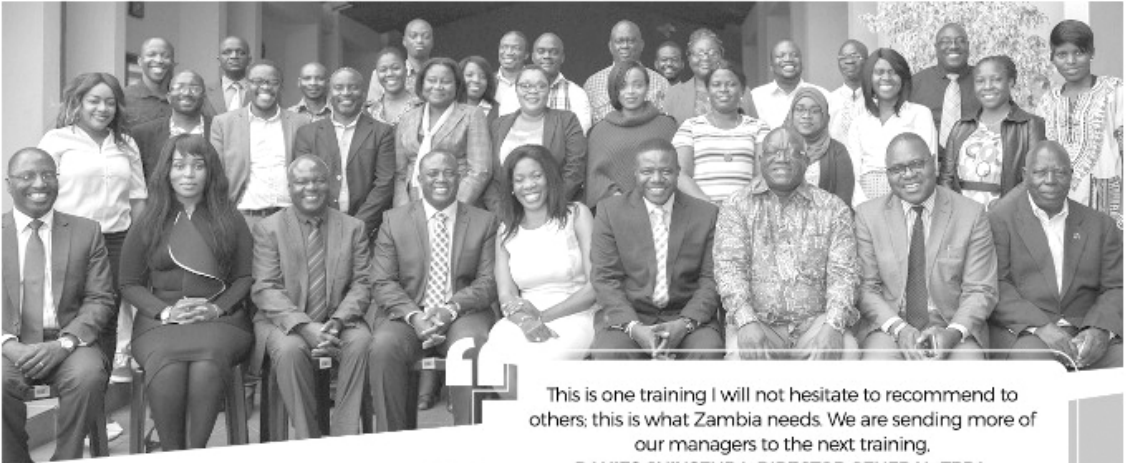


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DANIES CHINSEDA, DIRECTOR GENERAL, ZPPA.

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!

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The pillars of the NAREP vision

By Elias Chipimo

The NAREP Vision rests upon the attainment of three objectives:
Implementing efficient and effective governance
Implementing measures to achieve greater energy independence
Implementing a rural and urban modernisation drive across the nation.

Governance – improving efficiency from top to bottom and bottom to top

NAREP will:

Establish a provincial and communal governance framework for civic-driven change
Radically reduce all central government expenditure and introduce efficiency through performance-based accountability
Direct more resources towards promoting development at grassroots and community levels ensuring greater decentralisation and local decision making
Provide transparency into government operations, expenditure and decision-making

The process will involve:

A complete review and improvement of the structure of government
Bringing development decision-making more directly to the people
Restructuring cabinet and publishing performance metrics, targets and deadlines
Creating communal assemblies with stakeholder engagement at ward level
Building infrastructure and providing training at the ward (community) level

How will this be done?

Changes will be effected at four levels:

Reducing Cabinet from over 23 ministers (currently) to 12
Developing a clear policy for strengthening the civil service and improving its efficiency and effectiveness
Redesigning delivery of local government services
Introducing “community assemblies” at ward level

Cabinet changes

The NAREP administration will have 12 Ministers responsible for the following:

Health and Human Services
Education and Child Development

Energy, Mining, Infrastructure and Technology
Youth, Sport and Culture
Gender, Decentralisation and Community Development
Finance
Agriculture
Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources
Foreign Affairs
Labour and Home Affairs
Defence and Security
Commerce, Trade and Industry

The Cabinet will be run on new and robust principles of transparency. Performance targets for each Ministry will be made public together with timelines for the delivery of the specific outputs of each Ministry. Each Minister’s performance will be evaluated against these targets with each Minister being publicly accountable for these. The Ministers will in turn be supported by a performance appraisal system that will enable them to regularly measure and assess whether they are meeting their performance targets. Quarterly presidential press briefings will enable the public to collectively review progress on these targets and to question the president directly on performance of individual Ministers. This will serve to make the Head of State directly accountable to the public for the failings of any particular Minister and Ministry.

The practice of appointing two Ministers for a single Line Ministry and two deputy Ministers for any one Ministry will stop. The role of Deputy Minister will be carefully reviewed. The Deputy Minister does not truly deputise the Minister in his or her absence (other than when it comes to reading speeches). A Deputy Minister is not able to attend Cabinet meetings and when the Line Minister is out of country, another Minister is appointed to handle the Ministerial office of the absent Minister.

It will be important to strengthen the departments with the Line Ministries as these will now play a more significant role in delivering the outputs set forth in the Ministry policy documents.

Civil service changes

A key priority of a NAREP administration will be to incorporate a broad technological platform for electronic governance (e-governance). As far as is practical, government will operate on an electronic basis, particularly with regard to accountability and the delivery of the three key areas of development relevance: health,

education and infrastructure. The civil service will be trained/re-trained so as to efficiently handle this new approach. Current initiatives to move to e-government have not been fully embraced. No efforts will be spared to move the country more decisively in this direction.

The importance of a strong, well-trained and motivated civil service cannot be overstated. The key to improving efficiency will be to ensure that there is a simplified system of implementing policy initiatives while providing the civil service with the best available skills, training and remuneration model for civil service staff. The civil service must be able to effectively control government excesses and to adequately and expertly guide government expenditures and priorities.

Local government changes

The current local government system does not place enough emphasis on performance and accountability to local communities. A major systems upgrade and planning process is required as well as a need to introduce a greater degree of professionalism in the implementation of plans. Certain management functions of local councils should be outsourced (planning, budgeting, expenditure, review and accounting). Locally elected councillors would have oversight of these processes.

The chiefs who are custodians of our heritage and natural resources in rural communities should be more central to government decision-making. Proposals to bring the chiefs into the national planning process will be made.

Introduction of community assemblies

Under the proposed “community assemblies” system:

Resources will be allocated for direct use by the communities at ward level
These amounts will be voted on and allocated by stakeholders in the wards
Stakeholders will include: chiefs, headmen, community groups, churches
Members of parliament will be accountable to community assemblies in respect of provincial plans and their implementation
Councillors will be accountable to community at ward level for allocation of specific resources
Councillors and members of parliament will participate but not vote in these stakeholders meetings
Debates will be public and accessible to all

PF can arrest me 50 times, I will continue speaking out - Kambwili

By Mirriam Chabala
NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili says he will not stop speaking for the people in his constituency even if he is arrested 50 times because it is his constitutional duty to represent them well. And Kambwili says he feels sorry for Luanshya Mayor Nathan Chanda because he seems in a hurry to become a member of parliament. Meanwhile, Kambwili says businessman Valden Findlay is now defacto vice-president. Speaking when he featured on Radio Phoenix's Let the People Talk, Tuesday, Kambwili said he was not scared of Home Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo and his police command, who along with the Luanshya Mayor, wanted to see him arrested for defending people's rights. "For me, I enjoy being treated like that, especially when I have not done anything wrong. I am representing the people of Zambia, so it's a plus for me and it's a blessing! You must remember that even Jesus Christ, the son of God,



suffered for the people. Jesus was crucified for speaking the truth and for wanting to save humanity. So, it's Biblical that those who mean well to speak on behalf of the people are treated the way I was treated... when you are a member of parliament and people come to your house and say: 'we have a problem' and you speak to them, then here comes a small mayor in the town, calls the police: 'oh, they have a meeting here with no permit, arrest them,' and he calls Kampyongo: 'ba Minister, there is an illegal meeting here.' Kampyongo calls Katanga and tells her: 'arrest him,' that's the order of the day," Kambwili said. "You see, the problem with my younger brother in Luanshya is that he's so desperate to be MP and he thinks that when I am out, he can automatically go there. But leadership is from

God and I would want to advise him that he's treading on a very dangerous path and the people of Luanshya are watching...I have tried to hold meetings with people in my constituency, but these same people and Kampyongo have...and it's very impossible such that I even follow the law. Because as a member of parliament, I am not even supposed to notify the police when I am having a meeting but doing so because they have been looking for ways to make breach the law so that they can arrest me. Fortunately, I have been law-abiding." And he explained how Kampyongo and Chanda, among others, used the police to plan his arrest. "I have been briefed; all the meetings to plan my arrest were being held at the Luanshya Mayor's house. I am told that they took two boys to the Mayor's house so that he could give them money to turn against me, but the boys refused to get on the police vehicle and said: 'as far as we are concerned, our relatives know that we are in police custody and we have no right to see the Mayor.' I feel sorry for this boy, the unprofessional conduct he's showing... I really feel sorry because they are destroying the moral fibre for which Zambia has been known for," he explained. "I will not stop doing my job, even tomorrow, if people come to my house I will talk to them because that's my constitutional duty! I will not be scared of a small boy, Chanda, a

small boy, Kampyongo, the unprofessional Katanga; unprofessional Simbote; unprofessional Kapeso; I will not be scared of those people. If they want to arrest me 50 times, they can go ahead and do it. I have been doing this for the past 12 years, how many groupings have been to my home and I have resolved their problems? Do you know why people trust me? Because I am honest, I believe in calling a spade a spade... so I just feel sorry this boy because he thinks that 'oh when he's arrested and convicted, then I will become MP. But it doesn't work like that.' Kambwili bragged that he was more PF than Information Minister Dora Siliya who had been asking him to leave the party. "It's people like Dora who have messed up governance because for them, it's all about survival. Dora does not believe in what PF stands for and she never believed in what MMD stood for! Dora only wants survival; she wants to be minister at all costs. Even if she's told: 'turn to your left where there is a lion for you to be minister', she will do it! She has no principles! I am more PF than Dora because she doesn't even know what PF stands for. So, Dora is not the right person to ask me to leave," he insisted. Meanwhile, Kambwili questioned President Lungu's cosy relationship with Findlay. "If Findlay is claiming that he's President Edgar Lungu's very good friend, where was he when President Lungu was suffering in Chawama? Did you even hear that Findlay has taken mealie-meal or money to give President Edgar Lungu when he's (legal) practicing license was removed? Findlay is actually de facto Vice-President because everywhere the President is locally, you will see him there. Today (yesterday) in Parliament, there was an issue of solar hammer mills, whose deal was it? So, this is where they bought this huge plane (K1.4 billion Presidential Jet Challenger) they are now boasting that he's got a plane! And I feel sorry for Amos, he must stay away from this issue of Findlay because it's going to put him in an awkward position. He should learn from Richard Sakala," warned Kambwili.

Don't demonize Zambia-China relations, Nakacinda urges MPs

By Abraham Kalito
Newly-nominated member of parliament Raphael Nakacinda has urged politicians in the country not to have a hostile agenda by demonising relations with China and other cooperating partners merely because of partisan differences. In his maiden speech on the floor of the House, Tuesday, Nakacinda, who is opposition MMD national secretary of the Felix Mutati-led faction, stressed the need for politicians to rise above petty partisan interests for the sake of the country and not engage in confrontational debates that could harm Zambia's relations with China. "May take this opportunity to thank the President of Zambia, Mr Edgar Lungu, for the honour, trust and confidence he has bestowed upon me with an opportunity to serve the Zambian people through this August House. My coming to this House and my discourse, thereof, will be driven by two fundamental ideals and principles: one, the ideal of nationalism; two, the principle of patriotism. It saddens me today that patriotism seems not to be the order of the day. The books I have read tell me that when politicians differed here in Zambia, of course which is obvious, however, when out of this country, they spoke in unison with

one voice advancing the interests of their country, making the right image that would generate that rare positive interest from other cooperating partners. They were marketers of their country regardless of how they felt. Every Zambian needed not to be trained as a diplomat. But because of the kind of conversations that we, the leaders, particularly some of us in this House are having, we are begging to develop and encourage a culture where our people, the Zambian people, are not even proud to even talk about their country," Nakacinda said. "Instead, when Zambia is mentioned, there is always a temptation to speak ill of their country. So, I came to say, can we change the conversations that we are having? From the toxic debates that are basically hell-bent of bringing one another down, but it has become a debate that is more confrontational. Madam chairperson, there are issues of governance that I want to comment on. Our country has been gripped with unfortunate vices. For example, I earlier referred to the issued of patriotism; today, there is a deliberate attempt to demonise our relationship with China and other friends of our country that have interests in this country. Instead of having a conversation on how we can utilise the gifts, talents and skills that

Zambia has to go to the negotiating table, when engaging with these cooperating partners, we have begun to sabotage our relationships with our cooperating partners." He stressed that politicians should instead introspect on how Zambia can benefit from relations with its cooperating partners. "The approach should not be to demonise China! The approach should be to introspect and look at what it is that we are not doing right, making sure that our dealings with China are bringing the necessary dividends that will trickle-down to the Zambian people. China has been an 'all-weather friend.' China has a shared history with our country that is undeniable. The impact of their genuine and overwhelming friendship cannot be ignored. On the other hand, madam chairperson, there is need for us to introspect in terms of how we relate with other nationals. And deliberately, I make reference to China because before anything else, madam chairperson, China and its population of over a billion people in itself is an already existing big market that can absorb any form of products that Zambia and the entire Africa could produce," argued Nakacinda.

The year 2018 has been another year of empty promises to persons with disabilities. A year that was pregnant with so much expectation in terms of improving the lives of persons with disabilities has ended on a disastrous note, as their poverty has only worsened as that which was promised was not delivered and that which they were entitled to was stolen – the social cash transfer.

We reflect on the state of persons with disabilities in Zambia in light of observance of International Day for Persons with Disabilities which falls on 3rd December, 2018. We note with sadness that despite Zambia having a well worded law under the Persons with Disabilities Act of 2012, we continue to see a rise in street begging and destitution by persons with disabilities in both our cities and towns and in our rural communities.

“The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy and the handicapped.” These words are attributed a former U.S Vice President Hubert Humphrey, spoken on November 1, 1977.

The 2010 Population and Housing Census Report indicates that there were 251,427 persons with disabilities in Zambia at that time a number that is significantly lower than World Health Organisation estimates and has been disputed by the disability community in Zambia. This means that at national level there was 2.0 percent of the population being persons with disabilities. The proportion in rural areas was higher than urban

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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Stealing from the disabled is beyond cruelty, it is evil

areas at 2.4 and 1.4 percent, respectively.

International Standards such as those set by the World Health Organization provided that persons with disabilities were between 10 to 20% of national populations. When estimated at 10% of the total population in line with the Sixth National Development Plan (SNDP) and International Standards there could be about one million (1,000,000) to two million (2,000,000) persons with disabilities in Zambia, and most of them are not actively participating in the mainstream society.

The failure by the Zambian government to provide quality statistics on persons with disabilities is one of its major failings. We know that a National Disability Survey was conducted in collaboration with cooperating partners. This report has never been published, probably because it has disputed results. We understand that persons with disabilities through their representative organisations did not accept to validate this report because they couldn't agree

with some of its findings.

It is important that government attaches seriousness to this issue because they cannot effectively plan for a population of people they do not know, hence persons with disabilities will always be left behind in national programmes.

The Zambian government cabinet approved a National Disability Policy and action plan in 2014, reading through this document, even hiring a consultant to do an evaluation of its performance would be a waste of money because lack of implementation is plain for everyone to see.

When President Lungu opened the 3rd Community Based Rehabilitation CBR Africa Conference which his government hosted in Lusaka early this year bringing together delegates from across the world to discuss disability inclusion, he made pronouncements and directives that never got acted upon. It was a shame to spend so much money on a conference whose resolutions and recommendations never get acted upon. Why would you

bring the world to discuss what you don't practice? How many government buildings today can be accessed by persons with disabilities? How many jobs has this government created for persons with disabilities? How many children with disabilities are accessing quality inclusive education in Zambia? How many people with mental disabilities are roaming our streets today? Why do we still use derogatory words such as imbeciles to describe people with mental disabilities in our laws?

The Persons with Disabilities Act speaks of government reserving a percentage of jobs for persons with disabilities in both the private and public sectors, yet to date nothing has been done about this provision. In fact the private sector is doing better than government on this score, yet government, the biggest employer continues to discriminate against persons with disabilities in access to employment.

The Act promises parents of children with disabilities that they shall have access to grant to meet the educational

needs of their children, this is not happening. The Act promises free education for learners with disabilities, yet many continue to drop out of school because their parents cannot afford to support the costs that come with their education.

Government must stop paying lip service to issues of disability and begin to put money where their mouths are. Surely, it is heartless to take away the little that these people deserve; it is cruelty of the highest order. In fact, it is simply evil and those who are stealing from the allocations meant for the disabled must be ashamed.

The theme for this year's IDPD is "Empowering persons with disabilities and ensuring inclusiveness and equality". This theme focuses on the empowering persons with disabilities for the inclusive, equitable and sustainable development envisaged in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The situation we have described does not in any way indicate that Zambia is committed to inclusiveness and equality. The government has a

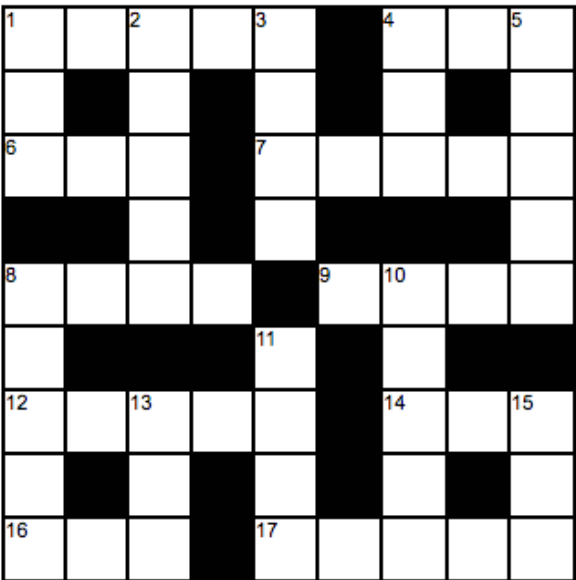
specialized agency called the Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities to deliver services and coordinate programmes for persons with disabilities. Why is this Agency, created by an Act of Parliament, so under-resourced? It has low funding and no visibility compared to other quasi-government institutions? The government must increase funding to this institution and build its capacity to deliver on its mandate.

In April, 2016 United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, Ms. Catalina Devandas-Aguilar, published her end of mission statement to Zambia in which she lamented the issues we are talking about.

She observed that despite the adoption of important policies and legislation related to the rights of persons with disabilities, a comprehensive harmonization of the normative and policy frameworks in Zambia should be undertaken, to ensure their compliance with the Convention. Several statutory instruments, such as in the areas of education, health, accessibility and employment, need to be adopted in order to speed up implementation of the Persons with Disabilities Act and other relevant policies.

Zambians must rise and end discrimination against persons with disabilities. Non Governmental Organisations need to wake up from and regain their relevance. This is one issue that concerns all of us because we are all at risk of acquiring a disability at any stage of our lives.

Crossword puzzle 245



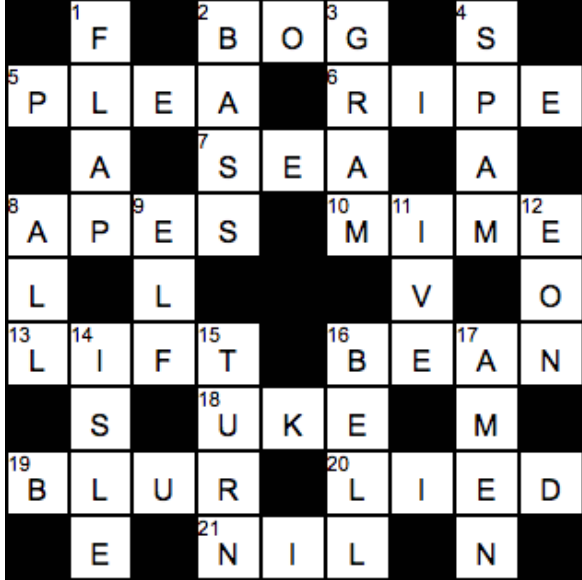
"It doesn't matter how great your shoes are if you don't accomplish anything in them."
- Martina Boone

- Across

1. ____ car; trolley
4. Eye protector
6. Small round veggie
7. Go around
8. Stay out of sight
9. Equipment
12. Complete
14. Morning moisture on grass
16. Nautical journal
17. Lose sleep over
- Down

1. Head cover
2. Full facial hair
3. Piece of cake
4. Floral necklace
5. Impede
8. Monopoly purchase
10. Older
11. Took to the air
13. You're it game
15. Method

Solutions to puzzle 244



Reader's feedback

Sunday Chanda on HH failing to fill Mazoka's shoes

Editor,

"Chanda; even the current leadership of ECL has failed to fit in Sata's shoes." - Izu Mwape

"We are in the opposition for our ideology and not for the good of being in power. We will strive until Zambia is liberated. #ZambianFirst, #OurlandOurPower." - Hastings Israel Shantanga

"But Chanda seems to be the one in the opposition! 'Checks and balances on the opposition!'" - Sikabenga Ng'anda
"HH and Mazoka are two different people from different backgrounds. You don't expect them to possess the same characteristics. Mazoka was a brilliant man, so is HH." - Mundia Bwalya



ND OPINION: If you castrate male sex offenders, what penalty will you give to females?

"Great question. We need all-round way solutions, not solutions born out of emotions if we have to bring a stop to this devilish vice." - Buddy Banks

"Well articulated." - Kasanda Psalmist Fewdays Jr.

"I am submitting that I agree with you in totality on this matter." - Cde Mutale Captain Fantastic

"Someone tell her there is chemical castration in 2018. Why is she so barbaric?" - Scott Davis

"Most of our ministers are very dull; they just wake up from slumber and start bringing out such without even reasoning." - Knewton Biggie Smalls

"This woman has lost her mind!" - Adams Kambila

"This woman is just seeking attention from her appointing authority; I've been monitoring her ever since she was appointed as Minister. She thinks being a good Minister is all about issuing threats always? Such thoughts are totally misplaced & are offside." - Keith Moono

"Let be there a punishment that will be applied on both male and female offender." - Lovemore Nchenga Knoxx

Congrats to Paul Siame for winning 'unlawful dismissal' case with IDC

Editor,

"Congrats, Mr Siame. There has been a scheme to hound out professionals like yourself from most institutions. Those who render professional advice to superiors face mudslinging and unfair dismissals, whereas those committing heists are shielded without shame! Congrats once again; wishing you only the best in your future pursuits." - Robert Kamwandi

"I am happy for this gentleman; he has really fought a good fight." - David Kapyia Sakeni

"I am happy for this courageous Siame..." - Kafuwa Kafuwa

"Agents of this government will continue to embarrass itself; either in criminal and civil cases." - Kazundulu Wachila

"Government and the IDC should

have avoided this matter going to court at all costs because the process brought to the fore is very embarrassing and shady dealings at the IDC, which to my surprise, have not generated much public interest." - Lumbwa Lupeta

"Unfortunately, it's we, the tax payers, who will pay Mr Siame. Wish the money could come from the pockets of those who fired him without following laid down procedures." - Ken Saks

Kalaba's view on Zambia having 'leadership deficiency'

Editor,

"Kalaba must see the videos in which he called Zambians to rally behind EL or he must apologise for having been mad." - Humble Voice

"The leadership that he helped put in place." - Bashi Chabota Jay Kalikenka

"Kalaba and Kambwili are accomplices to the mess we are in as a country!" - Bashi Chabota Jay Kalikenka

"Harry Kalaba blames the country's state of poverty on poor leadership. He has been a minister since PF got into govt, save for the short time since becoming a backbencher. Is he not part of that poor leadership as he still is PF MP for Bahati? Why has he not completely distanced himself by making a clean break from PF and its 'poor leadership'?" - David M Mwanangombe

"Kalaba is the cause of all the suffering we are going through under PF!" - Sinkala Derrick

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

The Ministry of Works and Supply has angered former Chiefs and Traditional Affairs minister Susan Kawandami for including her on a list of names of former government officials that still owe the Treasury for furniture which they bought on offer in 2016 and 2017.

Last week, Works and Supply Permanent Secretary Agnes Musunga told the parliamentary Public Accounts Committee (PAC) that some cabinet ministers, former ministers and MPs owed government amounts totalling K253,993.79 for the said goods, Kawandami being among those listed. But the former minister yesterday stormed News Diggers! to present proof

Works PS angers Kawandami for including her on the list of indebted ex-ministers

that she had in fact settled her debt and further produced evidence that the ministry acknowledged receipt of the monies she paid.

According to the letter which was written to her on November 14, 2018 with referenced “Payment of furniture K7, 859.25 and signed by Musunga, the ministry had reminded Kawandami that the records showed that she still owed the stated amount. “I write to inform you that we carried out necessary enquiries regarding payment of furniture

offered to you to purchase in 2016. The findings from our enquiries indicate that your gratuity was not adjusted to liquidate outstanding amount nor is there any indication of payment for the same. Our records show that you still owe an amount of K7, 857.25. The purpose of writing is to remind you to pay the outstanding amount at the earliest possible time. You may wish to know that this matter has been subject of Audit Query and it is desirous that it is brought to closure. We shall appreciate your response at the earliest

possible time, preferably by 23rd November 2018,” Musunga stated in the letter which was also copied to the minister and the secretary to cabinet. But Kawandami said she received the letter with shock because she had already made the full payment of the amount she owed on a receipt number 6995240 dated 26th September 2016 and the payment was already acknowledged by the PS works. To prove that she was wrongly accused of owing government for the said

furniture, Kawandami produced a letter of acknowledgement of receipt and apology from the permanent secretary. “Reference is made to your minute No. NWS/71/27/1 dated 14th November, 2018 regarding the above mentioned (Payment for furniture: Yourself). I hereby acknowledge receipt of Receipt number 6995240 of 26th September, 2016 amounting to K7, 858.25 being proof of payment for the furniture that was offered in 2016. We have amended the records to indicate that you do not

owe government any money for the above sell,” acknowledged Musunga. She complained to News Diggers that the Ministry had put her in an awkward position because the report produced to PAC was false and damaging to her reputation.

“I was fuming when I saw this story because I had a meeting with the PS and the Minister, and I produced the receipt of payment. So I asked them how my name remained on that list and they also wondered how the officers in the ministry did not correct the information. I am deputy chairperson of the party and this put’s me in a very awkward situation. How can I go to the public and preach good morals when my name is being dragged in such false stories, it is very unfair,” said Kawandami.

“This failure of accountability goes to show the caliber of these officers who are responsible for this in those ministries, because if someone paid, that money must be there somewhere. There must be a system that shows when money is paid, even if they don’t know where it came from, it must be there so that when someone provides a receipt like I have done, they must say ‘yes, we have that money’. But if its not there, then where did it go? This is how innocent people go to jail just like this, it is so unfair. Please help me clean my name, I don’t like being involved in any scandals.”

Lungu will take another vacation within festive season, says Amos

By Zondiwe Mbewe

President Edgar Lungu’s Special Assistant for Press and Public Relations Amos Chanda says the Head of State can be within Zambia but still designate another person to act on his behalf. And Chanda has revealed that President Lungu will take another vacation within this festive season, but hastened to add that he is well.

Meanwhile, Chanda has dispelled rumours that President Lungu has made reshuffles to his Cabinet, saying it’s still intact. Speaking during an impromptu ZNBC Special Interview programme, Tuesday, Chanda insisted that President Lungu was on a short vacation within the country and returned to work on Monday.

He disclosed that the Head of State had signed an Instrument designating Defence Minister Davies Chama to act as President. “The President was on short vacation. He completed that short vacation and returned to work yesterday (Monday), about 14:00 hours. So, he will resume duties. By operation of the law, if the President is out of the country, he’s on leave, for any other reason he’s unable to perform those functions, he will sign an instrument of designation to allow the person appointed, to act as President to discharge those functions. In this case, the President signed an instrument designating Honourable Davies Chama, Defence Minister, to act as President,” Chanda explained. “The President was in the

country, he was on leave, the Vice-President (Inonge Wina) was out of the country, therefore, another person had to be designated. Without that absence of the Vice-President, by operation of the law, she takes over automatically.”

Asked by his host, Franklin Tembo Jnr. whether Chama’s acting suggested that something was wrong as he could not act if the President was in the country, Chanda insisted that there was absolutely nothing wrong. He reiterated that the President could be within the country, but designate another person to act. “There’s absolutely nothing...this kind of rumour mongering that makes people think that way. You and I grew up believing that if Dr Kaunda was not in office, the Chief Justice became President. There was never a thing like that. The President can be within the country and the Vice-President will act. If the Vice-President is not there, anyone other person will act. So, there is nothing. The President, yes, was in the country and Hon. Davies Mwila (Chama) was acting President,” Chanda said.

And Chanda announced that President Lungu would again take another vacation within the course of this festive season. “The President will again take leave within the course of this festive season. Her Honour, the Vice-President, should she be available, she will act as President. If she will not be available, the President will sign an instrument, designating another person to act as

President. That vacation he will take, I can tell you, will still be within the country and another person will act as President. The first round of his vacation, as planned by State House, has been undertaken. In between, he has a State visit to Japan, before or after, he will take another vacation. So, the President is well, he will take leave as it is designated,” he said.

Meanwhile, Chanda also dispelled rumours that President Lungu had made reshuffles to Cabinet. “It’s this culture of rumour mongering and peddling false information, which brings me to the point that the President has not made any changes to Cabinet! He has not reshuffled any Minister, the government is intact. If he wants, he can make Cabinet from where he was in South Luangwa. If he wants, he can make it in State House. He can announce any time, there is no standing order that designates when to announce when the President is out,” he said.

Asked again whether the status of some of President Lungu’s associates, who were making appearances at public functions should be questioned, Chanda responded by asking whether a Republican President can’t have friends. “Can’t the President have friends? If the President has friends when he assumes power, should those friends just disappear in thin air? For instance, when there is a State function, the President and the First Lady have a guest. A standard one. That guest list changes. When

the new President comes and another one goes, they will invite their friends,” he responded.

But when Tembo insisted some of the suggestions indicate that they are here for dubious means; some don’t have credibility, Chanda said it was just malice as President Lungu’s friends had no criminal record. “Again that is just malice! If somebody is not a convict,

what stigma do you want to place on that person in order for the President to move away from them? What lack of credibility? A friend is a friend. If he has no criminal record, that friend will be cleared. State House will not clear anyone with a criminal record to see the President. All the people around the President do not have criminal records so no one is secluded,” argued Chanda.



Petauke central member of parliament Honourable Dora Siliya distributes mealie meal and other gifts to people in her constituency

Lukulu wants a change of govt - Chief Imenda

By Tenson Mkhala in
Lukulu

Chief Imenda of the Mbowa speaking people of Lukulu district in Western Province says people in the area want change of government. And Chief Imenda says opposition leaders must be allowed to sell themselves to the people by holding meetings without restrictions. The Chief said this when Democratic Party 2021 presidential candidate Harry Kalaba paid courtesy call on him at his palace on Sunday. “People are saying we need change because, especially Western Province Lukulu in particular, the people of Lukulu are crying for the road. Every president who comes to power talked about Lukulu – Katunda road but nothing has been done and the people are complaining. As they complain, they come to us as parents. Me, I do not move but people who do move complain that they want change. It’s the people who complain that they want change not me. It’s not me. I should not be misquoted, it is not me who is saying but the people are saying we want



change because we do not see development,” Chief Imenda said. “We appreciate we have seen hydro here yes. We have seen Lukulu Health District and for sure we appreciate. PF has done almost as they promised. Hydro we have seen it. Health district we have seen it but, many people say the road was supposed to be first before the hydro because everything you need comes through the roads. Food, money, groceries. People are saying yes, we

have electricity but how many people have lights? It’s only in the Boma. So people have said.” He said the people of Lukulu were revolutionary and did not tolerate rubbish. “Lukulu is a land of plenty Lukulu is peaceful district and the people of Lukulu are the people who know revolution. Here they beat even the police officers. At some time, a politician was attacked. People of Lukulu do not tolerate rubbish. I would like to say, I welcome you and

I would like to hear from what you have brought for us and for your own information, you are the first senior politician to visit this palace. I am really humbled because most people shun us forgetting that we are the people who hold the people. We are the king makers. You can go to the senior chief, but you will find that we, the junior chiefs, we have access to the majority. We have access to the masses. You will just go there talk to the senior chiefs but, we are the

people who make what Mr [Edgar] Lungu is today, His Excellency Mr Lungu. He has done a lot,” Chief Imenda said. And Chief Imenda said opposition leaders must be allowed to sell themselves to the people by holding meetings without restrictions. “Zambia being a democratic country, things should be allowed to exist. So it should not be if one talks to an opposition leader, [he] is an enemy of the state. Look, if that is what

they made that anyone talking to the opposition leader is an enemy of the state, then let us change the constitution to go back to one party state because during the one party state, yes it was an offence for anyone to align with leaders of the political parties but today, we fought that. We kicked out UNIP regime that we get to plural politics. I was one of the people who joined in the MMD and I am a former district secretary in the MMD. What we fought for was a plural politics not one party state whereby, one person dictates what people should do, no. Every leader who comes into power was once in the opposition. Is it not true? Nobody came from heaven to become a president without being in the opposition. So the opposition leaders should not be tortured. So I am sorry, I might be misquoted but me as I talk to you, I am behind the government of the day,” said Chief Imenda. And Kalaba thanked the Chief for welcoming and accepting him in his area. “Your Royal Highness, I am very humbled, I am very humbled your Royal Highness. First of all, that you have given us time to come here but also, your Royal Highness, I am also shocked that the chief had blessed me and my delegation by submitting to the Lord. May God bless you. I traveled on the Lukulu – katuda the famous road and I agree with the area MP Hon Mutelo who has been talking about it every time in Parliament. He has been singing that song of the Lukulu – Katuda – Wantopa road. It is true the road is very bad. It is 190 Kilometer from the junction up to here but it took us 6 hours and it is unacceptable because that road is an economic road. That road is the one which even link Western to North- Western Province. The road is the one that brings food from Lusaka to here and yet the road has remained so pathetic. Your Royal Highness, once voted in as the President, I shall work on this road,” said Kalaba.

Kafue PF member sues SG over ‘illegal’ intra party election

By Zondiwe Mbewe
A PF member has sued party Secretary General Davies Mwila and Kafue District chairman Kestus Simukanzye in the Lusaka High Court seeking damages and a declaration that the election of the latter as executive chairman was illegal, null and void. Keith Mwewa, who previously served as Kafue District Executive Youth Chairman for 17 years and contested for the position of District Chairman, is also seeking an order of injunction restraining Simukanzye from posing as chairman or presiding over any meeting, costs and any other reliefs. In a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court, Monday, Mwewa stated that early this year, Mwila called a stakeholder’s meeting at Chongwe Secondary School where he announced that the party would be holding intra-party elections and gave guidelines on how they would be

conducted. He stated that Mwila set August 11, 2018 as the date for the Kafue District and Constituency elections. “It was in public domain that prior to the said elections, they were campaign camps. In the Kafue case there was what was called the ‘Gibson Sinkala Camp’ and ‘Dennis Kaeza Camp’, wherein Mwewa was perceived and actually aligned to the ‘Gibson Sinkala Camp’, whereas Simukanzye was associated to the ‘Dennis Kaeza Camp,’” read the statement of claim. Mwewa stated that the position of Kafue Constituency Executive Chairman was won by Gibson Sinkala. “Among other contestants ‘Gibson Sinkala’ competed with ‘Dennis Kaeza’, which position was won by Gibson Sinkala. Majory Kasanda competed with Lillian Chilufya for the position of Chairlady , which position was scooped by Lillian

of the ‘Sinkala Camp’. Cecilia Phiri competed for the position of Vice Women Chairlady against Linah Daka whereby Linah who belonged to the ‘Sinkala Camp’ won the said election. Finally Mary Nampungwe who belonged to the ‘Dennis Kaeza Camp’ lost as Women Secretary to Norah Mwasile of ‘Sinkala Camp,’” read the statement of claim further. Mwewa alleged that as the conclusion of the Constituency elections, the returning officer without any just cause allowed the four losing candidates at Constituency level, to contest for various positions at District level when the nomination had closed at the time. He stated that even if the said nominations were validated, the four could only be allowed to contest the various positions but had no right to cast the vote at District elections because they did not form part of the electoral college having lost at Constituency

level. Mwewa added that they were however, allowed to cast their votes. He stated that it was common knowledge that the four, having belonged to the Dennis Kaeza Camp, did not vote for him and ultimately influenced the outcome of the results of the Kafue District PF Chairmanship where Simukanzye polled 52 votes against Mwewa’s 50 votes. Mwewa contended that legally, if the four were not allowed to cast their votes, he should have polled 50 votes whereas Simukanzye should have polled 48 votes. He stated that the entire District elections was legally flawed. Mwewa disclosed that on August 11, he petitioned the said election to Mwila through elections committee but to this date, the said elections committee had failed, refused or neglected to preside over the said petition, which had prejudiced him.

Khashoggi murder: CIA chief Haspel 'to brief Congress'

The head of the CIA will now brief Congress on Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi's murder, US media say. They say Gina Haspel is to talk to Senate leaders on Tuesday. She was absent from last week's briefing by the secretaries of state and defence, angering some in Congress. Khashoggi was killed in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul in October. US media have reported that the CIA has concluded Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman "probably ordered" the killing. The Saudis have charged 11 people but deny that the crown prince was involved. US media reports say the CIA has evidence he exchanged messages with Saud al-Qahtani, who allegedly oversaw the murder. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defence Secretary James Mattis had told senators last week there was no direct evidence of the crown prince's involvement. President Donald Trump has said the CIA findings on the crown prince were not conclusive. On 20 November he said: "It could very well be that the crown prince had

knowledge of this tragic event - maybe he did and maybe he didn't." Gina Haspel is also reportedly angry about the leak of the CIA findings to the media. The CIA has not commented on the reports of Tuesday's briefing. How did senators react to last week's no-show? Many senators are unhappy with Mr Trump's response to the Khashoggi murder, and their anger was exacerbated by Ms Haspel's failure to attend the briefing.

As a result, they voted by 63 votes to 37 last week to advance a measure to withdraw American support for a Saudi-led coalition fighting in Yemen. A similar resolution came up for a Senate vote earlier in the year and failed to pass. "It's time to send Saudi Arabia a message, both on its violation of human rights and the incredible humanitarian catastrophe it's creating in Yemen," Democratic Senator Bob Menendez said.

Republican Senator Lindsey Graham said he would withhold his vote on any major legislation until Ms Haspel was allowed to brief the full Senate. "The way the administration had handled the Saudi Arabia event is just not acceptable," he said. "The briefing did not help me at all better understand the role that [Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman] played in the killing of Mr Khashoggi." **BBC**



Jamal Khashoggi

Trump wants talks with Putin, Xi to end 'uncontrollable arms race'

US President Donald Trump on Monday proposed talks with the leaders of China and Russia aimed at halting what he described as an "uncontrollable" arms race. Trump's comment follows an October announcement in which he said he would withdraw from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF), a Cold War deal with Russia to cut missile numbers.

Critics say the move, which has not been finalized, would spark a new arms race with Russia. Trump at the time said he would build up America's nuclear stockpile "until people come to their senses." In an early morning tweet Monday, the president said: "I am certain that, at some time in the future, President Xi and I, together with President Putin of Russia, will start talking about a meaningful halt to what

has become a major and uncontrollable Arms Race." "The U.S. spent 716 Billion Dollars this year. Crazy!" he added. Trump's tweet came on the heels of a weekend meeting with Xi during the G20 summit in Argentina, during which the leaders called a truce on an intensifying trade war between their two powerhouse countries. The 1987 INF deal did not cover China and was designed to eliminate

short- and intermediate-range missiles on Europe's doorstep. A date for the US official withdrawal from the treaty has yet to be pinpointed, leaving room for a possible fix that would likely also have to involve China. - Meeting canceled- Trump's decision to withdraw from the INF raised global concerns, and administration officials have been engaged in an aggressive public relations campaign with European leaders and the press to explain the move. They say it is necessary because Russia has long been violating the INF. Trump and Putin had initially been expected to have formal talks at the G20 summit, where the INF was likely to have been a topic of discussion. But Trump pulled the plug last week after the Russian navy seized three Ukrainian vessels and their crews in the Kerch Strait. The two did have an "informal" conversation at the summit. "We were waiting for the meeting between Putin and Trump, who could have together discussed the process... and sketched a rough

outline for a dialogue on this topic," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said in comments reported by Russian news agencies. "But unfortunately, as you know, this meeting did not take place." Trump's reference to the Defense Department's "crazy" \$716 billion budget underscores something of an about-face for the president. He came into office last year repeatedly saying the vast US military is suffering massive shortages and vowed a "great rebuilding" of the armed services. Republicans and military leaders had for years bemoaned Obama-era cuts they said went too far and hurt US capabilities, especially in the face of Chinese and Russian military expansions. Despite a much-touted increase in defense spending this year, Trump now appears to be balking at the price tag and recently told the Pentagon to find five percent in savings, sending service chiefs scrambling to look for areas to cut. The US spends more on defense annually than do the next seven countries combined. **AFP**



US President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump arrive to pay their respects to former US President George H. W. Bush as he lies in state in the US Capitol's rotunda December 3, 2018 in Washington, DC. **AFP**

Millions of dollars for neglected tropical diseases announced at star-studded Mandela concert

Johannesburg, December 2: Leading philanthropists as well as African and European governments have announced more than US\$150m to tackle neglected tropical diseases largely unknown in western countries, but which affect 1.5 billion people – or one in five on the planet.

The over \$150m funding will unlock a total aid package worth many, many more times that sum thanks to the the free donation of medicines from pharmaceutical companies.

The announcements to fund the prevention and treatment of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) were made at a star-studded festival in Johannesburg, South Africa, co-hosted by the Government of South Africa, the House of Mandela, Motsepe Foundation, and the activist network Global Citizen.

The event, called Mandela100 to honour Nelson Mandela, the anti-apartheid icon, in what is the centenary year of his birth, featured international artistes including Femi Kuti, Sho Madjozi, Beyonce, Jay Z and Ed Sheeran, amongst others. As with other



Global Citizen events it was a unique mixture of fantastic music, speeches by politicians and messages about how to solve some of the problems of the world. The festival was hosted by South African comedian and activist Trevor Noah. A total of over US\$150m in funding for neglected

tropical diseases (NTDs) was announced at the concert, where total commitments worth over \$7 billion dollars to support the UN Sustainable Development Goals were also announced. \$105 million came from: a group of funders from

the Audacious Project who announced their commitment through global entrepreneur Sir Richard Branson. The Audacious Project, hosted by TED, brings together philanthropists committed to turn transformative ideas into action. The commitments were

made by: the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; the government of Mozambique; the governments of Belgium and Botswana; and a consortium of private donors associated with the philanthropic venture the END Fund. NTDs such as blinding

average cost of delivering the necessary drugs of 50 US Cents per treatment. Community volunteer leads in festival

The part of the festival during which financial announcements for NTDs were made was opened by a community health volunteer from western Zambia, Precious Mukelabai. She is one of the thousands of dedicated community health volunteers around the world who work tirelessly connecting people with services.

Precious Mukelabai and her colleagues are an essential and critical component of fighting NTDs. Precious spoke movingly at the festival about her aunt who she recently helped connect with a surgeon who successfully operated on her eyes to prevent blindness.

The aunt had suffered from blinding trachoma, an NTD and the leading cause of infectious blindness in the world, for many years: “Now my auntie has her smile again”, said Precious Mukelabai.

(A photo of Precious Mukelabai addressing the crowd at the festival is enclosed in a folder below - please see ‘Notes to Editors’)

Details of commitments

Of the total announced at the festival, over \$105m will be used to tackle blinding trachoma and infant mortality. Blinding trachoma is an extremely painful disease that causes eyelashes to turn inwards, scratching the eye with every blink. It is mainly prevalent in areas without clean running water or proper sanitation. If left untreated it can lead to irreversible blindness.

This funding to fight blinding trachoma was announced at the festival by the global entrepreneur Sir Richard Branson on behalf of a group of funders including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Children’s Investment Fund Foundation, The ELMA Foundation (UK), UK Aid and Virgin Unite.

The money will be used by the UK-based charity Sightsavers and a network of partners to support at least ten African countries in eliminating blinding trachoma as a public health problem and speed up progress against the disease in several other African nations.

Eddie Murphy fathers 10th child



Eddie Murphy and his fiancée Paige Butcher have a new baby boy. The couple released a statement through Murphy's publicist Monday saying Max Charles Murphy was born Friday and weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces. The boy's middle name is a tribute to

Murphy's older brother and fellow comedian Charlie Murphy, who died of leukemia last year. It's the 10th child for the 57-year-old Eddie Murphy, the second child for the 39-year-old Butcher. The couple has a 2-year-old daughter, Izzy. The "Nutty Professor" and "Beverly

Hills Cop" actor has been dating the Australian model and actress since 2012, and they recently became engaged. The statement says Butcher and the baby are doing well. Murphy's oldest child, Eric, is 29. **Yahoo Lifestyle**

running water or adequate sanitation. They stop children going to school and can rob adults of their most productive years of life. Great progress has been made in efforts against the diseases. Thanks to treatment, half a billion people no longer need interventions for NTDs. But one and a half billion are still in need of help. Thanks to pharmaceutical companies donating medicines for NTDs for free, the over \$150m pledged at the Festival will unlock a total aid package worth many, many times this figure. For every aid dollar invested in the distribution of medicines, \$26 worth of donated drugs will be leveraged, making this the largest public/ private partnership in global health. The money announced at the festival will treat and protect some 300m people from the effects of these diseases based on an

Ballon D'Or host apologises as 'twerk' request causes storm

French DJ Martin Solveig apologised and said he was taken aback by the stormy reaction online after he asked the inaugural women's Ballon D'Or winner Ada Hegerberg whether she could "twerk" live on stage. The awards co-host in Paris provoked a torrent of complaints about sexism with his question about the sexually suggestive dance, which received a blunt "No" from the unamused Norwegian striker.

The incident was a major talking point despite Hegerberg's achievement in becoming the first winner of the women's Ballon D'Or, an award which has been handed to male footballers since 1956.

Solveig, a musician and radio host, apologised in person to Hegerberg and said he was "astonished" at the reaction.

"Guys I'm a little bit amazed, astonished by what I'm reading on the internet," he said in a video posted on Twitter.

"Of course I didn't want to offend anyone... This was a joke, probably a bad one and I want to apologise for the one I may have offended."

As footage of the incident went viral, British tennis player Andy Murray led the backlash when he thundered: "Why do women still have to put up with that shit?" *AFP*



Norwegian forward Ada Hegerberg (R) stands alongside French DJ and producer Martin Solveig (L) after receiving the 2018 women's Ballon d'Or award.

Klopp accepts FA misconduct charge

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp has accepted an FA charge following his celebrations in the recent Merseyside derby victory against Everton.

The German irritated a number of Everton fans by running onto the pitch after Divock Origi's injury-time to celebrate with Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson.

Goal understands Klopp will escape a touchline ban for the incident, although he will be fined - with the fee reported to be in the region of £8k - and given a warning over his future conduct.

Although Klopp did apologise for his actions after the game, the FA have chosen to take action against the 51-year-old.

"First of all, I have to apologise for my run," the Liverpool boss told BBC Sport after the game. "I apologised immediately after to Marco Silva, I didn't want to be disrespectful."

"My respect to Everton could not be bigger after that game. We knew how strong they were but today they were outstandingly strong and difficult with the way they played."

"The goal was lucky of course but our idea was clear: we wanted to win until the last second. We wanted to show that by bringing strikers on. It was a long and open game. I think we deserved the three points."

The lack of a touchline ban means Klopp will be in the dugout when Liverpool face Burnley on Wednesday. A win for the Reds could move them to up to first place in the table depending on Manchester City's result against Watford on Tuesday night.

The former Dortmund coach will be hoping his side don't leave quite as late to find a winning-goal this time around.

Divock Origi's header in added-on time caused pandemonium at Anfield on Sunday and ensured Liverpool stay within touching distance of City, who are two points ahead of the Reds.

"Not often, it happens from time to time but not very often," Klopp said after the match.

"Thankfully, because it is better for the heart if football games are decided earlier." *Goal.com*

Canada's Stevenson 'stable' in hospital after losing title fight

Canadian boxer Adonis Stevenson remained sedated in hospital but his condition improved to "stable," his doctors said Monday after the fighter lost his World Boxing Council light heavyweight title to Ukrainian Oleksandr Gvozdyk.

"He is still in the intensive care unit and under controlled sedation," the University Hospital of Quebec said in a statement. "His condition remains stable."

The Haitian-born boxer, 41, was admitted to the hospital on Saturday after the unbeaten 31-year-old Gvozdyk finished him off with a crushing right hand, leaving him leaning awkwardly against the corner ropes.

Stevenson was making his 10th title defense since winning his belt in 2013 by defeating American Chad Dawson.

"I talked to the people at the hospital. He was very



Oleksandr Gvozdyk (R) punches Adonis Stevenson during their WBC light heavyweight championship fight on December 1, 2018

confused when he arrived, we suspect a concussion," his manager Yvon Michel told a press conference on Saturday night. "It's very disturbing."

Stevenson was dominated

almost from beginning to end by Gvozdyk, who unloaded a barrage of punches that sent the Canadian champion reeling before landing his knockout blow in the

11th.

Gvozdyk, who won an Olympic bronze medal for Ukraine at the London 2012 Games, claimed the belt in his first shot at a major title.

Stevenson's manager said the Canadian boxer's family and friends were at his bedside. In a statement from the hospital they asked "to go through this ordeal in privacy." *AFP*

Zesco wallops Sonidep 3-0, moves to face TP Mazembe



By Alex Chilumbwe
Kenyan international Jesse Were scored within a minute and 45 seconds to open the scoreline for team ya ziko, before he returned in the 55th-minute to snatch a brace that was punctuated by a 26th minute goal by Lazarous Kambole at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola. The 3-0 bashing of the visiting Nigeriens guided ZESCO United to the second stage of the Champions League where they will now face TP Mazembe of Congo DR. Although ZESCO won the game, it was Sonidep of Niger that had better possession in the first half while the ZESCO defence had numerous defensive errors that could have spoiled their broth. As the two sides went on break, ZESCO had a 2-0 advantage. In the second half, Jesse Were managed another quick goal in the 55th minute, stealing a brace from Kambole who failed to utilise his chance in the 67th minute that would have stretched the aggregate to 6-1 at full time, but 51 it was. ZESCO coach George Lwandamina shared his views on the clash during the post match interview, after his outfit recorded a 100 per cent record, having defeated the West Africans 2-1 at their home soil. “I am still not fully confident with the way my boys are playing. There is clearly a weakness at the back and we have to work very hard as we train for the encounter against TP Mazembe. Otherwise a home and away win is really good,” said Lwandamina.

Lengwe makes 2019 WC cut

By Alex Chilumbwe
Zambian referee Gladys Lengwe will be officiating at the 2019 FIFA Women’s World Cup to be hosted by France. Lengwe who handled the final of the 2018 Africa Women Championship between Nigeria and South Africa on Saturday will be among 27 referees across the globe, and the three representatives from the CAF quarter that includes Salima Mukansanga (Rwanda) and Abebe Lydia Tafesse (Ethiopia). Lengwe spoke about her excitement to Goal Diggers! after hitting another milestone. “I never take it lightly and it is all blessings. I have a lot of things to be grateful for and this is one of them. Such opportunities challenge me to work harder and go to new

heights in football. I have love and passion for this sport,” she said. Lengwe further said that she was cautious about falling prey to conduct that would jeopardize her professionalism in the job. She added that she gets satisfaction from every job regardless of its size. “When one is doing something great on a bigger platform, there is growing temptation to compromise on professionalism. I just make sure that I get satisfied from every job whether small or big and treat everyone fairly. It is one way of showing that I am grateful for all the appointments I get,” said Lengwe. The FIFA Referees Committee has selected 27 referees and 48 assistant referees, representing 42 different countries, for the FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019. The journey to the FIFA Women’s World Cup

2019 began for an initial group of female referees and assistant referees from all over the world in September 2015, when FIFA officially started its Road to France 2019 women’s refereeing project. As part of this project, preparatory seminars have taken place over the last three years for referees and assistant referees, focusing on protecting players and the image of the game, as well as on consistency in interpreting the Laws of the Game. Technical expertise, football understanding, fitness and the ability to read the game and teams’ tactical approaches to each match have been the main topics covered at these seminars. The FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019 will be played from 7 June to 7 July in Grenoble, Le Havre, Lyon, Montpellier, Nice, Paris, Reims, Rennes and Valenciennes. The final will take place in Lyon on 7 July 2019.

Musonda urges caution ahead of Al-Merrikh away game

By Alex Chilumbwe
Green Buffaloes coach Bilton Musonda has cautioned his players against getting carried away by their 2-0 lead over Al-Merrikh in the forthcoming second leg

of the CAF Confederation games saying they need to focus on winning the return away match in Sudan before celebrating. Musonda noted that players can easily get carried away by their first win and lose focus in their return away match. In his statement availed to the media yesterday, Musonda underscored the importance of staying in check as well as only celebrating after a

recorded win as opposed to an anticipated one. “There is high morale in the squad and I am being careful that they do not lose focus in the process. I remind them that they need to win this one before celebrating too much,” he said. Musonda also said that the team had acclimatized to the temperatures in Juba and have familiarized themselves twice with the pitch that they will use on match day.

“We have had time to train on the pitch we are going to use tomorrow and all the players are injury free. There isn’t much to complain about as we have also acclimatized to the weather here. We just need to work hard and record a win. El Merreikh has an advantage that we enjoyed at home and that is a bigger cheering crown but we will not be intimidated by that,” said Musonda. The combatants will today be looking to continue riding on their good start to continental games that other Zambian teams recorded in their first leg games.

Evans Kangwa shines in Russian premier league

By Alex Chilumbwe
Former Nkana fc topman Evans Kangwa scored his second brace on the weekend to guide his Russian club Arsenal Tula to a 4-2 thrashing of Zenit St Petersburg in the Russian premier league. Kangwa who has also played for Zambia’s Under-20 side in the COSAFA Challenge Cup in 2011, scored in the 6th and 74th

minute while his teammates Mirzov and Bakaev scored the other two goals in the 34th and 77th minute respectively. Kangwa now has a total number of 4 goals in his last two games and his former coach at Nkana Linos Makwaza commented on his current form in an interview Goal Diggers! “He knows how to get things

done on the pitch and he works really hard. Even under my wing, he had hunger to do more than what is expected and I am also glad that his scoring ability keeps improving,” said Makwaza. Kangwa made his league debut for the club on 29 September 2017 in a 1-0 home victory over FC Krasnodar. He scored his first goal in the Russian Premier

League on 15 October 2017 in a 1-0 away win against Zenit. His goal, assisted by Kirill Kombarov, came in the 73rd minute. Meanwhile in Spain, Shepolopolo forward Barbara Banda was on target on Saturday for her Spanish Feminina league side EDF Logrono who recorded a 2-2 draw against Fundacion Albacete.

ZESCO EXCELS

...beats Nigeriens home and away

Cristiano Ronaldo's sister, Elma, has reacted angrily to her brother's Ballon d'Or snub, with "the mafia" blamed for the Juventus star being overlooked in a bizarre rant.

The Portuguese had been hoping to land a sixth Golden Ball of his stunning career at a glitzy ceremony in Paris on Monday.

He was, however, to finish second in the vote behind former Real Madrid team-mate Luka Modric.

Ronaldo had already seen his FIFA Best Award passed to the Croatia international earlier this season, with the Ballon d'Or having now headed the same way.

Modric has enjoyed a memorable year, with a Champions League triumph at club level complemented by a run through to the World Cup final with his country.

Ronaldo, however, also helped Madrid to conquer Europe last season before netting



CR7's Ballon d'Or snub blamed on mafia in bizarre rant by Juventus star's sister

four goals in Russia and completing a stunning €100 million (£89m/\$114m) move to Juventus.

He is considered by many to still set the standard for individual excellence, with his family certainly of the

opinion that he was deserving of another major award in France. Elma Aveiro posted on Instagram:

"Unfortunately this is the world we live in, rotten, with mafia and f*****g money. "The power of God is a lot greater than all this rottenness. God takes his time but he doesn't fail." Ronaldo's older sister Katia also got in on the act, stating on social media: "Best player in the world....for those who understand football of course."

With Modric having taken the top prize in the latest Ballon d'Or vote, a 10-year duopoly of the award by Ronaldo and Barcelona talisman Lionel Messi has been broken . It is, however, likely that two eternal rivals will be back among the leading contenders in 2019, with both men already into double figures in terms of goals scored this season. *Goal.com*

Lengwe makes 2019 FIFA World Cup cut

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