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CHILLIFYA SAFE

There's no law compelling Lungu to fire corruption-accused ministers - State House

By Ulande Nkomesha

STATE House says there are no standing rules compelling the Head of State to suspend or fire a minister who is facing corruption

allegations.

President Edgar Lungu's Special Assistant for Press and Public Relations Isaac Chipampe said this in relation to Health Minister

Dr Chitalu Chilufya who is under investigation for alleged abuse of office in relation to multiple properties that he allegedly owns.

Story page 4



By Zondiwe Mbewe

BELARUSIAN businessman Alexander Zingman's lawyers have written to News Diggers Media Limited requesting it to confirm where or whom it

Police pursue

Miles for assault

By Ulande Nkomesha

POLICE in Lusaka are investigating an assault case where Lusaka

Mayor Miles Sampa is alleged to have assaulted Memorial Park

obtained photographs of their client.

According to a letter of demand addressed to News Diggers editor-in-chief Joseph Mwenda and reporter Sipilisiwe Ncube, Zingman, through his lawyers from Daniel L. Delnero and Squire Patton Boggs law firm based in the UK, is demanding that News Diggers should within two working days of receiving the letter, remove the Article, including the e-Paper version from the website and provide them with evidence of the same

News Diggers has further been asked to disclose where or whom it obtained the photographs of Zingman and further to provide an apology to be published on the website.



Minister of Health Dr Chitalu Chilufya

Reject Bill 10 in Zambians' interest, CSOs urge MPs

By Julia Malunga

A CONSORTIUM of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) say members of parliament should choose and embrace public service by rejecting the Constitution Amendment Number 10 of 2019 when Parliament resumes sitting next week.

In a statement signed by Chapter One Foundation executive director Linda Kasonde, Tuesday, CSOs urged parliamentarians from all sides to reject the controversial Bill.

"Parliament resumes its sittings on 9th June, 2020, and with it the threat of the enactment of the Constitution Amendment..." Story page 3

Chicago's faces closure

By Natasha Sakala

THE Lusaka City Council (LCC) has given Chicago's at East Park Mall and four other businesses a 24-hour ultimatum to show cause why their licenses should not be revoked for contravening public health guidelines.

Other premises found contravening similar public health guidelines are Decapo Coffe Bar and Lounge, Cock and Bull and Keg & Lion.

In a statement, LCC public relations manager George Sichimba stated that it had been established that based on investigations, Chicagos management over the weekend allowed their premises to operate

as a bar and night club with an unsatisfactory practice of social distancing. Story page 3

Judiciary restores Sangwa's right to appear in court

Story page 2



A Kabulonga Basic School teacher checks the temperature of grade nine and seven pupils - Picture by Tenson Mkhala





By Ulande Nkomesha

THE Judiciary has restored Constitutional lawyer John Sangwa's right to appear in court. And the Judiciary says it will not proceed with contemptuous charges it had intended to take against Sangwa.

In a letter to the Law Association of Zambia, Chief Registrar and Director of Court Operations Charles Kafunda stated that the decision to reverse the ban was arrived at after Sangwa issued a statement which was recently published by News Diggers.

"On the 13th March, 2020, the Judiciary suspended the right of audience of Mr. John Sangwa, SC before the Zambian Courts. This was following some statements which were published in the News Diggers Newspaper and attributed to Mr Sangwa SC. The statements in issue were considered contemptuous and hence the suspension of Mr Sangwa's right of audience before the courts and the lodgement of a complaint against him to the Law Association of Zambia by the Judiciary. The Constitutional Court also began the process of arraigning Mr Sangwa, SC for contempt of court," Kafunda

"At the initiative of some state counsel, Mr Sangwa, SC engaged the Constitutional Court over the statements

Judiciary restores Sangwa's right to appear in court

attributed to him. The said process of engagement culminated in a statement issued by Mr Sangwa, SC and published in the *News Diggers* Edition of 22nd May, 2020."

Kafunda, however, stated that the complaint against Sangwa would remain before the Law Association of Zambia to be determined in accordance with the rules of the Law Association of Zambia Legal Practitioners committee.

"In view of the statement issued by Mr Sangwa, SC the Constitutional Court will not proceed with the intended contempt charges against Mr Sangwa SC, consequently, the Judiciary has decided to restore Mr Sangwa'a right of audience before all courts in Zambia. With regards to the complaint by the Judiciary against Mr Sangwa SC, it stands and the position of the Judiciary is that the complaint will remain before the Law Association of Zambia to be determined in accordance with the rules of the Law Association of Zambia Legal Practitioners' committee," stated Kafunda.

In his statement, Sangwa

said he had accepted the appointment of the Constitutional Court judges and recognised, as well as respected their authority.

Sangwa said this was despite his personal opinion that they did not qualify.

"When the names of the six nominees to the Constitutional Court were announced, in line with my oath of office as a lawyer and right and duty as a citizen to protect and defend the Constitution, I evaluated the qualifications of each nominee based on the documents submitted in support of their respective nominations against the relevant provisions of the Constitution. It was my opinion that none of the nominees qualified for appointment to the office of Judge of the Constitutional Court. I detailed the basis of my conclusion in a brief attached to my letter to the President dated 13th March 2016, which was copied to the Chief Justice, the nominees, the Chairman of the Judicial Service Commission, the Speaker of the National Assembly, and the Law Association of Zambia,"

stated Sangwa.

"What is contained in the brief is and remains my opinion, given as part of the vetting process of the Judges of the Constitutional Court. My opinion was not accepted. The President did not rescind the nominations, the nominees did not withdraw their names for consideration for appointment to the Constitutional Court, Assembly National confirmed the nominations and the nominees subsequently took the oath of office. The was completed process and the Judges have been exercising the powers vested in the Constitutional Court by hearing and deciding cases. I have accepted the outcome of the constitutional process. Defending and protecting the Constitution is not just about ensuring that it is not violated. It is also about respecting the processes established by the Constitution and accepting the outcome. I have accepted the appointment of the Judges of the Constitutional Court and recognise and respect their authority. Consequently, since the Constitutional Court was constituted, I have, most likely, filed and argued more cases before that Court than any other lawyer in Zambia."

On March 13, 2020, the

Judiciary barred Sangwa from appearing before any court in Zambia pending determination of its complaint against him to the Law Association of Zambia.

In a notice to all judges of the Supreme Court, Constitutional Court, Court of Appeal, High Court, Registrars and Magistrates, Acting Registrar Prince Mwiinga announced that Sangwa would no longer be allowed to appear before any court.

This was after Sangwa made several public statements insisting that the ConCourt judges were unqualified to hold those positions.



COVID-19 has delayed Zambia Airways take-off - Kafwaya

By Julia Malunga

TRANSPORT and Communications Minister Mutotwe Kafwaya says the COVID-19 pandemic has contributed to the delay in relaunching Zambia Airways.

Speaking when he appeared on a Diamond TV programme dubbed "COSTA", Sunday, Kafwaya insisted that Zambia had the technical and financial capacity to run the flag carrier, but observed that the COVID-19 pandemic had delayed the airline's re-launch.

"I think that Zambia does have the capacity to be able to fly again with Zambia Airways. This is why the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), working together with Ethiopian Airlines, have been able to sign a Shareholders' Agreement, they have put the operating procedure together [and] they have put trained people, that demonstrates capacity. But what does the COVID-19 mean? I think it adds to the undertakings of the uncertainty because if there is no passenger, why fly? This is a business with shareholders who have looked at the business proposition and are happy that this can be done," Kafwaya said.

"When these things began a few years back, was COVID there? During the time when we were hit by climate change, were people travelling? People were travelling in spite of the climate change and the airline is there to move people from point A to point B so climate change cannot be brought into the discussions of Zambia Airways, but COVID is [serious]. However, the big thing that delayed Zambia Airways is certification. There were issues to do with the release of the Air Lease Corporation (ALC), they were delayed as far as I am concerned. While I cannot sav when given the prevailing circumstances, we have made progress. We are just about to finalize the certificate and the next step is to assess the market environment. If Zambia Airways can be able fly with the prevailing circumstances,

they should be able to do so."

Asked when the situation would normalize for people to start flying again, Kafwaya said his Ministry only facilitated travels.

"We facilitate travel, we don't cause travel. So, somebody must be able to travel for the aviation to facilitate the travel. It is not up to Mahogany (Airline), for example, it is the business environment, it is the

relaxation of the measures. The President has been clear on the new normal so let us get back into working considering all these measures," he replied.

And when asked why Zamtel was not competing favourably on the market compared to other network providers, Kafwaya said all the three network providers had poor quality of services.

"The issue of government interference in Zamtel is a perception. Zamtel has a chief executive officer, and under him there is a manager and above him, there is a board, I am a board chairman. The business side of Zamtel is even under Ministry of Finance because it is under IDC, but the actual telecommunication is under the Ministry of Communications Transport. So, who exerts the influence there? This is why government has helped Zamtel with infrastructure across the country, this in incapacitation that we are talking about. I am worried about the quality of service, not only in Zamtel, but also in MTN and Airtel because it's important that when we open up the environment, the environment should be able to provide quality services," said

Restructuring Zambia's loans will need financial manipulation, observes Magande

By Natasha Sakala

FORMER finance minister Ng'andu Magande says restructuring of bond loans requires financial manipulation, stressing that the people who bought the bonds are not interested in anything else but getting their money back.

In a statement, Magande said in the absence of repayment, the bond holders already knew what assets they would be interested in seizing.

"The PF government got loans from rich people in the streets who had surplus money to lend. They engaged private companies called bond arrangers, who advertised in reputable international financial magazines, such as The Economist and Forbes. The people who answered the advertisement and bought the bond are mostly bazungu (Caucasians) or foreign private companies and known only by the bond arrangers and the PF government. The bond buyers do not require the PF government to use the bond proceeds for any particular project as long as they will be paid back the loan, plus interest on due date. Many of the bond buyers have never visited Zambia, but have some idea of assets of the government which they could seize if they are not paid...bond loan restructuring requires financial manipulation,"

Magande stated.

He said the loans which were restructured during his time in office were different as they were development loans from public institutions and countries, making it easier to negotiate.

The loans I handled were advanced on production of project proposals by the Zambian governments dating back to UNIP days. They were called development loans as they were connected to specific development projects. The negotiations were meant to write-off or change the repayment periods. This required us to explain the reasons for failure of the various Zambian governments to properly use the loans to attain the various project goals. We had to explain how differently and efficiently the Mwanawasa government was going to implement the failed projects and new projects. Each institution, both foreign governments and IMF, AfDB, WBANK, OPEC etc that gave a development loan had a development project document and was entitled to assist the Zambian government in implementing the project. The lenders were mostly public institutions and negotiations required diplomacy and public planning and development management, which are my strengths," stated Magande.

I saw Nyumba Yanga teacher shoot at his wife, witness tells court

By Zondiwe Mbewe

A 65-YEAR-OLD lecturer at Zambia Open University has narrated to the Lusaka High Court how he was shot in the thigh by his tenant, who also shot dead his ex-wife.

Eustone Kapotwe was testifying in a matter where Kenneth Makina, a 42-year-old teacher of Nyumba Yanga Secondary School, is accused of shooting dead his wife after a marital dispute.

The incident allegedly happened when the deceased, Charity Jikubi, went to collect a wardrobe from their matrimonial home as the duo were on separation

Makina has been charged with two counts of murder and acts intending to cause grievous bodily harm.

In count one, it is alleged that on February 13, last year, Makina, with intent to maim, destroy, or disable, caused grievous bodily harm on Eustone Kapotwe.

In count two, it is further alleged that on the same date, Makina killed Charity Jikubi, a police officer.

When the matter came up before Lusaka High Court Judge Pixie Yangailo, Monday, Makina denied the charges.

And testifying in the matter, Dr Kapotwe said on the material day, he was at his house between 07:30 and 08:00 hours when Jikubi, who was with her niece and a carpenter, arrived and informed him that she had gone to collect her wardrobe which she had left at the cottage.

The witness said he informed the deceased that the wardrobe had to be dismantled so that the timber could be put in her car.

He said the deceased then asked him to go and knock at the cottage to inform Makina about the wardrobe she wanted to collect.

"I knocked and informed Mr Makina about the presence of his guests. Mr Makina then asked for a copy of an x-ray, a dongle and a cable from Ms Jikubi. The lady (Ms Jikubi) produced the cable, but he refused to get it. So, she gave it to her niece who gave it to Mr Makina. Mr Makina then got it and went in the house," Dr Kanotwe narrated.

He further testified that when Makina returned, he said only the

carpenter could enter the house to get the wardrobe, not Jikubi or her niece.

Dr Kapotwe said at this point, the deceased got her phone and asked the carpenter to use it to take pictures of the wardrobe so that those who would assemble it in Ndola could have an idea

He added that when the carpenter was taking long to capture the wardrobe, Jikubi called out his name but Makina asked why she was making noise.

Dr Kapotwe said: "she told him that the carpenter was taking long because she needed to travel to Ndola." Mr Makina came out and said: "don't you know that I can kill you!"

He testified that Makina then removed a pistol and fired towards

Jikubi and her niece, who then ran away.

The witness, however, said Makina shot at him in the thigh before he could run.

Dr Kapotwe said he then ran towards his house and his son opened the door and pulled him inside.

The witness said the accused continued to chase after Jikubi and shot at her as she was rushing towards the gate.

"As she was about to go out, he shot at her and she ran to the next yard where we heard bullets," revealed Dr Kapotwe. He said he only saw the body of the deceased as he was being taken to the hospital since he was shot in the leg. Trial continues.

By Natasha Sakala

ZESCO says customers should prudently consume electricity because units can only get depleted when there is consumption.

In the past few days, Netizens have been complaining that their electricity units are depleting faster than usual, wondering whether there had been a secret change in the billing system.

In an interview, Zesco public relations manager Hazel Zulu said the only reason customers felt like units were getting depleted faster is because they were mostly home.

Electricity units only deplete when consumed — Zesco

"I have seen that complaint all over social media that the units are depleting fast but people need to understand that depletion can only happen where there is consumption, so it means that they are basically consuming that power that is being depleted," Zulu said.

"And probably they also

need to appreciate that we have gone into the cold season and power consumption or usage drastically increases in most households. So people need to just try and be prudent, just the way they are using their appliances in the home, especially with regards switching them off completely, they shouldn't leave their

appliances on standby mode because they will still be consuming anyway. If your TV for instance is on standby mode, it will be consuming power and of course you know that with this cold weather, maybe they are switching on their geysers for longer periods than they usually do. So those again are areas where

they can improve in terms of consumption."

She insisted that claims that the units were depleting abnormally were unfounded.

"And also, currently because of the Covid, most people stay at home. You find that most stay at home and mostly when they have power, the usage will be slightly

higher than in times where some of us are at work. But the issue of saying depletion, why is it depleting fast, I think shouldn't arise, it can only deplete in relation to the consumption," Zulu said.

She advised people to study the new tariff structure so that they could appreciate how units were priced.

"And I think the other important this is that we need to understand our tariff structures, residential tariff structures. You know that we have three categories within the residential tariff structure? If you buy power for instance for the first time in the month, you will buy at a lower tariff than the second time that you buy power within the same month. For instance, if you buy power today for the first time in this month, you will buy it at 47 ngwee per unit, the first 100 units, you need to get it correctly and that 47 is exclusive of taxes like the VAT and the excise duty. So if you add VAT and excise duty you will be buying at 56 ngwee per unit, the first 100 units. If you deplete those units within the month and then within the month you buy the next units, you will be buying them in another band at another cost,"

"For instance, you buy the first 100 units on the second then maybe on the second of June, you try to buy more electricity, you will be buying in residential two band so in that case, you will be buying your units at 85 ngwee per unit, that is the next 101 to 300 units, but that's exclusive if tax, if you add it will come to K1.1. And if you buy for a third time within the month you will now go to the R3 tariff. So in that tariff, from 301 plus units, you will be buying at K1.54 per unit so that's again exclusive of tax, if you include the taxes it will go to about K2.31 per unit."

Chicago's, 4 others face closure

By Natasha Sakala

THE Lusaka City Council (LCC) has given Chicago's at East Park Mall and four other businesses a 24-hour ultimatum to show cause why their licenses should not be revoked for contravening public health guidelines.

Other premises found contravening similar public health guidelines are Decapo Coffe Bar and Lounge, Cock and Bull and Keg & Lion.

In a statement, LCC public relations manager George Sichimba stated that it had been established that based on investigations, Chicagos management over the weekend allowed their premises to operate as a bar and night club with an unsatisfactory practice of social distancing.

"Lusaka City Council (LCC) has given Chicago's at East Park Mall and four others 24 hours ultimatum to show cause why their licences should not be revoked for contravening public health guidelines. Based on LCC investigations and video footage, it has been established that Chicagos management over the weekend allowed their premises to operate as a bar and night club and unsatisfactory practice of social distancing. The violations contravene the provisions of Statutory Instrument Nos. 21 and 22 of 2020 made under the Public Health Act Cap 295 of the Laws of Zambia," Sichimba stated.

"Other premises found contravening public health guidelines are Decapo Coffer Bar and Lounge, Cock and Bull and Keg & Lion. These premises where found wanting during routine inspections conducted by Public Health Inspectors to ascertain compliance public health guidelines during the night of 29th May, 2020. Similarly, LCC has given them 24 hours ultimatum from the time of receipt of their letters to show

cause why Council should not revoke their liquor licenses."

He stated that the business owners had been communicated to.

"This is according to letters to owners of the affected premises dated 1st June, 2020 signed by Lusaka Town Clerks Alex Mwansa. Meanwhile, Farley's Pub and Grill has also been given 24 hours from the time of receipt of the letter to show cause why Council should not take legal action against them for operating without valid Health Certificate and Business Permit," stated Sichimba.



George Sichimba

NAPSA waives rentals for tenants

By Natasha Sakala

THE National Pension Scheme Authority (NAPSA) has given a 100 per cent three-month waiver to tenants that were closed in line with Ministry of Health guidelines and 40 per cent to those that are still operating.

The waiver is effective April 1, 2020, and will run up to June 30, 2020.

In a statement, Tuesday, NAPSA Director General Yollard Kachinda explained that the waiver was for both commercial and residential customers.

"NAPSA has granted relief on rentals to all tenants in its commercial and residential properties across the country. This is to help mitigate the negative impact of the COVID-19 on various businesses that have already been adversely affected. The Authority has given 40 per cent waiver on monthly rentals for properties that have remained trading during the COVID-19, while those that were closed in line with Ministry of Health guidelines have been given a 100 per cent waiver. The three-month waiver for all tenants is effective April 1, 2020, and will run up to June 30, 2020," Kachinda said in a statement availed by NAPSA head of corporate affairs Cephas Sinyangwe.

"The year, 2020, began on a rather shaky note with the global outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has devastated the global economy. The Zambian economy has not been spared and the impact of the

pandemic is being felt across all sectors. As a major player in this economy, we understand how difficult business has been in the last few months. Therefore, we have found it necessary to provide some relief to our tenants across the country through this waiver."

Kachinda added that waiver was necessary to stimulate business growth.

"We would like to thank the Board for approving this waiver, which will go a long way in sustaining businesses, thereby preserving jobs and avoiding masses falling into untold misery," stated Kachinda.

Last year, NAPSA management gave relief to some tenants by not increasing rentals for this year following a tough business environment experienced in 2019.



Yollard Kachinda

Reject Bill 10 in Zambians' interest, CSOs urge MPs

By Julia Malunga

A CONSORTIUM of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) say members of parliament should choose and embrace public service by rejecting the Constitution Amendment Number 10 of 2019 when Parliament resumes sitting next week.

In a statement signed by Chapter One Foundation executive director Linda Kasonde, Tuesday, CSOs urged parliamentarians from all sides to reject the controversial Bill.

"Parliament resumes its sittings on 9th June, 2020, and with it the threat of the enactment of the Constitution Amendment Bill No 10 of 2019 (Bill 10) looms once more. Once again, the mettle of our members of parliament will be tested; will they side with the people of Zambia? We recognize that many Zambians may not realize what is at stake if Bill 10 is enacted. Why does it matter that our Constitution is being amended? How will it affect ordinary Zambians? The Constitution of any country is a social contract binding all the citizens of that country as how they choose to be governed. Everybody in the country, including the most powerful among us, are bound by the Constitution. The Constitution limits the powers of those whom we choose to govern our country," read the statement.

"The Constitution is also the

golden standard by which all other laws in Zambia must be tested. For example, we argue that the Public Order Act, which has been abused by successive governments, does not meet the constitutional standard of being necessary in a democracy, like Zambia as provided in Article 8 of the Constitution. As Parliament resumes we ask: will our members of parliament choose to be servants of the people or will they choose to oppress the people whom they are meant to serve. That is the choice of facing them on 9th June, 2020. As Zambians are concerned with the welfare and wellbeing of Zambia and its citizens, we urge our members of parliament to choose service by rejecting Bill 10. The whole nation is depending on you to choose our people over your own political interests. As Mathew Chapter 23, Verse 11 states: 'the greatest among you shall be your servant."

Kasonde observed that the country made several constitutional amendments controlled by political parties in power, which lacked transparency.

"What Zambians needs to ask themselves is what happens if the people whose powers are meant to be limited by the Constitution control the process of constitutional amendments instead of the people to whom the Constitution belongs? The answer has been observed repeatedly. Zambia has made several constitutional amendments since 1964 and most of those processes have been controlled by political parties in power. The results have been reduced transparency, reduced accountability and subsequently reductions in the checks and balance over government. The people of Zambia have been poorer for it - literally," Kasonde observed.

"The people whom we vote for and entrust to oversee the affairs of the nation become less accountable to us. The people whom we vote for and entrust to oversee the affairs of our nation become less accountable to us. For example, Bill 10 proposes the removal of the constitutional provisions on the National Assembly's' oversight over the contraction of debt. That will mean that the Zambian people will not be able to hold those in government to account for racking up billions of kwacha in debt that us and future Zambians will be paying for. That will come at the expense of providing basic services like health, education, housing and water and sanitation that most Zambians are currently being deprived of."

She also questioned the need for government to amend the Constitution when it was not proposed by Zambians in the first place.

"The Zambian Constitution was amended extensively in 2016, only four years ago. By and large, the amendments made in 2016 reflected the will of the Zambian people through a consultative process. While the 2016 Amendment was not perfect and had inconsistencies that required attention, there was never a call nor a justification for the fundamental amendment to the Constitution that Bill 10 represents. The question we ask is: whose interest is the current political administration pushing for the most fundamental change to the Constitution ever done since 1972?" wondered Kasonde.

"Why is it being proposed that we change how we vote? Why is the government seeking to increase the powers of an already powerful President? Why reduce the powers of Parliament over debt contraction and other oversight roles? The question the organizations represented here ask is simply: why are these changes that Zambia did not ask for being proposed?"

Among the CSOs, which signed the statement included: ActionAid Zambia; Alliance for Community Action (ACA); Caritas Zambia; Chapter One Foundation; CiSCA; Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD) and Zambia Council for Social Development (ZCSD).

HYPOCRISY OF GOVERNMENT IN THE POWER SECTOR

By Trevor Simumba

MINING has been Zambia's economic mainstay and CEC the engine that has unfailingly powered the wheels of mining. CEC accounts for between 45-50% of Zambia's national energy consumption. Beyond its role on the Copperbelt, CEC is an indispensable member of the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP).

It co-owns and operates, with DRC's national utility, Société Nationaled'Electricite (SNEL), the transmission lines interconnecting the Zambia and DRC electric grids, and which form an integral part of the SAPP central transmission corridor. This is the only connection between DRC and Southern Africa, hence, it's an indispensable enabler of an interconnected regional power market.

In 2006, Cinergy Global Power (USA) and the National Grid (United Kingdom) who, jointly, owned a controlling stake of 77% in the company sold off their interest to a group led by local entrepreneurs - Zambian **Energy Corporation Limited** (Zam-En). More importantly in 2008, CEC was listed on the Lusaka Stock Exchange, empowering thousands of Zambians, through direct and indirect ownership of CEC's shares, including employees who were allocated 5% of the share offer. Despite the company's continued growth and effective strategies to explore business potential by establishing partnerships (such as the agreement with Dangote Cement) and diversifying into alternative forms of power (such as solar energy), the biggest challenges the business faces are policy related: Zambia fiscal policies, the standoff and potential liquidation of Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) which has also affected ZESCO, power shortages arising from low hazydrology, and the non-renewal of the Bulk Supply It is important to highlight that CEC has not been sitting on its laurels. The company have attempted to invest further in its own generation capacity but has been thwarted by the Government's inability to provide the required policy framework, approvals and incentives to implement projects. Public records show that the company has invested about \$3m on the potential Luapula River hydropower sites in feasibility studies with plans of generating upto750MW ofhydropower. We have heard of investment activities of over \$35m in Kabompo. They led the way with the Riverside Solar PV in Kitwe which was commissioned two years ago and became

the first utility-scale solar plant in the country to be connected accounts for to the national grid. Aren't between 45-50% of supposed Zambia's national energy to be proud of consumption. Beyond its role this as a on the Copperbelt, CEC is an country? indispensable member of the the whole Southern African Power saga is that the mining Pool (SAPP). sector, from a power supply

perspective, is important for ZESCO and, therefore, one would have expected that the Government and ZESCO would be keen to negotiate and agree for a successor agreement to the BSA to progress and finalise in the next few months. CEC remains an important source of foreign currency (as it pays in dollars for the power it buys from ZESCO) for the utility company and for ensuring continued mining

activity on the Copperbelt. In fact, ZESCO relies on CEC for its bankability in terms of credit facilities. More importantly, Government through ZCCM-IH owns a large stake of 24.11 percent of CEC while the Zambian Energy Corporation, which they associate with certain individuals, only owns 13.25 percent. They are clearly strangling CEC but receiving a dividend, courting new players into the industry but not supporting the existing ones. So, one wonders why the Government would "cut off their nose to spite the face" as they have a vested interest in both ZESCO and CEC. One would have thought the Government would be at the forefront of ensuring an amicable solution but instead they have been fomenting rebellion. They want to encourage private sector investment and participation in energy, yet thwart projects that would actualize that that desire and are now acting in a manner intended to strangle an existing investor.

Today, because of the key factors laid out above and the challenges CEC faces as a result of inconsistent public regulations and policies, Zambia may lose another iconic Zambian company that is fully managed by Zambians and which impacts thousands of Zambian lives. The KCM saga has created a potent mix of confusion amidst a genuine need to review the ZESCO/CEC relationship. The question is, if KCM is producing and selling copper, why are they failing to settle their dues to CEC? Where is the money going? Surely, is it not in the interest of Zambia and ZESCO that KCM pays for its power which would also be a huge boost to ZESCO particularly at this time of economic recession? We need a much more comprehensive response from the Government, and it is hoped that when Parliament is in session Members of Parliament can make gueries in relation to this. Zambia cannot afford anymore politics in the mining and power sectors. We need sanity to prevail.

Trevor Simumba is an International Trade Economist



Agreement (BSA) with ZESCO.

Isaac Chipampe

Police probe Miles for alleged assault on cemetery manager

By Ulande Nkomesha

POLICE in Lusaka are investigating an assault case where Lusaka Mayor Miles Sampa is alleged to have assaulted Memorial Park general manager Lawrence Nsoma.

In statement, Tuesday, police spokesperson Katongo stated that the alleged incident happened at Sampa's residence in Nyumba Yanga around 20:30 hours and that Nsoma sustained injuries on the face.

"Police in Lusaka received a report of Assault AOBH in which Lawrence Nsoma, aged 34 years of Chelstone Green, who is also a general manager at Memorial Park, reported that he was assaulted by a person who he identified as Miles Sampa. The complainant sustained injuries on the face and a stick is alleged to have been used in the act. The incident is reported to have occurred at the accused person's home in Nyumba Yanga at 20:30 hours on May 30, 2020," stated Katongo.

"Later around 23:00 hours the same day, police received a report of criminal trespass from Mr Miles Sampa, who alleged that six people went to his home and harassed his workers. Investigations have been instituted in both matters."

Efforts to get a comment from Sampa proved fertile as his phones were off by press time.

There's no law compelling Lungu to fire corruption accused ministers – State House

By Ulande Nkomesha

STATE House says there are no standing rules compelling the Head of State to suspend or fire a minister who is facing corruption allegations. President Edgar Lungu's Special Assistant for Press and Public Relations Isaac Chipampe said this in relation to Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya who is under investigation for alleged abuse of office

in relation to multiple properties that he allegedly owns.

When asked why
President Lungu was failing
to act on Chilufya as he
did on former Community
Development Minister
Emerine Kabanshi,
Chipampe said it was
up to the Head of State's
discretion.

"There is no such standing rules; there are no standing rules that he (Dr Chilufya) should be suspended if he is being suspected of wrongdoing. I don't know where it is written like that. That [Emerine Kabanshi case] was the discretion of the President. This is not the President's job; it is the job of the ACC to prosecute, which they are already doing. So, it is not the President to aid the ACC in their job. So, the President is allowing the ACC to do their job; it is an

independent institution," replied Chipampe.

He said the fact that ACC had recorded a warn and caution statement from Dr Chilufya indicated that the institution was independent.

"I think the prosecution process has been started by the Anti-Corruption Commission so President will leave the Anti-Corruption Commission to do their work. The fact that they called him and there a warn and cautio shows that they (ACC) are independent and the President cannot interfere, just like the Minister, himself, cannot interfere," Chipampe said.

"So, the process has started; the Minister was warned and cautioned. Note that the fact that the process has started from the Anti-Corruption Commission shows that they are an independent body and no one can interfere in their work because if there was any sign of interference, they wouldn't even have started the process. But they have started the process. He is not the only Minister, who has been prosecuted before; there are others before him."



Lusaka's Chibelo Basic School pupils wear masks and observe social distancing in class
- Picture by Tenson Mkhala

By Zondiwe Mbewe BELARUSIAN businessman Alexander Zingman's lawyers have written to News Diggers Media Limited requesting it to confirm where or whom it obtained photographs of their client.

According to a letter of demand addressed to News Diggers editor-in-chief Joseph Mwenda and reporter Sipilisiwe Ncube, Zingman, through his lawyers from

Zingman asks Diggers to disclose sources, threatens to sue Daniel L. Delnero and Squire Patton Boggs law firm based

in the UK, is demanding that News Diggers should within two working days of receiving the letter, remove the Article, including the with evidence of the same. e-Paper version from the

website and provide them

Diggers obtained the photographs published on the website.

further been asked to of Zingman and further to disclose where or whom it | provide an apology to be

Zingman's lawyers stated that News Diggers had contravened their client's right to privacy by publishing the photographs of him without his permission.

"You cannot continue to publish untrue and defamatory articles about our client (especially of this magnitude) without any consequence. This is a wholly unprofessional way for you to conduct business. You must within two working days of your receipt of the email attaching this letter; remove the Article (including the e-Paper version) from your website and provide us with evidence of the same," read the letter of claim.

"Thereafter, within seven days of the date of this letter, you are required to; (a) confirm whether you are aware of the Article being reposted/republished by any third parties, and provide us with any details you have for those third parties; (b) confirm from where or whom you obtained the photographs of our client; (c) provide the text of an apology to be published on your website, for agreement by our client; (d) cease and desist from publishing any further untruthful and defamatory comments (whether oral or written) about Mr Zingman."

They stated that should News Diggers fail to comply with the said requirements, Zingman reserved the right to issue proceedings against the media house for an order for the removal of the Article; an appropriate sum in damages to acknowledge the loss and damage caused to Zingman's reputation, and in respect of any financial loss he may suffer; and an appropriate sum in damages to compensate him for the misuse of his private information and for any breach of copyright.

On May 28, 2020, News Diggers published an investigation linking President Edgar Lungu to Zingman who, according to the Business News Line publication of March 25, 2020, is associated with questionable deals between Russian dealers and African countries.

published It also photographs where President Lungu is seen with Defence Permanent Secretary Sturdy Mwale, Zambia Air Force Commander Lt Gen David Muma and Defence attaché at the Zambian Embassy in Moscow, Lt Gen Robert Kampeshi, posing with the said businessman.

another On photograph, the Belarusian businessman is seen holding the shoulders of Gen Muma and PS Mwale while Lusaka businessman Valden Findlay and Lt Gen Kampeshi are looking into the camera.

Simusamba refuses to recuse himself By Zondiwe Mbewe in Kambwili's forgery case LUSAKA Principal Resident Magistrate David Simusamba

has refused to recuse himself from presiding over a case where NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili is charged with forgery, uttering a false document and giving false information to a public officer.

Magistrate Simusamba said Kambwili cannot create circumstances whose effect is aimed at him recusing himself for whatever reasons, as it would amount to forum shopping.

The court has also refused to refer the matter to the High Court and Constitutional Court for determination of a constitutional issue after Kambwili's defence lawyer Musa Mwenye, State Counsel, made the said application.

On November 28, last year, magistrate Simusamba found Kambwili with a case to answer and placed him on his defence, but he has to date not commenced defence.

On March 20, Kambwili

through his lawyer, Mwenye, applied that magistrate Simusamba recuse himself from presiding over the matter and transfer the case to another court.

However, magistrate Simusamba was only able to rule on the application after yesterday adjournments.

Delivering his ruling on the application, magistrate Simusamba declined to recuse himself and ordered that Kambwili proceeds with his defence.

"The accused person cannot create circumstances whose effect is aimed at achieving the result that the trial magistrate recuses he or herself for whatever reason and rely upon those circumstances. This would amount to forum shopping which I find here the accused is attempting to do. I therefore decline to recuse myself on circumstances created by the accused person and order that we proceed into defence," magistrate Simusamba said.

Magistrate Simusamba said after considering the entire record of the case, he found that on several occasions, he had cautioned the conduct of both Kambwili and his previous lawyers in relation to courtesy, not only towards the bench, but to members of the bar and other officers of the court.

He noted that he also cautioned Kambwili and his previous counsel in relation to absconding court sittings with an apparent view to delay the progress of the matter.

"I also note that the complaint subject to this said motion came immediately after the accused person was

placed on his defence. Since that day, it is clear that the accused does not wish to see his case progress to disposal by his numerous attempts to either curtail its progression or have the case transferred to another magistrate," magistrate Simusamba said.

He said the grounds on which Kambwili placed reliance to have him recuse himself, whether considered in isolation or as a whole, could not form a basis of his recusal.

After the ruling, Mwenye applied that the matter be referred to the High Court and Constitutional Court for determination of a constitutional issue on whether or not a judge or magistrate who had been sued by an accused person in another court could continue presiding over the matter involving that accused person fairly and impartially.

"We would like to raise a constitutional issue under Article 18(1) of the Bill of Rights and also under Article 118(1) of the Constitution of Zambia, Act no.2 of 2016. With the ruling of the court to deny the accused's application for transfer of the matter, the accused has the right under both the Bill of Rights and the Constitution to raise this Constitutional issue," Mwenye said.

said Mwenye provisions of the Constitution indicated that in as much the accused had certain parameters within which he could operate within the court to uphold its decorum, he also had certain rights to demand impartiality from the court.

He, however, emphasized that he made no assertion that there was an actual lack of impartiality on the part of the court, but added that the law was clear as to what impartiality entailed.

'This court acknowledged that it is aware of complaints and cases between the presiding court and the accused person before other authorities. The constitutional issue that arises 'can a judge or a trial court who is being sued by an accused person in another court or who is a potential witness and complainant against an accused person in a criminal matter continue presiding over the matter



David Simusamba

involving that accused person fairly and impartially?" he asked.

He added that it was a serious constitutional issue as it goes to the root of the dispensation of justice and the rights of accused before an impartial and independent trial court.

Mwenye submitted that the court was obliged to send the issue to the High Court and the Constitutional Court as the accused's rights had been or were likely to be contravened.

But in his ruling, Simusamba magistrate declined to grant the said application, saying there was no constitutional issue that had arisen which required to be referred to the High Court for determination.

The matter has been adjourned to June 11, this year, for Kambwili's defence.

In this matter, it is alleged that on October 29, 2013, Kambwili with intent to defraud or deceive, forged a document namely no change return (companies form 71) purporting to show it was genuinely signed by Mwamba Chishimba, his son.

In count two, it is alleged that on October 29, 2013, Kambwili knowingly and fraudulently uttered a false document namely no change return (companies form 71) to an officer at PACRA and in the last count, he gave false information to a public officer.

Kambwili and lawyers Cheelo Mwiinga and Christopher Mundia have sued magistrate Simusamba in the Lusaka High Court for defamation for alleging that they attempted to bribe him in order to deliver judgment in favour of Kambwili in the forgery case.

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ASCITES or Water Belly in Broiler Chickens: **How can Chicken Farmers Prevent it?**

By Dr Vincent Banda, **BVM**

ROILER chickens are not only essential providers of protein but also are vital economic activities for many households in Zambia. Broiler Chickens are kept by both commercial and small-holder farmers. Quite often, smallholder farmers use every space available to raise these birds, in urban areas where space is limited farmers make poultry houses in the backyards.

Unlikecommercial farmers, most smallholder broiler farmers are characterized by having limited space, capital and sometimes limited knowledge about poultry management. These farmers often learn from theirneighbours, sometimesconsult the veterinary doctors and learn as they practice.

Broiler chickens are engineered to grow faster than layers and other types of poultry. These chickens have the ability to within weeks to attain the market weight or become heavy to the extent of having difficulties in walking. To achieve this faster growth, broiler feed, has high energy and protein.

Anatomically, bird lungs are rigid and fixed in the chest cavity. This restricts the expansion of capillaries to accommodate increased blood flow. The heart and lung size in proportion to body weight, and particularly to muscle mass, decreases as meat-type chickens grow. Increased blood flow results in primary pulmonary hypertension and Right Ventricular Failure.

What is ascites or water

Ascites is the accumulation of fluid in the abdominal cavity, which then causes the abdomen to swell, hence the name water belly.

How does the condition develop?

As explained earlier, broiler bodies or muscles grow faster than the heart, lungs and some other organs. As the body grows, the demand for oxygen increases. To meet the increased demand for oxygen, the heart responds by working hard. Since the proportion of the heart and lungs is smaller to that of the body, as the heart works harder, pressure increases in the vessel that takes blood from the heart to lungs concurrently increasing the pressure in the capillaries of the lungs. This then puts even more work on the already overworked heart leading to weakening of the heart muscles and Right Heart Failure. Blood flow to the heart slows down and some of it backflows into the main vein as the valves are weakened. Reduced blood flow results in fluid escaping out the veins and collect in the abdominal cavity.

What are the predisposing factors?

Poor Ventilation: Most smallholder poultry houses are poorly designed possibly because of limited resources. The biggest culprit of this is ventilation. Limited ventilation, reduces air circulation. This leads to increased accumulation of harmful gasses in the house. Harmful gasses irritate the respiratory system leading to increased chances of developing respiratory diseases. The combined effect of these or one of them exacerbates the need for oxygen, which put more work on the heart. Poor ventilation also causes the litter to dampen fast. Damp litter produces harmful gasses and heat as it decomposes which often worsens the environment in the pen.

Reduced temperature:

When the environmental temperature reduces, the



body responds by producing more energy to inform of heat for maintenance. To produce this heat more oxygen and feed is required. When temperatures are low, smallscale farmers always want to maintain the heat in the poultry and they do this by lowering the curtains at the expense of good ventilation.

Brooding: Small scale farmers' brood their chickens using braziers and charcoal. As you may be aware charcoal produces carbon monoxide as it burns. This gas reduces the oxygencarrying capacity of the blood which impacts further on the

How to identify the signs of the disease

- Affected birds will show bluish colour on the skin
- Reddening of the abdominal skin
- Some birds may be smaller than their mates although bigger birds can also be affected
 - Sudden death
 - Reduced activity

How to prevent Ascites

The easiest way to reduce the occurrence of this disease is by observing and reducing the factors that increase the metabolic

oxygen requirement of chickens such as slowing the growth by reducing feed intake. However, this is very difficult as it may lead to losses through extended feeding period.

Controlling the environmental temperature. humidity, and air movement by improving ventilation while maintaining good hygiene and brooding to prevent excessive loss of body heat, particularly in the first two weeks.

Farmers must always remember, even brief exposure to cold stress during the first weeks of life may predispose flocks to this condition.

All broiler keepers are urged to be on the lookout for Water Belly as it gets colder and take precautional measures by either maintaining the environment or consulting their local vet. This disease is very important as it may lead to huge economic losses through mortality and prolonged feeding period.

The author is Livestock and Fisheries Coordinator for Mulobezi District and Director of Vines Agrovet and Chemist of Sesheke. Email: vinesvinbanda@ gmail.com. Phone: 0977523341

By Natasha Sakala

LOCAL Government Minister Charles Banda says consultations on modalities for reopening of bars are almost complete.

In an interview, Banda said an announcement would soon be



Consultations on re-opening bars almost complete - Banda

[the re-opening of bars] I has always been on the cards, the President said it. There is a lot of progress. It's not me who can give you a time line because the one who announces is the President. We have been tasked to do the recommendations and on our part, as Ministry of Local Government, we have done the consultation, we

are through. I am sure the Ministry of Health have got their position also as well as the Ministry of Home Affairs. So, when everybody else has submitted, an announcement will be made," Banda said.

He, however, insisted that restaurants found operating as bars would sternly be dealt with.

"We have made it very clear that whoever is going to abuse the authority to start operating as a bar away from a restaurant it's an offence and they will face sanctions, we have said that. So, if there are any that are operating like that, I would encourage you to inform the Town Clerk and they are going

to send people to go and check and verify whoever will be found wanting will be sanctioned. So, it's very clear right from start, restaurants have been allowed to open and they should observe the measures. Those that have got licenses to sell alcohol during the time of meals they are allowed to sell that alcohol during the time they are serving the meals, but not to turn their facilities into bars. Whoever does that, it's an offense and they will be sanctioned," cautioned Banda.

President Edgar Lungu closed bars two months ago after Zambia recorded its first few cases of COVID-19.

By Ulande Nkomesha

UPND national chairperson Mutale Nalumango says there is nothing wrong with opposition members of parliament welcoming and meeting President Edgar Lungu as long as he is there to inspect developmental projects, not party structures.

Commenting on Ikeleng'i UPND member of parliament Elijah Muchima's welcoming President Lungu last week during the Head of State's tour of the constituency, Nalumango said it was democratic for opposition MPs to meet the President as long as no party matters were involved in the meeting.

But she observed that President Lungu's obsession with being "hero-worshipped" made it hard for opposition MPs to meet and engage him on serious developmental issues affecting constituents.

Bv Julia Malunga

KASEMPA UPND member

Tambatamba says she did not

meet with President Edgar

Lungu when he visited her

constituency because she was

Province Minister Bowman

Lusambo said Tambatamba

missed a golden opportunity

to engage the President on

challenges in her constituency.

I think she missed a golden

opportunity to sit with the

President of Republic of

Zambia, the custodian of the

Constitution, the custodian of

finances in this country. The

custodian for development

and I can tell and assure her

that she will never have this

opportunity, which she has

"The MP for Kasempa,

Last Saturday, Lusaka

Brenda

parliament

not invited.

Lungu's obsession with being hero-worshipped makes it hard for opposition MPs to meet him - UPND

"Under circumstances, that should be allowed in a normal democracy. When Lungu visits, for example, Kabompo and the member of parliament is available there, it is government and the programme and should include the MP. Even being given a platform, it would be okay and to me, there was nothing wrong. There is nothing wrong if he is the President and he is behaving as a Republican President. But if he is visiting his structures, he is a party president and

Lungu didn't invite me when he visited

Kasempa, Tambatamba telis Lusambo

lot development and they

wanted their MP next to the

President. That was a mistake

and I want to advise my elder

sister, Brenda, that she made

a mistake of her political life!

She was supposed to meet the

President, share with him the

challenges in her constituency,

but we just want to tell her:

explaining that she had other

attend an event where you are

invited. I never got an invitation;

I was not notified so you don't

gate-crash a function of that

magnitude. I had an outreach

programme; I had an another

programme, also, which was

equally important to go and

But in an interview,

"In the first place, you

rebuffed

assertions,

good luck," said Lusambo.

Tambatamba

engagements.

Lusambo's

no MP from the opposition should be anywhere near him. But if he is inspecting developmental projects, those are our projects, that is our money. The MP must be able to tell the people as such that this our piece of the national cake," Nalumango said.

She said government's failure to separate itself from party activities had made it difficult for most opposition MPs to interact with President

"The challenge we have is: President Lungu does not know when he is Republican

people's representative, I am

getting back to Parliament so

I need to know how prepared

our schools are. So, everybody

in the constituency knows

what I was undertaking. So, it

was not only for that day, I was

undertaking that from Tuesday

and I have 22 wards, so I have

maximise and optimize in

order for me to reach places,

which are like 150 kilometres

away from the centre. I have

to do that so that I inform the

Executive about what the gaps

are and what has been achieved

to receive the young people

at schools [for] COVID-19

and what is not there so that

I advocate on their behalf on

what is needed to advocate

on their behalf. And as it is, I

found that most of them have

zero supplies and yet children

have already been received

functioning as party president. When he is inspecting infrastructure development or any development of that matter, that is not a party issue; that is a government issue and he should stand as such. To them [PF cadres] wherever the President is, he is PF president and not a Republican President because to them, that is below and, therefore, it makes our members find it difficult to fit in PF programmes because PF is not government per se; it is the party in power that means formulating the policies. The confusion makes it difficult for members of parliament to fit in when he is around. I guess he enjoys it because he eniovs hero-worship, rather than being told the truth. So, when he visits, it's those he thinks support him that should speak that should share a platform properly. Even when they invite our people, if our members of parliaments join him courageously as democracy is, he will not be given a platform. Probably they would want to get a photo

President and when he is

said Nalumango. "But for him, because the way they have structured themselves, it is so complicated because they have gone back to UNIP time. To them, the party streams to government; it is confusion that Zambians should have seen right from the beginning. If you look at their constitution in 2011, one would tell that this is the UNIP constitution, which was a miss-fit in a democracy. That is why I keep blaming us, who were in government then, we should not have allowed PF to even exist with that constitution. In their constitution, then, their disciplinary committee of the party will discipline a PS! (Permanent Secretary) When such a clause is put in there, it should have raised a red flag in the minds of people because a

of our MP kneeling to greet

him that is what they want,"

Permanent Secretary is a civil servant and in any democracy to thrive, the civil service must not be politicized. That is why you have cadres all over. That is why they declare that, 'here, if

you do not vote for PF, you will not see development...' that is actually an illegality, a breach of the Constitution. We are a unitary state: all the resources go into one Treasury."

UPPZ leader sues Kitwe resident for encroaching on Kaza Emerald Mine

By Zondiwe Mbewe

UPPZ leader Charles Chanda has dragged a Kitwe resident to the Lusaka High Court seeking an order of interlocutory and permanent injunction to restrain him from ever entering his mining area in Lufwanyama District, Copperbelt.

Chanda has sued Victor Musaila as the defendant.

In a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court Commercial Division, Chanda explained that he was a businessman involved in various businesses, including running Kaza Emerald Mine in Lufwanyama area of 84 hectares.

He stated that sometime in February, 2019, he was contacted by a named agent in Lusaka about Kaza Emerald Mine on the Copperbelt, which needed an investor as it was not in operation and remained idle for a long time.

Chanda added that this was because the original owner had died and left the mine in the hands of the estate.

He stated that he went on to meet Felix Chintu, the administrator of the estate, together with all the beneficiaries where a contract was entered into between him and the family to run the Kaza Emerald Mine.

Chanda stated that it was agreed in the contract that he would foot all operational costs for revamping and running the mine and would first recoup his investment after the sale of the emerald.

He stated that after concluding the contract, he started running the mine and had so far invested about US \$3,000,000.

Chanda stated that Musaila had continuously disrupted and interfered with the lawful mining operations by sending policemen and producing fake court orders and injunctions.

He stated that as a direct result of Musaila's conduct, he had lost out on potential investors, who were scared by the confusion created by the defendant.

Chanda added that his mine had not expanded to its desired standards due to the constant and persistent disruptions by the defendant.

He lamented that as a result, he had suffered financial loss, inconvenience and embarrassment and now asks the Court to grant him an injunction to restrain the defendant whether by himself, or his agents from entering the mining area or interfering with their mining operations.

Chanda further wants damages for inconvenience, trespass, pain, anguish and loss of operational hours caused by Musaila's deliberate actions.

He is also seeking interest, costs and any other relief the Court may deem fit.

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today," said Tambatamba.

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old! It is the world's most well-known precious metal and also one of the most expensive in the world. To extract gold, one has to dig deep into the Earth's crust; in many cases, using all sorts of heavyduty extractive industry machinery. But here in Zambia, this world's 'most expensive' metal has been discovered right within the surface - in the soil. You only need a simple gardening hoe to dig out gold.

In Petauke's Sasali and Sandwe areas; in Vubwi, south of Chipata City; in Rufunsa and Luangwa; in Mwinilunga and not to mention the Copperbelt Province itself, gold is plenty! Farmers are literally cultivating their crops in gold fields. If we are to be too explicit, we could say that in Mwinilunga and Petauke right now, gold is like a by-product of farming activities. In short, we have had plenty of copper in Zambia, but now we have plenty more of gold.

Elsewhere, this news would translate into an instant economic boom. Government would be lining up local mining investors for consideration with mining licences; banks would be preparing credit facilities for these local investors to start operations and employ other citizens. But nope! None of that is happening in Zambia. Instead, it is the same foreign investors who are getting mining licenses from government. In fact, some of them don't even have immediate plans to start mining operations; they are just getting the licences and keeping them idle for

Diggers!

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their future generations to use. This situation has to be corrected.

The gold rush in Mwinilunga should not have invited government authorities to deploy triggerhappy military personnel to shoot the poor local citizens who are jostling for their God-given gold; it should have, instead, motivated government to consider empowering these people so that they can own the gold mines. Rich minerals such as gold are a source of turmoil. Today, we are reading about people crooking each other and swindling one another of gold, but tomorrow this story will be bloody if government mismanages the situation on the ground. When you see government law enforcement agencies being side-lined in the investigations of crimes committed at a gold mine, just know that private individuals have control over the State. This is dangerous!

Police and the army may shoot a few people today to protect the mineral reserves, but over time, if this situation in Mwinilunga is not managed, we will start seeing local people mobilising into militias and taking on government security wings. If we let foreigners take

control of gold mines in this country, we will not be able to chase them away when they get grounded. These are the same people who will empower the local people with illicit arms to wage battle for the extraction of gold. This situation must not be taken lightly, the moment we allow dirty dealings in our gold mining, it will turn to blood and the markets will blacklist it. If Congo DR and Sierra Leone were not mineral-rich countries, they would not have gone through endless civil war.

The Minister of Mines should take interest to know who owns gold mines here in Zambia, and once he confirms that foreigners have control, a deliberate policy must be put in place where no mining license will be issued to a company that doesn't have a Zambian majority shareholder. This is the only way we are going to create a clean gold mining sector; a nation of wealthy citizens; citizens who will make genuine money and invest within Zambia without having to run away from their houses when the **Anti-Corruption Commission** (ACC) come knocking.

Let's face it: Zambians have no control over copper. It's gone! Foreign investors are in charge of our most abundant mineral reserves. They own the copper mines; they own the processing and they also own the markets, locally and abroad. There is nothing for Zambians where copper in concerned. Those citizens, otherwise called Jerabos, who have the energy and interest in mining, are confined to the Black Mountain where they are treated as scavengers in their own country! In fact, these Zambians risk their lives so much to the point of death. In June, 2018, at least 10 Jerabos died at the infamous Black Mountain while scavenging for mineral resources in their own country which is full of gold and copper.

We must not allow this to continue. We are saying to the Minister of Mines and his President, who is also a Jerabo from Kitwe, that there is need to give gold mining licenses to Zambians. Yes, foreigners have the money, but we have the minerals. The fact that they can't keep their money, while we keep our gold, means that they need us more than we do. So we should be able to dictate terms. The citizens in this case must have an upper hand to determine the level

of foreign involvement in mining. It hurts to see reports such as the one posted on YouTube "Alecto Minerals going for gold in Zambia" (https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=qUeETVJfM8k) where foreign investors are selling gold mines to each other in our country, while Zambians wait to be employed or to scavenge on the slag dumps! It hurts to see Sudanese nationals owning gold mines in Zambia while Zambians are condemned to poverty.

Last year, Minister of Mines and Minerals Development, Honourable Richard Musukwa, promised that government would soon start revoking mining licenses for investors who have failed to develop mining operations within the legally-stipulated timeframe. Has that been done? We wonder. Today, we are reading statements from the same ministry justifying the foreign ownership of gold mines? If you say gold is a strategic mineral meant for improving the national reserves at Bank of Zambia, how are you going to achieve that when gold mines are in the hands of foreigners?

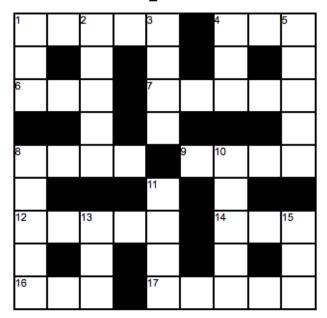
The people of Zambia have suffered enough exploitation. Look at what is happening in the tourism sector. Key tourism operators who benefit from our abundant wildlife are foreigners. We have very few indigenous citizens who have been supported by the government to start businesses. Zambians have been made to appreciate that being waiters and tour guides is all they can be in this country. It's unfair! What kind of country are we? What kind of humans are we who look down on one another and give opportunities to foreigners?

Revoke mining licences from companies that have majority shares in the hands of foreigners. We want gold mines in this country to belong to Zambians who have interest in mining. If they don't have money, empower them. Mobilize commercial banks to provide credit facilities for mining investments. We should not lose out the way we have lost out on copper, the way we have lost out in the tourism sector.

We can't continue to have citizens suffering in a country which God has blessed with so many natural resources just because government authorities are illicitly motivated to grant mining licenses to foreigners at the expense of its own poor people.

Ba Ministry of Mines, lekani ungwele na tulo. Stop justifying wrong things, listen to the people are take decisive action. How many Zambians own licences to mine oil in Sudan?

Crossword puzzle No 616



"You cannot occupy a proper place on earth without wisdom. It is the principal thing you must have." - Patience Johnson

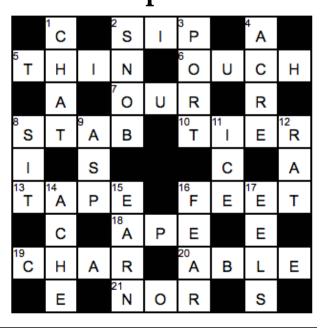
Across

- 1. Swallow fluids
- 4. Sound of disapproval
- 6. Kind of tent 7. Nitwit
- 8. Kid Christmas wishes
- 9. Use a phone
- 12. Beta preceder
- 14. Chest bone
- 16. Woman in religious order
- 17. Cut of beef

Down

- 1. Dance move
- 2. Suggest
- 3. Intertwine
- 4. Prefix meaning 3
- 5. Complete
- 8. Wedding gown extension
- 10. Main heart artery 11. Match up
- 13. Funny play on words
- 15. Chewed off

Crossword puzzle No 613



Readers' Feedback

ND! Opinion: Fire Dr Chilufya or leave him alone, don't be a coward

Editor,

"President Lungu is politically weak and cannot effectively fight corruption which unfortunately is being perpetuated by mostly, the people from Luapula, Northern Muchinga and partly in Eastern province. If you have been observant you will even notice that most transfers and retirements are mainly effected on people from elsewhere other than the above

mentioned regions. Lungu knows that if he sternly starts dealing with people from the stated regions, his political fortunes will deeply be affected". - Jombo Sapato

"Kaili the president believes in 'ubomba mwibala, alya mwibala'. that he said it himself". -Chanda Pochoko

"Well, all this reflects on the caliber of Lungu's leadership, I get shocked when seemingly forward thinking people start
praising his leadership,
because from the
moment he was chosen
as PF presidential
candidate, those who
put him forward, this
is exactly what they
wanted to achieve, access
to national resources
without fear of being
prosecuted". - Chola
Mungoma

"Those with eyes and ears have understood. Great write up NDs. After reading this article, I have come to conclude that we have many more people in this country

that can add one plus one and still get the answer correct. Having said this, I have also come to conclude that certain things that keep on happening will continue to go on because our leaders know that we have a lot of idiots who just refuse to think." - Solomon H Phiri

"There is a cartel that runs this country and knows people's secret that's why some people are untouchable unless a new administration comes in". - Joseph Chileshe



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Lungu's request for Zambia to have less audit queries

Editor,

"If the powers that be are responsive to audit queries and take the necessary punitive measures resulting from these reports, operations would be on the right path. We are where we are because over the years, measures have not been taken to stem the scourge adequately nor stern actions effected on perennial issues that are unearthed year in year out following Audits resulting in colossal sums of money missing. We hope that from now on wards action will be taken on all erring Officers as well as recovery

of funds effected from them in full. In addition systems should be reviewed where weaknesses are observed immediately". - Nick Ndawa

"Is it the auditors to reduce the audit queries or people reducing mismanagement of resources?" - Mukaba Mukaba Jr.

"While your hands are ever deep in the pocket". -Mushembo Foster

"Controls are there. Don't be deceived. The politicians override the controls with the blessings of state house". - Kay Musole

'What kind of thinking justifies spending K90m "We have more than enough money to pay off on debt consultant?"

"We have more than enough money to pay off domestic debt but we want to give it to foreigners to externalise. Why not constitute an advisory board comprising of financial savvy Zambians, both based within and outside our borders. They will get us better results because they will be doing it for the country.

We need to stop depending on foreigners to help us solve our problems. Pay off local debt and start negotiating with international lenders using Zambian nationals. Zambia for ZAMBIANS! " - Tumelo Sianga

"You mean the entire ministry of finance has no capacity to negotiate our country's debt unless a foreign person or firm? Let us wake up you who have been to school and help our own country for once! There is a lot we can do to save the little resource we have". - Kampamba Malama

Doesn't the entire Economic Association of

Zambia - EAZ have the capacity to renegotiate for debt payments, why opting for a foreign firm at such an exorbitant amount of money?" - Sydney Chibozu

Mwamba Edgar Swizz They have \$90 Million to pay a person for renegotiating loans but they can't find \$2.5 Million to invest in a Gold Mining that can help service the loans! What kind of thinking is this? And some people are busy shouting ${\color{orange} @}$ 'ifintu ni Lungu'". - Sydney Chibozu

"Failed to pay retirees who were camped at the Ministry of Justice.....but you have money to 'export!'....Zambians can do the job....they have also attained the same qualifications or better than the people you are hiring.....If you hire Zambians, 90 % of their fees will be spent within the Country!!" - Michael Mulele Sililo

Kambwili's plea for mercy to Lungu

Dear editor,

"This is a lesson to all politicians regardless of political affiliation, Mr Kambwili was once powerful when he was in government just like others, the system he supported is the one squizzing him to the bone. They have made sure to close his businesses, no more contracts". - Aggrey Mayumbelo

"ECL's time to cry like Kambwili will surely come and very very soon. He rose by the PF machete and will fall by the same PF machetes. This is where HH and UPND should be very careful not to form alliances with unprincipled politicians that "defect" when the slightest pressure is applied. GBM, Felix Mutati, Miles Sampa and others have opposed and gone back to PF. Zambians should be careful of those politicians that submit to blackmail". - David M Mwanangombe

"Ba Kambwili, when you traversed Zambia campaigning, you had no clue what you were doing? That is the first question that I have for you. Secondly, when you won as PF, didn't you treat poor Zambians with impunity and arrogance? Thirdly, after realizing that you were in the wrong camp, did you surely have to form a different political party to unsit the same regime you campaigned for, and you believe that you can win? Address these questions Mr Chishimba Kambwili!" - Noah Nyirenda

"Mr president sir!! You helped close the Post Newspaper when you were the information minister, and you think those workers who lost their jobs and turned into beggars had no families?? Karma is a chilled gangster, sorry am not sorry". - Gideon Banks MwanaMfumu

"This is how you harrased perceived enemies when you served. You are basically having a feel of your own creation. Just don't go back as the suffering will back your repetence and in a few months time, you will be OK". - Dennis Wei Mulenga





Riot police managed to keep protesters at bay, protecting the White House. However, media reports say that on Friday President Donald Trump had to spend nearly an hour in an underground bunker used only in emergencies

Obama says protests could be 'real turning point'

Medium, the former president said the demonstrations "represent a genuine and Obama hailed peaceful legitimate frustration over saying they protesters, a decades-long failure to "deserve our respect and reform police practices and support", while condemning the broader criminal justice "the small minority of folks system in the United States". who've resorted to violence".

BARACK Obama has said

protests over the death of

George Floyd could be a "real

turning point" in the fight for

In a short essay on

police reform.



He said people did not have to choose between protest and politics.

"We have to do both," he said.

"We have to mobilise to raise awareness, and we have to organise and cast our ballots to make sure that we elect candidates who will act on reform."

He ended by saying: "The heightened activism of young people in recent weeks, of every race and every station, makes me hopeful."

"If, going forward, we can channel our justifiable anger into peaceful, sustained, and effective action, then this moment can be a real turning point in our nation's long journey to live up to our highest ideals."

Meanwhile, European Commission has backed Twitter in the social media giant's dispute with Donald Trump after it hid one of his tweets, saying it violates rules about glorifying violence.

A new solar power plant in Mogadishu should quadruple the city's generation capacity and cut bills, the owners said, providing relief to businesses facing crippling costs from diesel-generated electricity. BECO, Somalia's largest electricity supplier, said it had been producing 8 megawatts (MW) since March using solar panels bought from Germany and Britain, and this was expected to increase to 100

MW by 2022, at a cost of \$40

chief engineer Mohamud

"It is a risky business,"

The president last week tweeted he would "send in the National Guard", and followed that up with a warning that "when the looting starts, the shooting starts".

That second was hidden by Twitter for "glorifying violence".

In a statement, Věra Jourová, vice president of the EU's executive branch, said that politicians must be "held to account, and answer to criticism with facts, not with threats and attacks".BBC

solar energy to supply cheaper electricity." which transmits and distributes power to Kismayu, Barawe.

almost guaranteed.

Marka, Balad, Jowhar, Afgooye, Elasha and Mogadishu, said the additional solar power in its mix had already reduced electricity costs to \$0.36 per kilowatt hour from \$0.49 per kilowatt hour. The panels now supply

Farah told Reuters, noting that

a profit from safer bets such as

investing in milk powder was

the first company to install

"But we are happy to be

Choking on diesel costs, Somali firm

turns to solar for cheaper power

power for four hours a day to its 300,000 customers, with generators providing electricity for the rest of the time, Farah said.

Farah said even once the solar power's installed capacity reaches 100 MW, the company will retain its generators, as solar power was not available all the time, particularly at

"Unless we get battery storage, we cannot stop using fossil fuel, and the cost per kilowatt hour when we get the 100 MW will still depend on storage batteries," he said.

Somalia, which plunged into civil war in 1991, has no national grid. Each major city is powered by private companies that largely rely on diesel generators, Abdiwahid Ibrahim Ahmed, the general director at the water and energy ministry said.

Mogadishu's total installed capacity is at 35 MW, against a demand of 200 MW, he said. Before civil war broke out, Somalia had a 70 MW installed capacity.

At present 85% of Somalia's population has no access to electricity, with 60% of them living in remote villages, Ahmed said.

Mogadishu's residents and businesses are desperate for cheaper power bills.

"I was selling drinks in a refrigerator just outside my house. I cancelled the business after two months. My profit was \$20 a month but the electricity bill was \$40 to \$50 a month," Shukri Mohamed, a mother of four, told Reuters.

"I will restart my business if electricity becomes cheaper."

UK coronavirus ethnic minority report published

PUBLIC Health England has released its report looking at why people from ethnic minority backgrounds are "disproportionately" dying with coronavirus.

It shows age remains the biggest risk factor. Being male is another.

But if you strip out age and sex, people of Bangladeshi ethnicity have twice the risk of death than people of white British ethnicity.

The risk is higher for other Asian, Caribbean l black ethnicities too

The analysis on ethnicity and risk did not consider a person's occupation or obesity, even though both are known risk factors for getting seriously ill with coronavirus.

It acknowledges that more work is needed to understand and advise people about the risk.

Health Secretary Matt Hancock told the House of Commons the report was timely work.

"People are understandably angry about injustices and as Health Secretary I feel a deep responsibility because this pandemic has exposed huge disparities in the health of our

"It is very clear that some people are significantly more vulnerable to Covid-19 and this is something I'm determined to understand in full and take action to address."

On Monday night, the Department of Health and Social Care denied reports the delay was down to official concerns of potential civil unrest linked to global anger over the death of African-American George Floyd.

What's in the review?

The rapid review was launched when it became clear that some people were getting more sick with coronavirus than others.

Public Health England reviewed thousands of existing health records and other coronavirus

The report looks at disparities by:

age and sex geography deprivation ethnicity pre-existing health problems comorbidities

It is not possible to combine all of these factors together to judge an individual's risk because of the way the source data is recorded.

The data does, however, reveal clear

What has it found?

The report says people aged 80 or older are 70 times more likely to die than those under 40. Working-age men diagnosed with Covid-19 are twice as likely to die as women.

The risk of dying with coronavirus is higher among those living in more deprived parts of the UK.

Certain occupations - security guards, taxi or bus drivers and construction workers and social care staff - are at higher risk.

For ethnicity, coronavirus death rates were highest among people of Black and Asian ethnic groups when compared to white British

People of Chinese, Indian, Pakistani, other Asian, Caribbean and other Black ethnicity had between a 10% and 50% higher risk of death when compared to white British.BBC



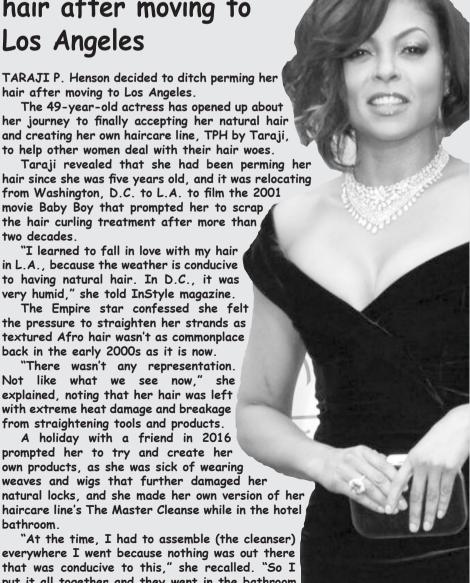
'I learned to fall in love with my hair in L.A., because the weather is conducive to having natural hair. In D.C., it was very humid," she told InStyle magazine.

The Empire star confessed she felt the pressure to straighten her strands as textured Afro hair wasn't as commonplace back in the early 2000s as it is now.

'There wasn't any representation. Not like what we see now," she explained, noting that her hair was left with extreme heat damage and breakage from straightening tools and products.

A holiday with a friend in 2016 prompted her to try and create her own products, as she was sick of wearing weaves and wigs that further damaged her natural locks, and she made her own version of her haircare line's The Master Cleanse while in the hotel bathroom.

"At the time, I had to assemble (the cleanser) everywhere I went because nothing was out there that was conducive to this," she recalled. "So I put it all together and they went in the bathroom and used it and loved it. That's when I was like, 'I think I'm onto something. "Peoples Magazine



FIFA calls for 'common sense' as German FA investigates Floyd protests

FIFA has called on leagues to use "common sense" when deciding whether to discipline footballers for displaying political messages after several players in the German

Bundesliga called for justice for George Floyd during matches.

"FIFA fully understands the depth of sentiment and concerns expressed by many footballers in light

of the tragic circumstances of the George Floyd case," world football's governing body said in a statement on Tuesday.

After scoring in his team's win at Paderborn

Dortmund's English winger Jadon Sancho lifted his shirt to reveal the message "Justice for George Floyd".

His team-mate Achraf Hakimi and Schalke's

towards a return to title

contention in the near

future. AFP

American midfielder Weston McKennie expressed similar calls for justice, while Borussia Moenchengladbach's French forward Marcus Thuram took a knee after scoring for his team in memory of Floyd.

Floyd died last week after a white policeman in Minneapolis kneeled on the handcuffed man's neck for several minutes. The incident has sparked days of violent protests across the United States.

The International Football Association Board (IFAB), the sport's lawmakers, bans players from showing "any political, religious or personal slogans, statements or images".

However, pointing to its own anti-racism campaigns, FIFA intimated that no action should necessarily be taken against Sancho, Hakimi or McKennie.

"The application of the laws of the game approved by the IFAB is left for the competitions organisers which should use common sense and have in consideration the context surrounding the events," FIFA said.

The German Football Association (DFB) is investigating the players in line with IFAB's laws, although president Fritz Keller said he understood their actions.

"If people are discriminated against because of the colour of their skin, it is unbearable," said Keller.

"If they die as a result of the colour of their skin, then I am deeply disturbed. The victims of racism need all of our solidarity."

Sancho was booked after revealing the message to mark scoring against Paderborn, although the DFB has said the yellow card was actually because he lifted his shirt over his head.

"This is defined under rule number 12 as behaviour that is clearly against the rules and should be seen as independent of any political message," said Lutz Michael Froehlich, head of the elite referees unit of the DFB.

"For referees it is not possible to make a judgement during a match about political, religious or personal slogans, messages or pictures," Froehlich added. *AFP*



Borussia Dortmund's Jadon Sancho shows a 'Justice for George Floyd' t-shirt after scoring against Paderborn

Manchester Utd players living on past glories as Liverpool once did – Barnes

MANCHESTER United have been living on past glories for too long, says John Barnes, with the former Liverpool star seeing a "huge similarity" between the current situation at Old Trafford and one he previously experienced at Anfield.

Barnes, who moved to Merseyside in 1987, formed part of the last Reds side to lift the English top-flight title.

It appears as though a 30-year wait to land that piece of silverware will be brought to a close by Jurgen Klopp's class of 2019-20, but there have been plenty of tough times through the last three decades.

Liverpool found themselves knocked off the loftiest of perches by the emergence of Sir Alex Ferguson's all-conquering United side in the 1990s, with Barnes conceding that standards were allowed to slip.

Similar struggles have been endured in Manchester over recent years, with the Red Devils finding themselves stuck in a rut on the back of Ferguson's retirement in 2013.

Barnes believes that is because too many players consider merely playing for United to be enough, rather than having the hunger and ambition to maintain the standards set by those who went before them. The ex-England international told beIN Sports of the Red Devils mirroring their fiercest north west rivals: "I see a huge similarity between Manchester United and Liverpool, huge similarity and I'll tell you in what way.

"In the way when I first went to Liverpool, they were a successful team before I was there and the demands to win and the pressure to win was the most important thing, regardless of whether they had superstars like Ian Rush, Kenny Dalglish and they had won everything.

"The demand to win everything was there. Then, all of a sudden, Manchester United came along in the early nineties and things had changed.

"If you look at the way the players were after say 1992-93, Liverpool still was a huge club, and it seemed that the players there were happy to be at Liverpool without necessarily recognising the responsibility to win.

"So when we were finishing third in the league, fourth in the league, we were still Liverpool players, bigger than 99 per cent of the teams, even if they finished above us, Arsenal whoever, but we were the Liverpool players without the demands to win.

"So we still got that kudos, that feeling that we are great, that we are better than everyone else because we are Liverpool players.

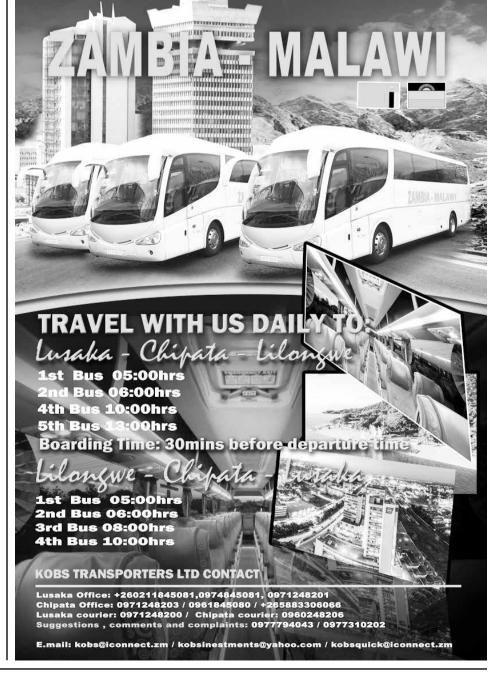
"Now with Manchester United, when Ryan [Giggs] was there and he came through and they started to win all the Premier League trophies, regardless of whether they won the Premier League the year before, they had that demand that they put on themselves to win.

"Then I think after that Man City took over, Manchester United still were the biggest club, and the players were happy to be with Manchester United without recognising the responsibility of having to win.

"Because if they finished third and Tottenham finished above they were still bigger than Tottenham players because they played for Manchester United, and that happened at Liverpool."

Liverpool have shown how dramatically things can turn around, with a memorable 2019 seeing them claim Champions League, UEFA Super Cup and Club World Cup crowns, while also surging clear at the top of the Premier League table.

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer is the man charged with the task of bringing the good times back for United, with the 1999 Treble winner having his side in contention for FA Cup and Europa League glory while building



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Liverpool coach mot worried about neutral venues



JURGEN Klopp says Liverpool will be targeting maximum points from their remaining nine games when they resume their Premier League title bid, and the Reds boss does not care how or where a first crown in 30 years is

wrapped up.

Top-flight action in England is set to return to the sporting calendar on June 17, with a green light having been given as restrictions start to be lifted amid the coronavirus pandemic.

All games will be played behind closed doors while a selection of Liverpool's maches are due to be played in neutral venues, including a possible title clincher, if that happens to be a home fixture.

Klopp has no issue

with that, given that the Reds were left sweating on their final standing when competition shut down, and the German tactician is merely looking forward to getting back into the dugout and finishing what he started.

He told BBC Sport, with Liverpool 25 points clear of the chasing pack and only two wins away from confirming their coronation: "It's nice to think about it but we are not champions yet and we know that.

"We know we are close but close is not there. There are 27 points left for us and we will try everything to take them all.

"We are still not champions. We have to play football games and we have to win them.

"We don't want to stop winning after two games or whatever it is. I don't see results written in the stars; we have to work really hard." GOAL

Mayweather to pay for Floyd funeral



RETIRED ring great Floyd Mayweather will pay for the funeral services for George Floyd, Mayweather Promotions chief executive Leonard Ellerbe told ESPN on Monday.

George Floyd died last week after a Minneapolis policeman knelt 46-year-old man's neck for almost nine minutes. Floyd, who was handcuffed, became unresponsive after almost three minutes.

The death of the unarmed black man while in police custody has ignited violent reactions across America.

confirmed Ellerbe to ESPN that Floyd's family had accepted Mayweather's offer to pay for funeral services.

"He'll probably get mad at me for saying that, but yes, (Mayweather) is definitely paying for the funeral," Ellerbe said.

Mayweather "has done these kind of things over the last 20 years," added Ellerbe, who said that the former five-division world champion -- who retired in 2017 with a 50-0 record -- didn't want to talk about his gesture himself.

The lawyer for Floyd's family said Monday that a funeral will be held on June 9 in Houston.

Before that, the family will hold a memorial

Thursday and a memorial service on Saturday in North Carolina, where Floyd was born. An official autopsy

service in Minneapolis on

released Monday found that Floyd died in a homicide involving "neck compression." Police officer Derek

Chauvin has charged with third degree murder and one count of negligent manslaughter in Floyd's death. AFP



