



Given Lubinda blasts those questioning Bill 10 gazette...

By Ulande Nkomesha
JUSTICE Minister Given Lubinda has dared those claiming that he has breached the Constitution by gazetting amendments to Constitution Amendment Bill number 10 of 2019 to sue him.

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IT'S FOOLISHNESS



Political parties fail to agree on proposed hike in ECZ nomination fees

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
ASSOCIATION of Catholic Parliamentarians chairperson Professor Nkandu Luo says Catholic bishops should provide the correct leadership which it has been known for and avoid misinforming the people about Bill 10.

with the Catholic Bishops' argument that Bill 10 contains retrogressive and highly contentious clauses. "The Catholic bishops would agree with us that the process of reviewing the constitution was legitimate as it was widely inclusive,

transparent, and anchored on conscious building. Further, we disagree with the statement that the process undertaken to review the constitution lacked genuine consensus and that it has become a source of division in the country..."

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Meanwhile, Justice Minister Given Lubinda says the amendment process has been all-inclusive as it even gave an opportunity for people in taverns to voice themselves out.

Speaking at a press briefing attended by PF MPs who are also association members at Government Complex, Tuesday, Prof Luo disagreed

ERB institutes probe into Zesco's 'fast-depleting units'

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Ministry's explanation on bicycles dissatisfying - TIZ

By Ulande Nkomesha
TRANSPARENCY International Zambia TI-Z says it is dissatisfied with information coming from government on the donation and

procurement of bicycles for the Zambia Police. And UPND spokesperson Charles Kakoma says the misinformation is being caused by the corrupt procurement system in government.

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Govt will breach Constitution if it presents amended Bill 10 to Parliament, says LAZ

By Ulande Nkomesha
THE Law Association of Zambia says gazetting of amendments to Constitution Amendment Bill number 10 of 2019 is unlawful and meant to

sway public opinion on the bill. In a statement, Tuesday, LAZ stated that it was concerned that the publication in Government Gazette No. 534 of 2020 dated 12th June,

2020 of the Constitution Amendment Bill did not form part of the bill that was introduced at first reading in parliament last year.

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Chief Government Spokesperson Dora Siliya confers with Japanese Ambassador to Zambia Ryuta Mizuuchi when he paid a courtesy call on her yesterday. Story page 10

Dora dates Japanese Envoy

By Mirriam Chabala

GOVERNMENT Chief Whip Brian Mundubile says over five million kwacha has been spent on procuring the teleconferencing equipment which Parliament will use during this session, and on training members of parliament to use it.

And Clerk of the National Assembly Cecilia Mbewe says the substantive Parliamentary sittings will resume on Friday, June 19, 2020, citing delays in receiving the teleconferencing equipment from South Africa.

Addressing journalists at Parliament buildings in Lusaka, Tuesday, Mundubile announced measures which Parliament had put in place amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

"In order to abide by the health regulations of social distancing, the House will conduct its business using a hybrid system of teleconferencing. In other words, the House will meet

Parliament spends over K5m on teleconferencing technology, training

physically in the Chamber and remotely or virtually in the committee and other designated rooms here at Parliament buildings. In this regard, a reduced number of members will sit in the Chamber whilst the rest will sit in and participate from other designated rooms. Secondly, in order to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19, contact hours amongst members of parliament have been reduced. In this regard, the House will sit from 14:30 to 17:00 hours from Tuesday to Thursday and from 09:00 hours to 12:00 hours on Fridays. Thirdly, in order to ensure that COVID-19 is not transmitted from one member of parliament to another through use of hard copy documents, the House has put in place electronic devices, gadgets that will allow

the sharing of information and documents electronically," Mundubile said.

"As we bring new technology that is going to be utilized this time we are doing the sitting, training had to be conducted. We started training MPs from the 9th of June and it is expected to continue until Thursday this week. So members of parliament have been run through some technology which most of them have already embraced and are doing well with and as a matter of fact, there will be a mock sitting on Thursday to just do a simulation so that if there are any challenges, they can be ironed out so that as sitting starts on Friday, all members of Parliament are expected to be conversant with the system that is coming in place. Generally, the equipment plus training

[of MPs] and everything else that comes with it is coming to slightly over K5 million. So these changes will gobble slightly over K5 million and this is money coming from the treasury."

Mundubile further announced that visits to the National Assembly and the Chambers had been restricted to spouses of lawmakers and one journalist per media institution at a time.

"Members of the public and press are requested to seek information from the House using electronic means as hard copy documents may not be available. In the same vain, allow me to state that coverage of proceedings will be undertaken under strict guidelines. For example; only one media personnel from any given media house will be allowed on the



Parliamentary precincts at a time. This is because the filming of Parliamentary proceedings will be done only by Parliament TV. Media houses that wish to transmit proceedings on their channels may do so only through Parliament TV live feed," said Mundubile.

"During this session, there will be no visits or tour of Parliament by groups such as schools. Additionally, there will be no access to both diplomatic and public galleries. Further, except for spouses of members of parliament, visitors will not be allowed entry into Parliamentary precincts, including members' motel. These measures are not intended to shut the public out but to rather protect the members of parliament and the public at large from risk of contracting COVID-19."

Meanwhile, Mbewe explained why Parliament business had delayed to commence.

"It is with deep regret that we advise that due to circumstances beyond the control of the National

Assembly management, the substantive sitting of the third meeting of the Fourth Session, will not resume on Tuesday, 16th June, 2020, as earlier planned and notified because the equipment for use during the hybrid sitting has not been received. However, National Assembly has been assured by both the High Commissioner in South Africa, Major General Jackson Miti, and DHL management in South Africa, that the equipment will instead arrive in Lusaka on Wednesday, 17th June, 2020 at 16:00 hours," stated Mbewe.

"In view of the foregoing, the simulation or mock sitting will be held on Thursday, 18th June, 2020 at 14:00 hours and the substantive sitting of the house will resume in earnest on Friday 19th June, 2020, at 09:00 hours. Meanwhile, virtual training for members of parliament will continue on Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th June, 2020, in accordance with the attached modules. We regret any inconvenience and embarrassment these changes have caused to you honourable members."

Lubinda's proposed amendments to Bill 10 detrimental to democracy - CSOs

By Mirriam Chabala

A consortium of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) say Justice Minister Given Lubinda has introduced new proposed amendments to Bill 10, which were not in the select committees recommendations, and they are detrimental to democracy.

Speaking on behalf of Caritas Zambia, ActionAid Zambia, GEARS Initiative and musician Fumbe Chama, Alliance for Community Action (ACA) executive director Laura Miti insisted at a media briefing, Monday, that Bill 10 should be withdrawn from Parliament because it is aimed at weakening the country's democracy.

"Following the publication of the proposed changes to Bill 10, the CSOs represented here carried out a preliminary review of the proposed amendments, reading the proposed changes against the original Bill 10, the recommendations of the select committee as well as the 2016 amendment of the Constitution. Our review of the document unfortunately revealed that the Minister was not being honest with the public on both the intention and the content of the proposed changes to Bill 10. Our reading of the draft changes reveal that they maintain the unstated intention of Bill 10, which is to weaken the democracy of the country and Parliament. It is particularly disturbing to note that the proposed changes include bringing changes which were not part of the original Bill 10 or the select committee resolutions. Many of these changes are detrimental to democracy beyond the harm already proposed in the original Bill 10," Miti said.

"On Parliament, the Minister makes the following changes that were not proposed by the Parliamentary select committee; (a) article

47 is amended to allow Parliament to prescribe how the mixed member electoral system will be implemented, that is to say Parliament will decide how it will itself be elected and operate. On this, the Parliamentary select committee recommended that the mixed member system be adopted for election to the national assembly. But it emphasized that this mixed member system should be clearly defined in the Constitution and not through an Act of Parliament as the Minister of Justice proposes. Further, the Minister proposes that article 68 that sets out the election and numbers of members of Parliament should be repealed and this be prescribed by an Act of Parliament. Regarding this, the select committee recommended and we quote 'the committee is of the view that the composition of the National Assembly including the composition of members of parliament is fundamental and should not be relegated to an Act of Parliament where it can be revised. The committee therefore recommends that the provisions of article 68 should be retained in the Constitution in order to be insulated from frequent amendments.'"

Miti expressed concern that Lubinda was introducing totally new sub-articles which had not been subjected to public debate.

"The Minister of Justice recommends that a member of parliament lose their seat if they are convicted of an offence or sentenced to death or convicted for a period exceeding six months by whatever term. This issue was not in Bill 10 and therefore not discussed by the committee. Civil society would like to repeat that Parliament is a creature of the Constitution, it cannot be allowed to change itself at will, that would make Parliament a creature of the

ruling party whose members could change the Constitution via a simple majority vote. Allowing Parliament to easily change its own makeup would also make elections academic. Regarding the new clause C, we would like to state that it is totally unacceptable that the minister would be initiating new clauses at this point which have not been subjected to public debate while claiming to be amending the controversial Bill 10 according to public sentiments," Miti said.

"It is also worrying that this clause C will make it very easy for MPs to be removed from Parliament by use of trumped up charges that can lead to a suspended sentence. The minister proposes the stay of ministers and MPs in office against the sentiments of the public and the recommendations from the committee that propose that Parliament should be dissolved 60 days before an election but MPs receive their emoluments for their full term. In this proposal, the minister goes against one of the issues that have been central to the public's objection of Bill. Number three, the proposed changes to reduce the Mayoral term from five to two and half years, again making a new proposal not suggested by the public or the select committee. We have presented only a few problematic changes to an already problematic Bill 10 made by the Minister of Justice. We have done so in order to reassert our position that the current amendment to the Constitution has the objective of weakening Zambia's democracy."

Miti further called on MPs to save Zambians from harm by rejecting Bill 10.

"It is for this reason that the civil society organisations represented here insist that Bill 10, however named should be withdrawn. If Zambia needs to address lacunas in the 2016

Constitution as agreed by the public, it should be done through a new process that sets out only the clauses that need addressing. Zambia has not asked for a fundamental review of their Constitution and have certainly not asked for this confusion in the Constitution. We therefore call on all members of parliament to save Zambia from the harm intended by this Constitutional amendment and reject Bill 10 however represented," said Miti.

IN THE SUBORDINATE COURT OF THE FIRST CLASS 2020/CRMP/ML/129
 FOR THE LUSAKA DISTRICT
 HOLDEN AT LUSAKA
 (Civil Jurisdiction)

BETWEEN:

IN THE MATTER OF: SECTION 4 (20) OF THE MONEY LENDERS ACT
 CHAPTER 398 OF THE LAWS OF ZAMBIA

AND

IN THE MATTER OF: AN APPLICATION FOR MONEY LENDERS CERTIFICATE

BY: ONIAS PHIRI - APPLICANT
 (T/A REON ENTERPRISES)

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A MONEY LENDERS CERTIFICATE

TAKE NOTICE that the applicant intends to apply for a Money Lender's Certificate under the Money Lenders Act CAP 398 of the Laws of Zambia at Lusaka before the Honourable Magistrate E. N. CHANWOT in Chambers on the 19th day of JUNE 2020 at 08:30 Hours in the forenoon and that the business will be carried out under the name and style of **REON ENTERPRISES**.

Dated at Lusaka this 17th day of JUNE 2020.

Saviour Miti
 CLERK OF THE COURT

Per: Onias Phiri
 ONIAS PHIRI
 25629, Buluwe Road
 Woodlands
 LUSAKA
 APPLICANT

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
 JUDICIARY - JIS
 18 MAR 2020
 SCANNED

THE ART OF DECEPTION FOR CORRUPTION



The PF Government has abused the Constitution
Article 63 (2) (c) (d).

There is corruption in Governement Procurement:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Digital Migration | 1. Over priced ambulances |
| 2. Mukula logs smuggling | 2. Over priced Presidential Jet |
| 3. Fire Tenders \$42 million | 3. Over priced Toll Plazas |
| 4. Defence equipment | 4. Over priced Infrastructure |
| 5. Fuel | 5. Over priced medical supplies |
| 6. Fertilisers | 6. Unsolicited loans |

MORE MONEY IN WHOSE POCKETS?



PUBLISHED BY FRIENDS OF THE UPND

OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT EDGAR CHAGWA LUNGU

By Chisoni Mumba, PhD

Dear Mr President,

Subject: Your visit to the Livestock Service Centre in Rufunsa District was Well Researched and Commendable!

First and foremost, I have to state that your policy statements on livestock have NEVER impressed me. However, on the day of your visit to the Livestock Service Centre, you gave me hope. Why do I say so? Well, it is because you asked pertinent and well-coordinated questions to your Minister and Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock. The livestock sector has a strong bearing on poverty-stricken communities and the nation at large. Your genuine interest in this sector is of paramount importance to the nation. One could tell from the line of your questions that you really knew the answers, but all you wanted was to know if your Minister and PS were telling you the truth or indeed understood the implications of hurriedly embarking on the Saudi Goat Export Market. My intention is not to demean the well-learned Minister and her PS. I watched the entire 34-minute clip on your Facebook page

(<https://web.facebook.com/EdgarChagwaLungu/videos/274591517234282>), and you were indeed on top of the game.

As a way of backgrounding my letter, previous governments have all sang the song of livestock being a "potential economic sector" in the place of mining and crop agriculture. Indeed livestock plays a critical role in contributing to rural incomes, diversification of sources of earnings and risk management. In the traditional sector, livestock serves as "walking" savings accounts to counter drought, fluctuations in the exchange rate, prices and unemployment among

many other innumerable benefits. It is increasingly becoming a dynamic part of the national economy despite being relatively unexploited.

Back to your coordinated and commendable questions. Let me start with your first question to the Minister of Fisheries and Livestock:

You asked the Minister how the animals are identified at the Livestock Service Centre. Here you were questioning our animal identification and traceability systems, which is critical for international export markets. The Minister was not definitive with her answer, but you showed a clear understanding of the requirements and standard procedures for export of livestock and livestock products.

In your next question, you asked the numbers of goats in the country. Your technocrats tried to convince you that we have about 6 million and that it was enough for export. However, you were quick to say, "let us not embarrass ourselves" and rightly so. Let us instead concentrate on building numbers locally to meet our local and regional demand.

Mr President, your insistence on meeting the local and regional demand finally made your Minister agree with you and further stated that we also have the Angolan market. Her assurance of partnering with Angola and Botswana didn't seem to convince you still. You are correct Mr President. The two mentioned sister countries (Botswana and Namibia) already have reasonable and functional disease control, animal identification and traceability systems in place and are already exporting to Europe and the USA. It is not easy for Zambia that has semi-obsolete to rudimentary and underdeveloped systems to rely on working with sister countries in its current state. The local and regional markets are low hanging fruits that we should

concentrate on for now as we stimulate production. The Congolese meat market has a massive appetite for goats, and this is easily evident by the number of goats from across the breadth and length of our country offloaded at Kasumbalesa border post daily. I hope the Minister and her PS will take heed of your timely guidance and change the direction from focusing on the famous far-fetched and unsustainable Saudi Goat Export Market to local and regional markets.

Your visit to the Livestock Service Centre in Rufunsa was well researched and reflected your in-depth understanding of the livestock subsector and what is currently obtaining. Please ask more questions like this to your technocrats even as you make those donations for egg incubators and other small livestock to women groups and other cooperatives through the Presidential Empowerment Initiative Fund. With such questions, maybe we can transform the livestock subsector and have clear holistic and sustainable livestock policies and strategies. You ended the visit by saying, "Koma COVID mwandi yaleta kanthu", It is true that COVID-19 "yaleta kanthu" but please don't forget the livestock subsector in your post-COVID-19 economic recovery strategy. This sector is all-encompassing, and you have the drive to realise and actualise its long sang about "potential." Ask the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock to give you a short; medium and long-term plan how the livestock subsector can play a role in Zambia's Economic Recovery Strategy Post-COVID. Keep it up, Mr President!

Chsoni Mumba, PhD
Senior Lecturer of Livestock/Animal Health Economics at the University of Zambia, School of Veterinary Medicine. Email: cmumba@unza.zm, Mobile: +260977717258

By Ulande Nkomesha

JUSTICE Minister Given Lubinda has dared those claiming that he has breached the Constitution by gazetting amendments to Constitution Amendment Bill number 10 of 2019 to sue him.

Reacting to Monze Central UPND member of parliament Jack Mwiimbu's allegations that the minister's move was contemptuous and illegal, Lubinda said Mwiimbu's argument amounted to foolishness.

He said there was no law stopping anybody gazetting their intended amendment.

"All that is just a bluff as you are well aware and as all enlightened citizens are aware, the absence of a law to govern any practice does not make that practice an illegality. The fact that there is no provision for a person to gazette does not make a gazette an illegality. When a person has committed an offence, the offence is against a provided law. You can't say I found you sitting on the walls, and because there is no law that allows you to sit, you have committed an offence, that is foolishness. You will say to a person that I have found you sitting on a wall and there is a law against sitting on a wall. You don't break a non-existent law, how do you break it?" Lubinda wondered, in an interview.

"So, if he is saying that there is no provision for anyone to gazette their intended amendment but there is a law that stops one from gazetting their intended amendment? If there is no law stopping somebody gazetting their intended amendment, then there is no law

Questioning Bill 10 gazette amounts to foolishness – Lubinda



Justice Minister Given Lubinda

that they have breached, it is as simple as that. You don't have to be a lawyer to know that, do you? No, you don't have to be a lawyer to know that you cannot break a law that is not in existence. If there is no law that stops me from wearing trousers which is one [leg] long and one shot and you find me in a trouser with one long and one shot, would you say I have broken the law? No! Until there is a law that stops you, you can't break it."

He said Mwiimbu was a desperate hypocrite as he did not point at any standing order which stopped anyone from gazetting an amendment.

"You can see how desperate Jack Mwiimbu and his friends are, he did not point at any standing order which stops any one from gazetting the amendment. Further, I want to make it clear for the sake of citizens that in my long years in Parliament I have known the

fact that any document that is laid on the table of Parliament is public, unless Parliament is sitting in camera. Tell me if Zambians did not hear on the 17th of March, did Zambians not hear that we are going to move these amendments? I made it public, it was not a secret, it has never been a secret! I announced to the Zambian people through Parliament that these amendments I am going to move them. What makes it illegal for me to go out to the press and say 'these are exactly the same words I used in Parliament, I am going to amend them. These are the amendments I am going to cause on the bill and I put them in the gazette'. What law have I breached? None whatsoever," he said.

"Look at the hypocrisy of those people, very hypocritical, hypocrites! They are very hypocritical, they are the ones who have said we love

the recommendations of the committee of Parliament, please Minister can you withdraw the bill and go and amend it, include this provision and bring it back to Parliament, haven't they said that? What provisions are there? Ask Jack Mwiimbu, what standing order is there? He has been in Parliament as long as I, what illegal provision is there for me to withdraw the bill, to go and amend it and bring it back to Parliament? What provision is there? It is just hypocrisy! Jack Mwiimbu must be embarrassed with himself, he is a very hypocritical man! He must not play to the gallery and say I have breached the Constitution."

Lubinda dared Mwiimbu and other stakeholders who had claimed that he had breached the constitution to sue him.

"I want to challenge Jack Mwiimbu, if he is a lawyer that he claims he is, can he cite me? Let him take me to the Constitutional Court for breaching the Constitution. He must take me to the Constitutional Court, he must just not play to the gallery and cry 'wolf, wolf' when there is not even a puppy outside the door. If he is sincere and he is true that I have breached the Constitution, let him sue me and I give him 48 hours to sue me. If he is a real honest man, let him sue me. All those who are saying it is illegal, let them go to court. When a person commits an illegality

what happens? They take them to court. Mwiimbu and the UPND are very litigious, you know that, they love court very much. Let them go to court and say Lubinda has breached the Constitution," Lubinda said.

"He is saying that I have breached standing orders of Parliament, let him write to Mr Speaker that 'Lubinda breached the provisions of standing orders'. Parliament is starting to sit on Friday, I challenge him that by Friday, he must file a complaint to Mr Speaker. If he doesn't, he must accept that forever, I will refer to him as a hypocrite! I challenge him, he must stop being hypocritical, he must be honest. He cannot on one hand say Lubinda must withdraw the bill and amend it to include the recommendation of the committee and bring it back to Parliament, against which standing order? There is no standing order which allows for that. The provisions of Parliament, if you withdraw a bill, you do not bring it back in that session,

and when you bring it, it must come as a totally new bill. For a constitution amendment bill, it means that it must be re-gazetted for 30 days in accordance with Article 79 of the Constitution of Zambia."

Lubinda said he was not a lawyer but he understood the law better than Mwiimbu.

"I am not a lawyer but I understand the law better than him. So I challenge him, can he cite me, let him go to court. For standing orders, let him complain to Mr Speaker so that Mr Speaker can punish me for breaching standing orders in Parliament. My message to citizens is that they must refuse to be misinformed by people like Jack Mwiimbu. Every time, Mr Jack Mwiimbu is changing positions. Mr Mwiimbu even failed to sit on the select committee of Parliament; he was appointed to sit on that committee to receive those submissions from people, he refused. Why did he refuse? He refused because he is a hypocrite, he didn't want to listen to the issues of the people and now he is claiming that he has listened to the views of the people," said Lubinda.



Monze Central MP Jack Mwiimbu

By Ulande Nkomesha

TRANSPARENCY International Zambia TI-Z says it is dissatisfied with information coming from government on the donation and procurement of bicycles for the Zambia Police. And UPND spokesperson Charles Kakoma says the misinformation is being caused by the corrupt procurement system in government.

In an interview, TI-Z executive director Maurice Nyambe said he was disappointed by the conflicting information that had characterised the donation and the procurement of the bicycles.

“We are definitely not satisfied with the information coming in particular because there has been too much conflicting information. We got a statement from an official in the Ministry of Home Affairs, initially saying that the bicycles were donated by Japan. Then when News Diggers revealed that the Japanese have basically disputed, that is when we got the clarification again from Ministry

Ministry’s explanation on bicycles dissatisfying – TI-Z

of Home Affairs. I mean there has been to many conflicting statements. The Inspector General of Police also issued a statement the other day I think to the effect that some bicycles were procured from China and they were connected by India. So, I think for us, the concern is two fold; number one, there is too much conflicting information being given, these bicycles are said to have been donated to the Zambia Police. I think we should have the Zambia Police themselves actually come out in the open and provide the information that is going to put this matter to rest. Why should we have the Ministry of Home Affairs speaking on behalf of the Zambia Police?” Nyambe asked.

“Zambia Police on its own,

they are a procurement entity on their own, they are able to do their procurement to purchase these items. So if they have procured these bicycles, then they need to explain to the Zambian people what procedure was followed and basically what the process was followed because I think that is where the confusion is coming in. So, let the Zambian Police speak up for themselves and put this matter to bed.”

He urged government officials to follow procurement guidelines to the letter.

“When it comes to issues of procurement, we have seen a lot of grey areas. I mean, the Ministry of Health has been involved in shady procurements, the Ministry of Local Government again we are talking about the fire tenders, there has been a lot

that has been happening. You see, Zambia has legislation in place currently that guides how procurement should happen. This is the Public Procurement Act of 2008. I think the onus is on every entity and all entities that are involved in procurement to follow the provision of the Public Procurement Act of 2008, because it is very clear,” said Nyambe.

“I think that an organization such as the Zambia Public Procurement Authority should also take very keen interest in some of these revelations that are coming out from different Ministries because it seems very clear to us that the provisions of the law are not being followed when it comes to procurement. The sad thing is that it is government entities

that actually seem to be flouting these provisions. I think that ZPPA really should come in hard and put a stop to this, I mean, we cannot afford to continue losing large sums of money due to shady procurement processes that are being employed by government entities mainly. So it is a big concern for us. I think the answer for us is for the entities involved in procurement to abide and subscribe to the provisions of the public procurement of 2008.”

And Kakoma said the misinformation was being caused by the corrupt procurement system in government.

“Most of these transactions are not straight forward, there is something seriously wrong with the procurement system. In fact, a lot of corruption is associated with the procurement system in this country. There is a lot that

is hidden, there is a lot that we don’t know and this is how even a government itself cannot account for the things they are procuring, even the people they are alleging that they acquired the donations from there, they might even not have the proper records of information on how those things ended up in the hands of the Zambian government. Basically, it is because of deals, deals where the paper trail is missing, that is what is creating the problem,” said Kakoma.

“The major motivation is kick backs and that is why even when they have procured the things that they have procured, there is no proper information on how they have procured them because of the kickbacks. The motivation to procure some of the things even when they are not necessary is kickbacks and corruption in other words.”

Zesco employee denies adultery charge

By Zondiwe Mbewe

I HAD gone to visit her at her apartment because she is a friend, a ZESCO employee who has been sued for allegedly committing adultery with another man’s wife has told the Lusaka High Court. In this matter, Gilbert Mbamwabi Lungu has sued Patrick Maswakani, in the Lusaka High Court, claiming damages of K2 million for allegedly trespassing and committing adultery with his wife at their matrimonial home.

Lungu claimed that Maswakani became violent and assaulted him after he caught him committing adultery with his wife, Susan Chewe.

But in his defence, Mwaswakani has denied the allegations, stating that he was not aware of the marriage between Lungu and Chewe and that Lungu would be put to strict proof at trial.

He stated that on the material day, he had gone to visit Chewe at her apartment because

she was a friend.

Mwaswakani, however, denied having been found committing adultery.

He, however, admitted the fact that his phone and shoes were confiscated by Lungu.

Mwaswakani stated that Lungu was the one who started fighting him when he found him in Chewe’s apartment and even damaged the ZESCO motor vehicle which he had parked there.

He added that the case for assault was reported at Kazungula police station.

“The charge of malicious damage to company property is being heard at Livingstone’s Subordinate court,” Mwaswakani stated.

He added that Lungu was not entitled to the K2 million he claims.

Lungu had stated in his statement of claim that he was Chewe’s husband having been traditionally married under customary law and having paid dowry at K1,000.

He stated that Maswakani, with malicious intention to permanently injure, interfere and deprive him peaceful enjoyment of his matrimonial marriage, trespassed and committed adultery with his wife, Chewe, at his matrimonial home in Kazungula district.

“The plaintiff (Lungu) shall aver at trial that on April 30, 2020, had found the defendant (Mwaswakani) at his matrimonial home committing adultery with his wife Susan Chewe,” read the statement of claim.

He claimed that upon finding Mwaswakani red handed committing adultery with his wife, he (Lungu) confiscated the defendant’s shoes and a mobile phone as exhibits.

Lungu, however, added that after catching the two, Mwaswakani became violent and assaulted him, an act which resulted in him suffering a swollen right arm, painful left side of the neck and painful leg.

“The defendant has without any justifiable reason committed adultery with the plaintiff wife thereby putting the plaintiff’s life at risk as he is not sure of the defendant’s health status,” stated Lungu.

By Ulande Nkomesha

President Edgar Lungu has appealed to bar and night club owners to be patient and not open bars, as the conditions for doing so are not yet favourable. This is according to a statement issued by Special Assistant to the

Lungu asks for patience from bar, nightclub owners

President for Press and Public Relations Isaac Chipampe, Tuesday.

Chipampe stated that

President Lungu had received recommendations on the need to reopen bars and nightclubs, but that the numbers of COVID-19 positive cases had not yet dropped, which spelt a danger in the functions of nightclubs and bars.

“Yes the recommendations have been received but we need to be careful because the numbers have not dropped and this is the month that we were told could decide how the pandemic evolves,” President Lungu said.

He said there were also some sporting activities which had not yet been reopened.

“It is also important to note that it is not just bars and night clubs, we also need to reopen the airports that were closed as well as various sports. We look forward to a day when sports will be back.”

Chipampe emphasised that President Lungu would be guided by social- economical and health considerations before announcing the reopening.

The President asked owners of bars and nightclubs and their patrons to be more patient because the country had done well in streaming the spread of COVID-19 and it would be a disaster to take a decision that would push back the gains that had been made so far.

The President said citizens would be informed about the reopening of bars and nightclubs once conditions allowed.

And the President assured sports fans that sports activities would resume once the Ministry of Sports, in consultation with the Ministry of Health, write to assure that sports arenas are ready for action.

ERB institutes probe into Zesco’s ‘fast-depleting units’

By Mirriam Chabala

THE Energy Regulation Board (ERB) says it is investigating the alleged unusual and unexplained depletion of Zesco prepaid electricity units being complained about by citizens across the country. ERB public relations manager Kwali Mfuni disclosed in a statement, Tuesday, that the Board decided to start investigating the matter following queries from members of the public and also the various media reports on the subject.

Mfuni explained that the public would be informed of the findings, either periodically as the investigations progress, or at the conclusion of the matter.

“The Energy Regulation Board has instituted investigations into complaints of alleged unusual and unexplained depletion of Zesco prepaid electricity units in different parts of the country that has also been the subject of the recent media attention. The investigation would be carried out pursuant to the Energy Regulation Act No. 12 of 2019 and are intended to ascertain the validity of the allegations and also rule out the possibility of meters having been tampered with or malfunctioning on account of age or other factors. It is envisaged that the investigations into the matter would see the ERB engage with other stakeholders, including relevant government agencies, suppliers of metres and professional bodies,” stated Mfuni.

“A number of complaints have been received by the ERB, while various media outlets have also reported receiving similar reports, prompting responses from Zesco on the matter. The

consumers allege that there is noticeable difference in their consumption patterns for the same number of units and their electricity bills have gone up. As investigations progress, members of the public would be informed of the findings, either periodically or the conclusion of the matter. To report similar complaints or make enquiries on other energy matters, the ERB may be contacted on the toll free line 8484.”

Lundazi MP didn’t engage in malpractice during 2016 elections, cop tells court

By Zondiwe Mbewe

A ZAMBIA Police Senior Superintendent has told the Constitutional Court that he abandoned investigations into claims that Lundazi Central Independent member of parliament Lawrence Nyirenda forged his academic qualifications after discovering that they were genuinely obtained.

Moses Kabamba has further confirmed that there were no electoral malpractices committed by Nyirenda during the 2016 general elections.

In this matter, losing Lundazi Central Independent candidate Colonel Bizwayo Nkunika had petitioned the Constitutional Court to declare the Lundazi Central parliamentary seat vacant, alleging that the current Independent member of parliament did not hold a full grade 12 certificate.

Col Nkunika cited Nyirenda and the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) as first and second respondents respectively, stating that the ECZ contravened Articles 70 and 72 of the Constitution when it allowed Nyirenda to contest the Lundazi Central seat without meeting the minimum qualifications.

He wants the Court to declare the seat vacant and that ECZ should hold elections within 90 days.

When the matter came up before

Constitutional Court president Hilda Chibomba, sitting with four other judges for hearing, Monday, Kabamba, who is Col Nkunika’s witness, said he investigated a complaint by the former High Commissioner to London of suspected forged certificates.

“I conducted investigations in a complaint that was brought to police over suspicions that some of the certificates that Honourable Nyirenda submitted to the Electoral Commission of Zambia were not genuinely obtained,” Kabamba said. But asked in cross-examination by Nyirenda’s lawyer, Tutwa Ngulube, whether any of the documents he was investigating proved to have been forged, the witness responded in the negative.

“No. After investigations, it was found that the qualifications were obtained genuinely,” Kabamba replied.

He also confirmed that there were no electoral malpractices committed by Nyirenda during the 2016 election.

Kabamba added that the National Prosecutions Authority also said there was no criminal offence committed in relation to the complaint against Nyirenda.

He said that he was aware that the

Zambian Police Service could not be used to fight personal battles between two election candidates.

“After investigations, since there was no criminal offence committed, even in relation to allegations that there was pecuniary advantage, the investigations fell off,” Kabamba disclosed.

Col Nkunika had previously told the Court that there was a contravention of the Constitution when ECZ allowed Nyirenda to contest the election.

“By practice in Zambia, when we say a person must have a grade 12 certificate, it means a full certificate comprising at least five subjects,” he said.

Asked in cross-examination whether he had brought the matter to court because he lost the election to Nyirenda, Col Nkunika said he was in court because the Lundazi Central member of parliament was in Parliament illegally as he did not hold a full grade 12 certificate or its equivalent.

Col Nkunika added that Nyirenda did not hold those qualifications at the time of nominations, elections or when the matter was brought to court.

The matter comes up on Wednesday.

The right to water and sanitation ten years' on: Will Covid-19 provide the impetus for Zambia to realise these rights for all?

By Pamela Chisanga and Chilufya Chileshe

SINCE 18th March 2020, when the first two Covid-19 cases in Zambia were announced, well over 1320 people have tested positive. The effects of the pandemic on the country's social life, economic activity and human health are already visible and can be expected to continue for a long time. Effects on the economy are expected to be harsh. Zambia's economy was under stress long before the advent of Covid-19 with a double digit inflation rate of 15.7% by the end of the first quarter of 2020, and the currency depreciated by over 20%.

A good amount of media coverage is now dedicated to what it means to live in informal, high density areas in view of calls to stay at home and maintain physical distancing. Social media commentaries and webinars are oversupplied with discussion about the practicality of the stay home strategy, when the home does not have enough space to physically distance, self-isolate or practice good hygiene.

In many communities, basic services such as toilets and water points are meagre and often shared by several households. Zambia is said to be the third most urbanised country in Southern Africa. Up to 40% of urban dwellers, reside in informal urban and peri-urban settlements such as Kanyama, Chibolya or Misisi Compounds with limited basic services and scarce opportunities to reverse their fortunes. As such the concerns are real and urgent.

The economic powerlessness and social underdevelopment of the urban dense and rural circumstances, in which many people live, means that they often lack access to water, sanitation, healthcare, safe or secure housing. Kanyama, a large informal settlement in the heart of the capital city, has a population of over 130 000 people. More than 80% of families in Kanyama do not own the house they live in and the majority use shared pit latrines and collect their water either from a shallow unprotected well or communal water points. The average house size in Kanyama is approximately 8m sq for a family of six.

The Zambian government, now has to face up to these challenges. They need to address the vulnerability of groups of people such as homeless people, sanitation workers, sex workers, people with disabilities not only to contain the spread of Covid-19, but to avert future pandemics and improve their quality of life.

The Covid-19 pandemic has exposed glaring deficiencies in access to public services in many countries. Although these challenges are generally known and widely acknowledged, the impact of years of limited investment in critical sectors such as water, education and housing are now being strongly felt and likely to have long-lasting, crippling effects. Ten years since the UN general assembly resolved to recognise the right to water and sanitation, Covid-19 has made prominent the long term benefits of WASH in both emergency and non-emergency situations.

Lack of adequate investment in education infrastructure for instance, means that many public schools are unlikely to meet basic guidelines to reduce the risk of transmission – overcrowded classrooms, lack of, or inadequate water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services will make it difficult for schools to adjust to the new reality and may keep children away from school longer. Poor investment in technology also means that alternative platforms for education, especially for the large number of children in peri-urban and rural communities is nearly impossible.

Water, sanitation and hygiene not been prioritised over the years. WaterAid Zambia's assessment of WASH financing, found that for ten successive years up to 2018, the sector has been allocated 0.1% – 0.3% of GDP. Less than 40% of what was allocated was actually disbursed each year. The need for increased access to water and sanitation services emerges with the country's annual cholera outbreaks. Although pronouncements are made to address this, little is done, let alone sustained beyond the response phase. A Multi-Stakeholder Cholera Elimination Plan was developed in 2019, with over 60% focus on WASH. Disappointingly the national budget for 2020 makes no provision for the implementation of the plan.

Covid-19 has created awareness of the importance of handwashing and hand hygiene, underscoring the importance of WASH, particularly water supply. Hand washing is the single most effective way to prevent the transmission of disease, including acute respiratory infections like Covid-19. The challenge however is how to make this change in behaviour lasting and impactful on disease prevention and quality of life. Pre-Covid data shows that nearly 2 in 5 households did not have water and soap. Similarly, 2 in 5 healthcare facilities lacked both at points of care.

At the heart of this barrage of challenges, is the overall slow pace of human development and human rights often ignored. The right to development, in particular is one which every person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development. It guarantees that all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized. Tangible actions in this direction need to be evident coupled with government transparency about how public resources are applied toward this end. Government must take actions that champion five main areas as follows:

- Prioritise water, sanitation and hygiene to bring immediate remedy to issues of unclean water. This means ensuring infrastructure is in place for clean water to be provided in homes, public institutions and delivered to underserved areas. The ten years anniversary of the right to water and sanitation, this year, must be marked by evident steps to change the current poor record. This is essential because as Human Rights Watch eloquently articulates, lack of sanitation is not only an affront to individuals' dignity and rights, but endangers the rights to the highest

attainable standard of health and to safe drinking water of other people because of the contaminating nature of human faeces when indiscriminately disposed of.

- Invest in infrastructure that serves people in situations of vulnerability and marginalisation. To practice good hygiene and handwashing for the recommended 20 seconds, everyone including homeless people, traders, people in transit among others, will rely on public toilets and public water stands. These have yet to make it to the priority list of infrastructure development in our country. Handwashing stations are limited or non-existent in public spaces and institutions such as healthcare facilities or schools. When available, they are often in a deplorable state, non-functional and often with no soap or reliable water supply.

- Social, economic factors that relate to women's safety, empowerment and development must take centre stage now and in the long term. Covid-19, like other crises has increased the pressure on women's time through domestic work and caring responsibilities. Ensuring enough water is collected easily and affordably for increased handwashing in addition to cleaning, food preparation and child care tend to be the responsibility of women.

- Provide social safe guards that ensure that no Zambian is destitute, goes to bed hungry and children are not continuously victim to the stunting effects of malnutrition and persistent bouts of diarrhoea. The current social protection programme needs to be up-scaled and with special consideration for children in vulnerable households in peri-urban areas and to take into consideration cost of access to clean water and sanitation services.

- Create an environment where citizens can access information necessary to practice good hygiene, demand accountability and access services essential for their development. Covid-19 presents an opportunity for the Zambian government to rebuild confidence and trust. Better transparency and accountability for resources will enhance a sense of fairness in their distribution. This loss of confidence has impacted donor support despite the need for development assistance remaining high.

We continue to join others in calling for a restructure of the global financial architecture to ensure that there is an influx of significant financing necessary to enable developing countries, like ours, have the space to not only respond to Covid-19, but the ability to adequately transform policy implementation in favour of the people. The global shifts we are calling for should be anchored on strong political and technical leadership, committed to accountability and take decisive steps to stomp out a culture of impunity that has bred inequality, poverty, abuse of human rights evidenced by poor access to basic services such as water and sanitation.

If Covid-19 leaves behind anything lasting, it should be a recognition of the importance of basic human rights, such as the rights to water, sanitation and hygiene and the high cost that we pay for neglecting them.

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
ASSOCIATION of Catholic Parliamentarians chairperson Professor Nkandu Luo says Catholic bishops should provide the correct leadership which it has been known for and avoid misinforming the people about Bill 10.

Meanwhile, Justice Minister Given Lubinda says the amendment process has been all-inclusive as it even gave an opportunity for people in taverns to voice themselves out.

Speaking at a press briefing attended by PF MPs who are also association members at Government Complex, Tuesday, Prof Luo disagreed with the Catholic Bishops' argument that Bill 10 contains retrogressive and highly contentious clauses.

"The Catholic bishops would agree with us that the process of reviewing the constitution was legitimate as it was widely inclusive, transparent, and anchored on conscious building. Further, we disagree with the statement that the process undertaken to review the constitution lacked genuine consensus and that it has become a source of division in the country. On the contrary, when the Ministry of Justice called for submissions on identified lacunas and inconsistencies, the ministry received an overwhelming number of submissions from faith-based organizations, civil society organizations, members of parliament, individuals, agencies, and various political parties. This demonstrated consensus," Prof Luo said.

She appealed to all

Catholic PF MPs disagree with their Bishops on Bill 10

parliamentarians to fully support the Bill.

"I want to appeal to the Catholic Bishops, to the conscious of all members of parliament across the political divide to support this bill but most importantly, to go and read so that you make an informed decision. Let us not listen to statements, let us not listen to debates on the streets but go and collect the gazette of Bill 10 and read so that when you decide, you are making an informed decision," Luo said.

"If we decide that we want to divide this country because of misinformation, that will be a pity. For the first time in a constitution in Zambia, there is a call for equity where we are calling for a 50-50 representation in parliament of women and men, for the first time we are talking about people living with disabilities being part of governance of this country, we are calling for the young people to be part of governance of this country. How else can anybody clap their hands for a government that means well for its people?"

Luo appealed to the Catholic Bishops to provide the correct leadership by giving correct information about Bill 10.

"I want to appeal to our Catholic Bishops to provide



Catholic Parliamentarians chairperson Professor Nkandu

the correct leadership of our flock and give them the correct information and continue enjoying the glory that the catholic church has enjoyed not only in Zambia but the world. You may recall that last week, there was a statement in the media regarding Bill 10 and this statement was given on behalf of the catholic bishops by Bishop Lungu. It has become imperative for us to put things straight and also to correct some of the statements that we feel as practicing catholic in parliament may want to give the correct position," she said.

She said the catholic members, just like other stakeholders, were invited to participate in the constitution

amendment process but decided not to.

"The Catholics stated that there is a manipulation of Bill 10 exhibited by some people who have taken it upon themselves to popularise it. This statement is not true because no one has taken it upon themselves to popularise Bill 10. The esteemed bishops have further stated that the Bill contains retrogressive and highly contentious clauses. What is in Bill 10 is as follows and this is in the gazette and it's up to you members to make a comparative analysis between what I am saying and what was stated in this statement. This Bill retains the qualifications for election of parliament while allowing

for a delimitation by the electoral commission of Zambia. So, we will continue with the magisterium system of electing the president using the 50%+1; That the public officers who seek election for office to resign at six months prior to the election period as opposed to the two years that was recommended much earlier by the forum; and four, retention of employees on payroll until the employee benefits are paid in full, and retain the functions of the Bank of Zambia in the Constitution," Prof Luo said.

Prof Luo lamented that the Catholic church mother body blocked her association from holding their meeting at Kapingila House, which is the

church secretariat.
"This particular meeting that we have, in our conscious we thought since we are members of the catholic church, the best place for us to do this was Kapingila House which is our facility as Catholics. And even the construction to that facility, we were part to because we know how we work as a church but, and I went to put this in writing to request that we go to Kapingila House. But I received a letter that we are not allowed to even have this particular press conference at Kapingila House. We were not even allowed to take this stance," said Prof Luo.

And Lubinda insisted that the formulation of Bill 10 was all inclusive.

"The consultations even extended to us listening to people who were speaking in forums that are not meant for discussing matters like this. We listened to people that made comments through newspapers, we listened to people that made contributions through radio programmes, we even listened to people that made contributions in taverns in the spirit of not leaving anyone behind," said Lubinda.

Other parliamentarians who attended the briefing were Bwacha member of parliament Sydney Mushanga, Mandevu member of parliament Jean Kapata, Sylvia Chalikosa, Charles Banda, Nathaniel Mubukwanu, Dr Bwalya Ngandu (treasurer), Stephen Kampyongo, and David Mabumba among others.

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HAKAINDE Hichilema, president of the opposition UPND, says never before in the history of Zambia has any piece of legislation been so heavily marketed as Bill 10. He says the campaign by the Patriotic Front to pass Bill 10 is enough proof that “there is certainly an evil motive behind it because a good piece of law speaks for itself.”

Mr Hichilema, or Bally as he prefers to be called lately, has a very good point. His observations echo an editorial comment that we published three months ago, just before the PF’s first attempt to pass Bill 10 collapsed. This bad piece of legislation called Bill 10 has come back in an attempt to exploit its proverbial ninth life. The people and their lawmakers need to be reminded about the dangers of enacting Bill 10.

We need to warn the people who are supporting Bill 10, especially those who are in support of this legislation without counting the cost to our democracy.

Life is full of many examples to learn from but many people choose not to draw lessons from them. Somehow, we keep repeating the same mistakes regardless of the consequences. A few years back, many politically energetic youths were sponsored to wage a vigorous campaign for the Patriotic Front, and they

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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Those supporting Bill 10 should prepare to drink from the chalice of betrayal

delivered. But after the paymasters achieved what they wanted from those youths, they rendered them useless. The paymasters are now enjoying life in government and threatening to arrest anyone who complains about how they are governing the country. “Stupid”, “naked”, “disgruntled” “nonsensical” are some of the words being used to describe the youths who vigorously campaigned to put them in power.

The PF now knows that their time in office is under threat. There is a high chance that in the next 12 months or so, the people of Zambia may kick them out of office. In order to increase their chances of survival, they have crafted a Bill that gives them a technical advantage over their

political rivals. They know that this particular law is bad and there is nothing in it that should motivate citizens to support it. Typical of their tactics, they have recruited mercenaries to champion the legislation of Bill 10. It is not in doubt that the majority of those who have been recruited do not care to understand what Bill 10 seeks to achieve, and you can tell from the messages that are inscribed on their placards.

These people have to be warned that soon, once and if this Bill is passed, they will be tossed aside. The same paymasters who are sponsoring them will turn around to use the same legislation to silence them. These people must ask themselves why their paymasters are willing to spend money on enacting a

law that is supposed to be for the good of the people. Is that normal? How many laws does parliament pass in one sitting? When did they ever see ministers and MPs spending so much money on public marches meant to show solidarity for a Bill?

The answer is very simple. PF and its ministers are in trouble. Look at the language being used by Justice Minister Given Lubinda towards civil society organisations challenging him for gazetting the Bill! He says questioning his actions amounts to foolishness. To us, that is not mere arrogance, there is desperation written all over that conduct. And there is a good reason for the Minister of Justice’s panic.

People like

Honourable Lubinda probably have very serious problems waiting for them outside government. But Lubinda should know better. He is not the first person in his position who is going to champion a wrong cause that comes back to haunt him and even eat him.

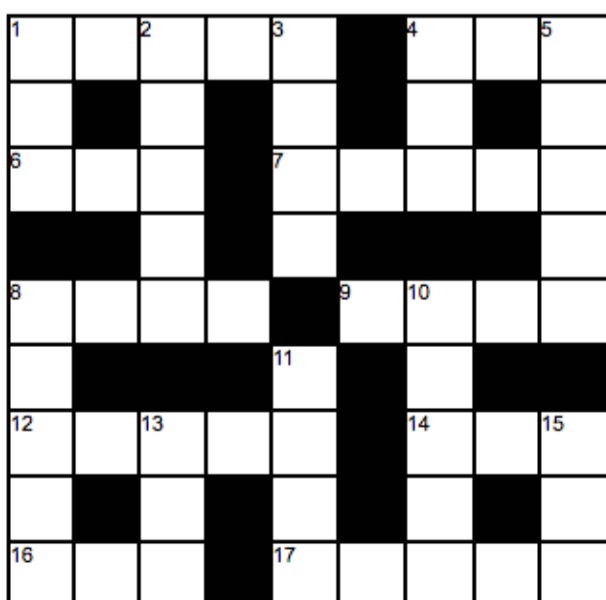
What is this Bill 10 that they are trying to shove down our throats? Forget the jargon around it. It is a simple attempt to grab power. The PF want to run Zambia without Zambians having a say. But that is not all; Bill 10 is about keeping President Edgar Lungu in State House. This is what PF are fighting for. The logic seems to be that if President Lungu stays in power, PF stays in power, which means more eating for those who are close to power. This has got nothing to do with national interest.

And people Like Given Lubinda need to tell us what is so special about President Lungu that we should destroy our Constitution to keep him in power. What is it that makes President Lungu so special? What special leadership qualities has Given seen in President Lungu or is it about self-preservation?

Given Lubinda and many like him who may be pushing Bill 10 in the mistaken belief that there will be rewards should learn from history. This won’t end well for them. We are not prophets and do not claim to have prophetic powers, we are just a newspaper, but what we see in the PF is enough to tell us that it won’t end well for Given Lubinda. Betrayal and treachery is the way this PF is run and Given Lubinda must prepare himself to drink from that chalice. Pushing Bill 10 will not help him. It is better for him and others like him to do what is right.

It must be clear to anyone who is honest in the PF government that giving President Lungu absolute power is not the way to go. This is wrong and must be stopped. A famous historian once said power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. This must be stopped. All Zambians of goodwill, whether in PF or anywhere else, must stand to stop this attempt to colonise Zambia, led by President Lungu and his inner circle. They don’t mean well.

Crossword puzzle No 626

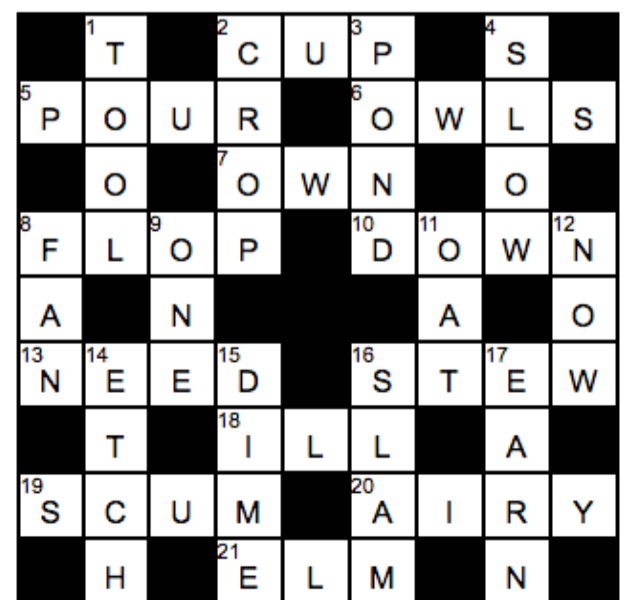


“All emotions, even those that are suppressed and unexpressed, have physical effects. Unexpressed emotions tend to stay in the body like small ticking time bombs—they are illnesses in incubation.”

- Marilyn Van M. Derbur

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|--|--|
| <p>Across</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Foot warmers 4. Positioned 6. Aloha 7. Baby hooter 8. Undergo change 9. Make watertight 12. Diminish 14. Have dinner 16. Aardvark snack 17. Go in | <p>Down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cry hard 2. Applaud 3. Broadway event 4. Buddy 5. Sum 8. "Scooby-Doo" character 10. Kick out 11. Factual 13. Not dry 15. Roofing material |
|--|--|

Crossword puzzle No 625



Readers' Feedback

ND! OPINION: "Stupid, disgruntled youths" should think twice before dancing Dununa next time

Editor,

"The disgruntled, both youth and adults please take heed and realize that unity in purpose always prevails. Remember; The Strength of the Wolves is in the Park". - Martin Nyanjagha

"Kings tashala ukuli money. Soon you will hear him

produce a song ati.. Lesa wakwa Bowman Alikula. Watch the space!" - Brighton Mayondi Chizawu

"Tell them to wake up! A mere song and cheap rhetoric... *more money in your pockets*.. shameful..a lost generation.


No vision, no direction!" - Kool Int

"The alleged humble one has humbled Zambia!" - Mwenya Kay

"Stupid, useless, stinking and Disgranted Youths were the words of our honorable minister to describe the Youths who wanted to exercise their freedom of expression. I heard another honorable

saying digger's must apology for using derogatory language, but these words came from a fellow honorable madam.lol". - Vinny Valentino

"They have leant a lesson! This statement is not for me as I did not vote for this curse neither did I dance for them!" - Thomas Sankara



EDITOR'S NOTE:

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Nkombo's complaint to Speaker against Lubinda's continued remarks on Bill 10

Editor,

"That is why people have renamed the Ministry of Justice as "Ministry of Just us." Its only them who see Justice and get justice in whatever they want. I remember the impeachment of the President motion lodged by the opposition in Parliament was stopped or halted by the speaker immediately some people took the matter to court. But now a similar case of Bill 10 which is also on the floor of the house was taken

to court by some Zambians, now let's wait and see how the speaker will rule, seeing that this issue concerns them. Will he stop this bill from being debated in Parliament as he did the impeachment motion? I am eagerly waiting to hear the ruling. Will he go against the precedence he set when he stopped debating the impeachment of the president motion or he will be consistent with his earlier stand. We are waiting to hear". - Legion Mwiinga

Chikwanda on falling kwacha having robbed Zambians of chance to benefit from low oil prices

Dear editor,

"A falling leadership has robbed Zambians of benefitting from low oil prices. Get that straight. The kwacha has failed due to this mishap of "leadership "...including you sir". - Kwa Mwamba

"What is different from countries such as Botswana and Namibia who have reduced the price of fuel twice during the covid-19 period. Their currencies were equally affected. The Zambian problem goes beyond the "currency exchange". It's the corruption of the owners of fueling stations, the tank owners, and people signing

supply contracts. Just find out who the mentioned people are and you will have answer". - Vicmallow Chigaboy

"It's like justifying irresponsibility. Zambia fuel problem is not starting with falling Kwacha sir". - Francis Kapindula

"You are not the only one who understands economics. The president at one time admitted that there were too many middlemen in the procurement of oil. It's just about greediness and corruption. Even if kwacha has depreciated it would still have been possible to reduce the fuel price. Kindly redo your maths". - Asa Amisi

We can not apologise for quoting Lusambo's 'stupid' language – Diggers

Dear editor,

"These corrupt leaders, they think Zambians are so foolish that they don't know who insulted them...we are of age and we know who insulted Us..." - Chocho Mwangwa

"Of course, I am happy that you have not apologised for doing what PF themselves are doing. Chiwamila galu kuluma mbuzi. Let Dora Siliya start by writing to Bowman Lusambo to apologise first". - Mutinta Mulonda

"That's the language they understand". - Lwando Bbuku

"Let them also apologize for lying about the bicycles!" - Pat Muka

"Digger's editor-in-chief Mr Joseph Mwenda is a learned and professional individual who always does his homework before going to print". - Kapampa Musukwa

"News Diggers please continue exposing them, they think they own this country, when their minister was uttering those words it was okay for them, but after you printed the same words he mentioned it becomes wrong. Next year is not too far we are watching them day by day!" - Clifford Mwashilindi

"Diggers continue with your good work and God protect you from the schemes of evil doers". - Rainy Kayeye

"The minister must apologise first. What's good for the goose is good for the gander". - Genie Wi

"As a matter of fact, it's stupid to ask for an apology from ND!" - Maiko Zulu

"Let me help the minister in case covid has backdated her memory. Start with Lusambo who in fact said those words, we will be so happy as youths. Atleast you will be honest". - Kay Gao



Political parties fail to agree on proposed ECZ nomination fees hike

By Julia Malunga

POLITICAL parties yesterday failed to agree on a proposal by the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) to hike nomination fees. During a political party liaison committee meeting, Tuesday, the political parties requested for a week in which to present their submissions.

According to a proposal by the commission, a presidential nomination fee will be K150,000 from the current K60,000 while a female presidential candidate and persons with disabilities will pay K120,000.

And a male parliamentary candidate will be required to pay K25,000 from the current K7,500 while women and persons with disabilities will be paying K20,000.

“Presidential candidate (male) current K60,000 – proposed K150,000. Female and PWD candidate current K60,000, proposed K120,000.000. Parliamentary (male) current K7,500 proposal K25,000.00. Female PWD current K7,500 proposed K20,000.00,” read the proposal.

Meanwhile, a mayoral candidate will be required to pay K25,000 from the current K7,500.

“Mayoral male candidate current K7,500 proposal K25,000. Female and PWD current K7,500 proposal

K20,000. Council chairperson male current K2,500 proposal K10,000. Female and PWD current K2,500 proposal K7,500,” the proposal read.

Meanwhile, councillors would be required to pay K2,500 from the current K750.

“Councilors male (city/municipal) current K750 proposal K2,500. Female and PWD current K750 proposal K2,000. Male (town/district) current K400, proposal K2,500. Female and PWD current K400 proposal K2,000,” the proposal read.

But according to sources, the political parties failed to agree on the nomination fees.

“During a meeting presented by the Electoral Commission of Zambia Political parties have failed to agree on the amount for nomination figure and have requested that they meet independently through the Zambia Centre for Interparty Dialogue (ZCID) and other forums and come back with a proposal for the commissions’ consideration. The parties have requested for one week in which to present their submissions,” said some of those who attended the meeting but sought anonymity.

By Ulande Nkomesha

JAPANESE Ambassador Ryuta Mizuuchi has urged the Zambian government to hold more frequent COVID-19 updates as his embassy relies on accurate information from the briefings which he sends to his country.

And Government has hailed the cordial and long standing relations between Zambia and Japan.

According to a statement issued by the Ministry of Information public relations unit, Tuesday, the Japanese Ambassador said this when he called on Chief Government Spokesperson Dora Siliya yesterday.

Ambassador Mizuuchi said Japan was impressed with the transparent manner in which Zambia was managing COVID-19 information.

He said Zambia had been outstanding in providing COVID-19 information to members of the public.

“My Government and indeed myself are very much impressed with the Zambian Government’s performance on COVID-19 updates,” said Ambassador Mizuuchi, who was flanked by second secretary for economics Soma Minami.

The Ambassador, however, requested the Zambian Government to consider holding COVID-19 media updates more frequently.

He said the Japanese Embassy relied on the accurate information from the COVID-19 briefings to update the Japanese

Dora dates Japanese Envoy

Government and its citizens, who were repatriated to Japan when the COVID-19 pandemic began.

And Siliya said the Zambian government appreciates the assistance that the Japanese Government continues to render to it in many sectors.

Siliya, who is also Minister of Information, said government is keen to sustain the warm relations which exist between Zambia and Japan for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

She also said government was eager to further deepen cooperation between Japan and Zambia in the Information and Broadcasting and tourism sectors.

“We want to see how we can support the media in documentary making as well as other areas so that we can enhance the dissemination of information to the people. The entertainment industry is another area which Government wants to support. Currently the industry lacks the necessary tools to take information out there. We have seen the great things which Japan has been able to achieve through disseminating information to its citizens. We want to

collaborate and learn from Japan,” said Siliya, who was flanked by Information Permanent Secretary Amos Malupenga.

Siliya said government was working hard to ensure that all members of the public were not left behind in accessing correct information on COVID-19.

She said the council of Ministers headed by the Vice-President would soon meet to discuss the need to carry out an assessment to ascertain the status of the pandemic.

Siliya said part of the assessment would be aimed at understanding science findings that suggest that the Coronavirus spreads more rapidly in the cold season.

Meanwhile, Siliya said government has already put in place a plan which would guide on how to escalate or de-escalate interventions in response to the prevailing situation.

The Minister also commended the media for their role in sharing COVID-19 information to the public.

Siliya further called on the public to be cautious and follow the advice from the health experts saying the wave of the Covid-19 pandemic might not disappear quickly.



L-r: Muchinga MMD MP Howard Kunda, Chiengi FDD MP Given Katuta, Lumezi Independent MP Getrude Jere, Wusakile Independent MP Pavyuma Kalobo and Bwana Mukubwa PF MP receiving a petition on Bill 10 from the Authentic Advocates for Justice and Democracy outside Parliament - Picture By Tenson Mkhala

PF youths write Nigerian govt in protest against Seer 1

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

PATRIOTIC Front (PF) youths, led by their national chairperson Kelvin Sampa, have protested Nigerian Prophet Andrew Ejimadu’s attacks on President Edgar Lungu in a letter addressed to the Nigerian government.

In a protest letter dated June 9, 2020, addressed to the Nigerian Ambassador in Zambia and signed by Sampa and 10 PF youth chairmen from all the 10 provinces, the youths charged that the continued social media

utterances against government by Ejimadu, a Nigerian national popularly known as prophet Seer 1, were aimed at defaming the Head of State.

“It is my singular honour to write you, Your Excellency. Kindly accept my utmost regards and considerations. Your Excellency, I write to protest in the strongest terms the sustained unwarranted inflammatory, malicious, slanderous and criminally defamatory attacks by the said Mr Andrew Ejimadu,

popularly known as Prophet Seer 1 against His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia and his Government. Mr Ejimadu, the founder of Christ Freedom Ministries (CFM) once lived in Lusaka, Zambia, and was arrested and deported in 2016 for allegedly raping a teenage girl, among other numerous allegations against him,” Sampa stated in the letter.

“For months on end, Mr Ejimadu has been running a sustained hate and propaganda campaign via social media and television platforms against President Lungu and his government. He has been using these platforms to maliciously and criminally defame and malign President Lungu and his senior government officials. As National Youth Chairperson for the ruling Patriotic Front Party and as a bonafide Citizen of the Republic of Zambia, I find Mr Ejimadu’s utterances and conduct highly offensive, repugnant and an affront to the sovereignty and territorial authority of our state, Zambia.”

He stated that Seer 1’s utterances should not be allowed to continue as they were targeted at inciting hate and anger among Zambians against an elected leadership.

“It’s been observed that Mr Ejimadu’s attacks are aimed at raising hate and anger in the Zambian people so that they can rise against a legitimately-elected President and his government. This is totally unacceptable and cannot be allowed to continue,” complained Sampa.

Govt will breach constitution if it presents amended Bill 10 to Parley – LAZ

By Ulande Nkomesha

THE Law Association of Zambia says gazettion of amendments to Constitution Amendment Bill number 10 of 2019 is unlawful and meant to sway public opinion on the bill.

In a statement, Tuesday, LAZ stated that it was concerned that the publication in Government Gazette No. 534 of 2020 dated 12th June, 2020 of the Constitution Amendment Bill did not form part of the bill that was introduced at first reading in parliament last year.

“The Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) is deeply concerned by the publication in the Government Gazette No. 534 of 2020 dated 12th June 2020 of the Constitution Amendment Bill No. 10 of 2019, which contains numerous proposed amendments to the republican Constitution, which are different from the original Bill published in Gazette Notice No. 660 of Friday, 21st June, 2019 preceding its presentation in Parliament for First reading on Friday, 2nd August, 2019. This is concerning to LAZ as the newly published amendments do not form part of the bill as introduced at first reading in Parliament by government

and its publication in the gazette may only serve to sway public opinion on the Bill without guaranteeing its enactment and its re-publication is not supported by law,” read the statement issued by the Council of the Law Association of Zambia.

“LAZ has perused the Standing orders 2016, which regulate the procedure of the National Assembly and its conduct of business including stages of a bill. According to the Standing orders 2016, a bill to amend the constitution cannot be passed unless at least thirty days before the first reading of the bill in the Assembly, the text of the bill is published in the Gazette and the bill is supported on second and third readings by the votes of not less than two-thirds of all the members of the Assembly. When a bill has been read the first time, it is committed to an appropriate committee for examination and at second reading, parliament proceeds to consider the bill taking into account the report of the Committee. The committee of the National Assembly reports to the whole house and it is only the committee which has power to propose an amendment to a Bill for consideration of the whole House. Procedure for amendments to bills is

clearly spelt out in the Standing Orders.”

LAZ stated that there was no procedure which permitted government to publish in the government gazette different texts to amend the constitution which was already going through the stages established by the Standing Orders.

“LAZ therefore finds it strange and concerning that before the Committee on Bill No 10 of 2019 could report to the whole House, together with its proposed amendments thereon for debate during second reading of the Bill, the government has opted to accept some of the committee’s recommendations and reject many others and publish another version of the same Bill containing what government considers acceptable,” read the statement.

“It is LAZ’s position that there is no procedure which permits government to publish in the government Gazette different texts of a Bill to amend the Constitution which is already going through the stages as established by Standing Orders promulgated under Article 77 of the Constitution of Zambia. Government cannot cherry pick what it considers desirable proposals of a

Committee and reject numerous others and publish the same purporting to form part of the Bill.”

LAZ stated it would be a serious breach of the Constitution if government went ahead to present the published purported amended Bill 10 in Parliament.

“In the event that government supports some of the proposed amendments by the Committee, it must support the same on the floor of the house during the debate at second reading at which event a vote will be called, requiring the support of not less than two-thirds of all the members of the Assembly, for the Bill to progress to third reading,” the statement read.

“If government agrees with numerous stakeholders including LAZ that Bill No. 10 of 2019 is retrogressive, as the publishing of another version of the same bill appears to suggest it must withdraw the current Bill No. 10 of 2019 from Parliament in its entirety and not present the purported Amended Bill No. 10 of 2019 in Parliament. Doing otherwise will be a serious breach of the Republican Constitution and will not be in tandem with the rule of law, upon which LAZ was founded and mandated to promote and protect.”

PATSON Daka has admitted that he has a responsibility on him at RB Salzburg following Erling Haaland's exit.

Haaland left the Austrian giants in January to sign a four-and-a-half-year at Borussia Dortmund.

Prior to his exit, the Norwegian star scored 16 league goals but Daka is now the leading top scorer in Jesse Marsch's team with 23 goals after 25 league appearances.

The Zambia international disclosed that the presence of his compatriot Enock Mwepu has earned Die Mozartstadter support from the African country.

"It doesn't matter if we're playing against Manchester United or Real Madrid - everybody's supporting Red Bull because of us," Daka told BBC World Service.

"Right now it's really crazy in Zambia. Most of the time people ask, 'how can we get the jerseys?'"

"He [Haaland] made sure he left us in a very good position - so it was now up to us, up to me also, to take the

Patson: It is my time at RB Salzburg after Haaland's exit

responsibility.

"It has always been there but this time it was kind of different. When you're given this kind of opportunity, you have to utilise it and grab it with both your hands and I felt like this is the time now."

Before Daka, Liverpool duo Sadio Mane and Naby Keita are some of the established stars that rose through the ranks at Salzburg.

The 21-year-old, who was crowned the 2017 Caf Young Player of Year, was spotted by former Mali and Sevilla striker Frederic Kanoute during a continental youth tournament, and he said playing for the Austrian club is an opportunity.

"After we went for the under-17 Africa Cup, that's when he saw me and he

contacted my club manager," he added.

"I was then with Kafue Celtic and we started talking. That's how we finally got to

meet and that's how he also gave me the opportunity to come to Europe.

"I think it has been proven. Look at the likes of

Sadio Mane, Naby Keita and Minamino - a lot of players that have played here really excelled.

"The club gives

opportunities to every person, so I feel for me to be here is a blessing and I also want to utilise this opportunity." **GOAL**

Werner refuses to play in Champions League for RB Leipzig as £54m Chelsea deal draws near

TIMO Werner has indicated that he is unwilling to return to RB Leipzig in August in order to complete his side's Champions League run after Chelsea agreed to meet his buyout clause of £54 million (\$68m) ahead of a move to Stamford Bridge next season.

The 24-year-old is due to complete the Bundesliga season in just 11 days' time, but he is not willing to come back and play in Europe

despite Leipzig having reached the quarter-finals of the competition for the first time after their last-16 win over Tottenham.

UEFA wants to complete both the Champions League and Europa League in August once league seasons have been finished across the continent.

But with the German top flight set to be completed on June 27, that leaves over a

month between games for those clubs still in European competition.

Goal can confirm that Werner wants to move to

west London as soon as possible after the Bundesliga is finished so as to acclimatise to life in England ahead of the 2020-21 campaign. **GOAL**



Mulenga narrates how he was expelled from 2012 AfCON after drinking spree

By Abraham Kalito

FORMER Chipolopolo winger Clifford Mulenga has narrated in detail what transpired at the 2012 AfCON where he and four others were expelled for sneaking out of camp for a drinking spree.

And the former Mpumalanga ace star has revealed that it is common among footballers in camps to sneak in ladies for quick 'relief sex'.

In a conversation with Kenndy Gondwe's 'Studio Ken', Mulenga says he was in the company of four other players at the time but then Chipolopolo coach Herve Renard used him as a scapegoat and expelled him so that those who remained could learn a lesson.

He said the decision came as a shock to him.

"I was told that I had broken curfew for having gone out to drink. Yes, I did (go out to drink). It was a night that we had just won, qualified to the quarter finals. The guys that I went with felt like having a beer to celebrate. So, we just went out as a group; there were five of us that went out. We did not get permission from anyone but the captain knew about our going out so basically, the captain gave us permission to go. At that moment when you think of the team, I don't think we were allowed to go but because we were in a celebrating mood, we felt it was ok to go out and have a few beers. I was used as a scapegoat to set an example; I believe because to start with, I was not the one who came up with the idea to go out," Mulenga said.

"And when we came back from that outing, I was ok, I reported for breakfast as usual, there were two guys that did not report for breakfast. So, when they made a decision that I should leave, it did come as a shock to me as well. The morning after the

outing, only three of us reported for breakfast, the other two did not because obviously they were drunk and had girls. Three of the guys did leave with girls that night and the two of us, me and Hichani Himonde didn't leave with girls. People are going to start asking who these people were, I was with Hichani Himonde, he was the one who was slapped by the coach. I was almost punched but my phone was thrown against the wall, he (Renard) actually owes me a phone, I am going to tell him."

And Mulenga said sneaking in women in camps for quick 'relief sex' is common among footballers.

"I have a tendency of protecting my friends and had I told the coach that others brought girls; it could have been a bigger issue. It's a very common issue (bringing ladies in camp for sex). Sometimes you stay in camp for a long time and you just want to relieve yourself. So, we did bring some girls. I regret not speaking out at that moment, I should have told the coach that we were five out us and I should have told him what happened the previous night because I didn't even have a girl at that moment, the only mistake I made was to drink a beer and go out," Mulenga continued.

"For some of us, sex makes us loosen up, it makes us loosen up because you know when you have been training for too long, you kind of get tense and heavy and you want a way to get the blood flowing as you call it. It depends with the kind of sex you are having. Relief sex, quick sex, bang-bang, thank you, I feel good. Next time that's it."

The 2007 Young African Footballer of the year said emotions had gotten the better part of him his entire career and cost him life changing opportunities.

"I think it's because of my past with

the national team, I have had my run-in with the national team previously and people were aware of it and if they told people that I was the mischievous one in that camp, people would easily believe it instead of the guys that were actually in the wrong that night. I'm an emotional person, at times I tend to react immediately at that moment and regret later. I like things to go my way so when things don't go my way, I react badly," he explained.

"Unfortunately for me, I have been unable to control my emotions in crucial moments like that, for example at that tournament, we were the team of the tournament and we were beating everyone easily but when we faced the host team, we struggled to find a goal and I was almost scoring a goal and that guy tackled me so in that moment of frustration, I reacted badly, ended up hitting him and I was sent off. I guess I never learnt in time that my emotions were costing me a lot of opportunities."

He said he intends to play on for two more seasons before hanging his boots.

"People that know me will tell you that I'm strict with my mind and usually people mistake that as being arrogant. The longest I have stayed at a club is two years; the rest of the time, it's just a season and I move. Like I said earlier on, when things don't go my way, I feel like I need to move on. I guess I just made bad decisions a lot of times and they cost me a lot. I can't go back and rectify, but going forward, I have learnt my lessons. And I am thankful to people like Simataa Simataa and (former President) Rupiah Banda, they tried to show me the right way. I still want to play. I actually want to play here in Zambia so I'm hoping Zanaco can sign me but we will see how it goes," said Mulenga.

Video shows Man Utd teenager Angel Gomes visiting prophet in attempt to heal his injury

ANGEL Gomes has responded to a video circulating on social media which shows the Manchester United teenager visiting a prophet in Nigeria in an attempt to heal his injury woes.

Gomes began his United journey at the age of six when he was selected to train in the club's academy, where he spent 11 years before graduating to the first team in 2017.

He has since made 10 senior appearances for the Red Devils, and is reportedly on the verge of signing a contract extension which will see him remain at Old Trafford beyond the summer.

However, a two-minute clip of the English playmaker has surfaced on social media which serves as clear evidence of his fitness struggles just before his breakthrough.

Gomes can be seen opening up on his injury problems while attending T.B. Joshua's Synagogue Church of All Nations in Nigeria.

The teenager explained why he sought out the

prophet after being advised by his parents, as he states in the video: "My name is Angel Gomes, I'm from Manchester. I'm sixteen.

"I play for Manchester United Football Club. And I've been struggling really with injuries.

"I've been having injuries around my hip and groin which have been affecting me playing. I also suffered an ankle injury not long ago which kept me out for a long time.

"These injuries would come at hard times for me, times when I was having a breakthrough or times when I had to go to a tournament or playing games, these injuries would happen quite frequently.

"I play for Man United, I also represent the England national team Under-17 level as captain. I've known about the Synagogue Church of Nations for a long time.

"As my family follows the prophet, my parents are big fans. So we thought it would be a good time for me to come and be touched by the prophet." **GOAL**

Clifford narrates 2012 AfCON expulsion odeal... WE WENT OUT FOR BEER AND GIRLS

By Abraham Kalito
FORMER Chipolopolo winger Clifford Mulenga has narrated in detail what transpired at the 2012 AfCON where he and four others were expelled for sneaking out of camp for a drinking spree.
And the former Mpumalanga ace star has revealed that it is common among footballers in camps to sneak in ladies for quick

'relief sex'.
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He said the decision came as a shock to him.

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Former Chipolopolo winger Clifford Mulenga

It is my time at RB Salzburg after Haaland's exit, says Patson
Story page 11

CLARIFICATION
In our Monday edition, we published a story headlined **"NAPSA STARS TRAINS ...as FAZ issues warning over breaking Ministry of Health safety guidelines"**.
This was from an interview NAPSA Stars Captain Dickson Chapa gave the club's media team confirming that the players have resumed group training in the Gym.
However, we inadvertently omitted to indicate that such training is taking place in the gym and in groups in line with the set health guidelines in view of COVID-19.
The Ministry of Health has allowed Gym training for clubs with strict safety guidelines to be adhered to by all participants.
We regret any inconvenience caused on NAPSA resulting from the above story.
Editor

Rugby Union adopts RMS

By Abraham Kalito
THE Zambia Rugby Union says it is using the COVID-19 'downtime' to implement ScrumIT Rugby Management System (RMS) to streamline the administration of the union and empower clubs in Zambia.
According to a press release, Zambia Rugby President Brigadier General Clement Sinkala says the union has embarked on improving its administrative capacity by adopting the use of the RMS, an online Rugby administration and player registration software which is internet based developed in South African and accessible from any browser.
"When the novel Coronavirus rudely

interrupted all sports in the world and in Zambia, my Board and I decided to look at avenues to use the 'downtime' to improve rugby in Zambia. Implementing the ScrumIT system was a wise decision and I believe that the Zambia Rugby Union and all our Members will benefit greatly down the line from increased efficiency and enhanced governance compliance," Brig Gen Sinkamba said.
Zambia has thus emulated South Africa, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Botswana who have been using the software for sometime.
The ScrumIT system has a range of features that include: Union and

Club/School Management, Player registrations, Talent identification and squad management, Document and video management services, Fixture management, Online real-time scoring with integrated competition logs, Social media integration, Individual player statistics, Next of kin contact information, medical aid information, Player transfers (Inter-club, inter-regional and international), Referee management and allocations, Coaching Management, Inter-club and federation communication (bulk email), Player injury recording, Disciplinary process and player sanction management, Comprehensive reporting services.