



British Prime Minister
Boris Johnson

Boris questions relevance of giving huge aid to Zambia

By Miriam Chabala
BRITISH Prime Minister Boris Johnson says his country needs to strengthen its position in an "intensely competitive world by making sensible changes" to its international relations. Johnson said this when he announced the merger of the Department of International Development (DFID) and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) into one new department to bring together Britain's international effort. He wondered why Zambia should get the same amount of aid as Ukraine when the latter was vital for European security.
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Catholic PF MPs don't mean well – Chikoya

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
COUNCIL of Churches in Zambia (CCZ) general secretary Fr Emmanuel Chikoya says if the Association of Catholic Parliamentarians meant well, it should have incorporated views from all Catholic MPs across the political divide.
Story page 7

KAMPYONGO BLAMES HH For bicycle scandal confusion

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
HOME Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo says the confusion surrounding the police bicycles was created by a coordinated propaganda team which is hell bent on maligning government officials. But Kampyongo has warned that police and ZICTA will soon identify the people behind social media sites which were used to spread falsehood about the cost of bicycles.
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President Edgar Lungu (r) talks to United States Charge d'affaires to Zambia David Young at State House yesterday
- Picture by Salim Henry

We're not proposing closure, violence against Diggers – Malupenga

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
INFORMATION Permanent Secretary Amos Malupenga says his ministry was not in any way proposing closure or violence against News Diggers when it warned that the newspaper should have itself to blame for calling youths as "stupid."
Story page 4



We erroneously added "Limited" to Honey Bee Pharmacy when awarding contract - MoH

By Julia Malunga
THE Ministry of Health says it erroneously added the word "Limited" to Honey Bee Pharmacy when it was awarding a US\$17 million contract to the company for the supply and delivery of health centre kits. An investigation by News Diggers revealed that government, through the Ministry of Health last year awarded a US\$17 million contract for the supply of health centre kits to a company called Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited, which did not exist at the time.
Story page 4

By Julia Malunga

VARIOUS political parties say the proposed hiking of nomination fees by the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) is unreasonable.

In a statement, Wednesday, Patriotic Front secretary general Davies Mwila said the party did not support the proposal to hike, describing the suggested fees as discriminatory.

“PF does not support the upward adjustment of nomination fees announced by the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ). As a militant organization of revolutionary peasants, workers and intellectuals that believes in equitable participation in the affairs of our nation by all citizens regardless of socio-economic status, the Patriotic Front wishes to register its strongest displeasure with the proposed upward revision of nomination fees as recently announced by the Electoral Commission of Zambia. The proposed upward revision is not only elitist, but it would also be tantamount to the commercialization of participation in democratic processes where the destiny of the majority ‘have nots’ is hijacked by a minority ‘haves’,” stated Mwila.

“Patriotic Front remains committed to the participation and representation in democratic processes of youth, women and differently abled persons as a matter of right and not privilege. We support their proportional representation in Parliament as proposed under Bill 10, and we further call for lower nomination fees in order to maximize involvement of the youth, women and differently abled persons in running the affairs of the

Proposed hike in ECZ nomination fees unreasonable – Political parties



nation. In order to safeguard our country’s democracy, we call for downward adjustment instead. Zambia must not be put up for auction to the highest bidder.”

And UPND deputy secretary general Patrick Mucheleka, however, said his party was still on the fence regarding the proposal.

“We have to be very careful and we are aware that the PF is trying to use Zambia Centre for Inter Party Dialogue (ZCID) which is an extension of the PF so they want to use it to bargain the fees. This is why we will not rush at either condemning, agreeing or disagreeing. We are appreciating that indeed democracy has to thrive but we also have to put into account a lot of factors. We shall get back to ECZ with our proposals in the next few days once we make the necessary consultations,” said Mucheleka.

But National Democratic Congress (NDC) leader Chishimba Kambwili said the commission should have consulted the stakeholders before proposing the fees as they were unreasonable.

“If we want to enhance our democracy and have the people’s faith in governance what is supposed to be done is that there must be consultations. Before ECZ came up with those figures, they would have called all stakeholders political parties, Civil Society and the charges so that these issues are agreed before they go to the ears of the general public. But in the nutshell, the prices are unreasonable and I think that must be withdrawn. There is no way...even the K7, 500 for the MPs is too much for a lot of people. So if we have to enhance our democracy, we must think of the decision and policies that we are coming up with in commiserate with

the general earning and the financial status of our country. This idea of copy and paste will put us into so many problems,” said Kambwili.

Meanwhile, People’s Alliance for Change (PAC) president Andyford Banda suggested that the commission lobbies for funds from the government.

He said his party would be affected because a lot of young people would not be able to participate in the elections.

“The decision by ECZ to increase the nomination fees is not welcome. We don’t want to create a situation where democracy or people who should vie for positions in this country are those that are deemed to be rich. I think the idea of democracy is to give every citizen a platform to actually vie for positions in the country. One of the things they need to do is to mobilize funds from the government. One of the reasons why we pay tax is because they need to

make sure that this democratic process is maintained,” said Banda.

“We believe this will disadvantage young people especially those who want to stand as councilors and MPs and for the ECZ to ask them to pay a K25,000 that is not fair. On top of that, they need to mobilize funds to do their campaign. We would like to call on the ECZ to be realistic and the fees to be revised otherwise we will be selling leadership in this country where the highest bidder takes the position. As PAC this will disadvantage us because a lot of young people will not be able to pay.”

Meanwhile, Continental Leadership Research Institute director (CLRI) Mundia Hakoola said the proposed fees would reduce the quality

of candidates that participated in the elections as many people might not afford the fees.

“The proposed fees will also reduce the quality of candidates to participate as many might not be able to afford the fees making therefore comprising the quality of candidates that we will have in parliament and various decision making organs, already we have Members of Parliament whose level of participation in the house is very poor and doesn’t inspire any confidence to our generation and challenges that we face as young people,” stated Hakoola.

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

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

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PF cadres disrupt another HH radio programme

By Mirriam Chabala

SUSPECTED ruling Patriotic Front cadres on Monday evening disrupted a live telephone interview at Kwenje Radio featuring opposition UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema by tempering with the power supply system.

The live transmission of Hichilema’s interview was cut mid-way, about 50 minutes into the programme.

The opposition leader, however, continued with the phone interview which was recorded for airing at a later time.

He thanked the UPND youths in Chama who protected staff at Kwenje radio from harassment.

“Under the UPND government, no opposition party will be made to endure such measures, just to be able to enjoy their democratic rights. The culture of thuggery and intolerance will end with our government,” stated Hichilema in a Facebook post shortly after the disruption.

Meanwhile, commenting on this incident in an interview, UPND deputy secretary general Getrude Imenda charged the PF government was no different from the Janjaweed of Western Sudan as they were also training militia groups amongst their cadres.

Imenda said Zambians were under a fully-fledged dictatorship and a militia style of governance.

“I think Zesco will have to also be put to account because this is not the first time that PF cadres have cut the power supply to a radio station where UPND or HH is featuring. You know, this should tell the people of Zambia what regime we are living under. We are under a fully-

fledged dictatorship and not only dictatorship but it’s a militia style of governing that we are in. These people in PF are they any different from the Janjaweed of Western Sudan? They are not different from those that instigated the Darfur [genocide] in Sudan. No wonder this government is in good friendship with Sudan because we know that they sent their cadres to be trained in Sudan, they said they (the cadres) went for training. But what kind of training can you get in Sudan other than terrorism?” Imenda asked.

“So this kind of behaviour and what PF is doing is terrorism of the worst kind. The only difference is that this is state terrorism. Otherwise, where was the police when these PF cadres went to disrupt and threaten the journalists?”

Imenda also wondered why police were unavailable to protect citizens from such attacks when they were always ready to arrest those wanting to organize peaceful protests.

“It is shocking that the police are nowhere to be seen when such things are happening because when people want to demonstrate peacefully and follow the law, they are not allowed. Even where people who want to protest take their letter of notice to the police, the person who takes the notice is arrested and put in in cells and then you read in the media comments from the PF and their surrogates to say ‘we will not allow anarchy’. Do they even know the definition of anarchy? Anarchy is when you are operating outside the law like what happened in Chama, that is what is called anarchy. But if you are operating within the law, it cannot be anarchy,” said Imenda.

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

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)

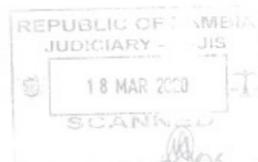
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A MONEY LENDERS CERTIFICATE

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 18th day of JUNE 2020.

Saviour Mumba
CLERK OF THE COURT

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



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

By Julia Malunga

THE Ministry of Health says it erroneously added the word limited to Honey Bee Pharmacy when it was awarding a US\$17 million contract to the company for the supply and delivery of health centre kits.

An investigation by News Diggers revealed that government, through the Ministry of Health last year awarded a US\$17 million contract for the supply of health centre kits to a company called Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited, which did not exist at the time.

In a statement, Wednesday, Ministry of Health spokesperson Dr Abel Kabalo claimed that Honey Bee pharmacy was duly awarded the contract.

"The Ministry of Health notes with deep concern news alleging that Government through the Ministry of Health, last year awarded a USD17 million contract for the supply of health centre kits to a company called Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited, which did not exist. We wish to put the record straight as follows; in order to avert a stock out that would follow the cessation of supply by a longstanding supplier, the Ministry of Health, opted to engage other players in the pharmaceutical market for the supply and delivery of Health Centre Kits as a stop gap measure," read the statement.

"Ten entities participated in the tender which was subject to the requisite stringent legal and administrative processes in line with the Public Procurement Act. Following the requisite administrative process, Honey Bee Pharmacy was duly awarded the contract together with two other entities. However, when it came to conveyancing of the contract for Honey Bee Pharmacy in particular, the term "Limited" was erroneously added."

Dr Kabalo stated that adding 'limited' was a common phenomenon that occurred in the transcription of documents.

We erroneously added "Limited" to Honey Bee Pharmacy when awarding contract – MoH

"Although the slip whereby the word "limited" was erroneously added, is a common phenomenon that from time to time universally occurs in the transcription of documents, the Ministry of Health holding itself to a high standard, deeply regrets the clerical error and will ensure such a slip does not recur," read the statement.

He insisted that Honey Bee Pharmacy remained the appropriate entity awarded the contract.

He said none of the awarded entities had been paid.

"As per legal guidance, the appropriate entity awarded the contract remains Honey Bee Pharmacy as all the statutory documents in support of the bid such as certificates of registration, ZRA certificates and ZAMRA registration correctly bore the appellation "Honey Bee Pharmacy" (Without "Limited"). The contract to Honey Bee Pharmacy and two other entities was given the necessary administrative and legal approvals prior to award," stated Dr Kabalo.

"It is critical to note that there has been NO financial or material loss on the part of government, as the terms of the contract are that Honey Bee Pharmacy and the 2 other entities that have been awarded, use their own funds to source the Health kits before they are paid."

According to the News Diggers Investigation, records at the ministry show that a solicitation document for the tender was issued on October 7, 2019 and the evaluation of bids was done on October 22, 2019, while the contract between Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited and Ministry of Health was

signed on November 22, 2019.

But Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA) records do not show any company that existed prior to 2019 registered as Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited.

Research showed that Honeybee Pharmacy had been a sole trading name for an individual named Imran Lunat, with records at PACRA indicating that it was registered as a business name on April 14, 2016.

On October 16, 2019, another company called Honeybee Pharmaceuticals Limited was incorporated, with shareholders namely Zakir Husen Motala, Abdurrauf Motala and Yousouf Jasat, but according to Ministry of Health records, this was not the name of the company that was awarded the US\$17 million contract. The company that was awarded the contract is Honeybee Pharmacy Limited.

Further, a search at PACRA showed that another company now called Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited, which corresponds with the company that was awarded the contract, was incorporated on April 1, 2020, with shareholders namely Imran Lunat, who was also registered as a sole trader for Honeybee Pharmacy, Zakir Husen Motala and Abdurrauf Abdurrahim Motala.

When contacted to explain how Honey Bee Pharmacy was awarded a US\$17 million contract when it was not incorporated at PACRA, Lunat said that was for the ministry to explain, adding that the tender process was followed.

He confirmed that the contract was not awarded to

Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited, which ironically appears on the tender documents, but to the sole trader Honey Bee Pharmacy.

"The contract was not awarded to the Limited, it was awarded to Honey Bee pharmacy, not Limited. Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited, from what I know, was registered later on. Honey Bee Pharmacy has been running since 2015. It is the same directors, there is a group of directors who have come together, so they have created another name but the contract was not awarded to the Limited," Lunat explained.

Asked how he won the US\$17 million contract if the limited company was not registered with PACRA at the time, Lunat said he was no longer a director for the company that won the contract, as he was now working for the new owners of the company and was not responsible for decisions.

"I don't know, you can ask them. That is something you can speak with them. I think there is a tender process that went through. I am not sitting on the board of directors. I used to be a director but I am no longer a director. So I don't make any decisions, I don't deal with them, I am now a worker for them," said Lunat.

Roan PF councillor resigns

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

PATRIOTIC Front (PF) Lumumba Ward 22 councillor in Roan constituency Angel Kahale has resigned.

According to his resignation letter dated June 12, 2020 addressed to secretary general Davies Mwila, Kahale disclosed that he had decided to leave the ruling party because he had been victimized by senior party officials on the Copperbelt Province.

"I chose not to open the 'Pandora box' or play to the gallery owing to the fact that I love the party and that I chose in the first place to offer service to humanity/community with no personal interest. Suffice to say that I made mention that in as much as I knew that the same by-election could be adequately funded and hopefully won, I urged you and the President to consider my matter with the seriousness it deserved than allow my concerns [to] fall on deaf ears," Kahale stated.

"I mentioned to you, sir, that I was 'though still' a very unfortunate victim of some retrogressive agenda as a result of some personal hatred perpetuated by some senior party officials in the hierarchy of the party structures whose stance towards my operation as a civic leader was obstinate."

He lamented that despite sacrificing so much for the ruling party, he continued being regarded as less important in the affairs of the PF.

"I feel not regarded as an important component of the foregoing, even when I lost my job and sold some properties to support the party in the 2016 election. I, therefore, regret to announce to you, sir, that I have stepped down with immediate effect, especially that the matter was earlier discussed. I want to make this clear that now I am resigning as a PF councillor for the same embattled ward, Lumumba, on moral grounds, as well as in search for greener pastures. I want to thank you utmost for according me an opportunity for having served as a councillor under your able leadership," stated Kahale.

Kambwili condemns Dora for inciting youths to attack *Diggers*

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

NDC president Chishimba Kambwili says if there will be any attack on News Diggers or its reporters, police must arrest Information Minister Dora Siliya for inciting violence.

And Kambwili says police should move in and arrest former Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA) chief executive officer Zindaba Soko for illegally drawing fuel amounting to K55,000 after leaving the institution.

Early this week, Siliya wrote to News Diggers, stating that the newspaper had opened itself to attacks from youths for using the word "stupid" in its editorial opinion headlined "Stupid disgruntled youths should think twice before dancing Dununa next time".

But in an interview, Kambwili wondered why Dora was inciting youths to attack a media institution for quoting what Lusaka Province Minister Bowman Lusambo said.

"They have closed Prime TV and they are not willing to open it. Now they are targeting News Diggers because they don't want anybody who is exposing their shortcomings and their corrupt practices. I would like to urge News Diggers to be steadfast, be focused and tell nothing but the truth. So, forget about Dora threatening you or questioning you as she puts it," Kambwili said.

"And to my surprise, how can she say that 'if they are attacked by youths, they should know what to do'. What is she insinuating? In my own interpretation, she is the one who is telling the PF youths to go and attack News Diggers reporters. So, if there is going to be any harassment by PF cadres on News Diggers reporters, the blame must be on Dora and the police must arrest her for inciting violence."

Kambwili wondered why Siliya kept quiet when Lusambo used the term on the youths but quick to threaten a media house for quoting the minister.

"Dora has been caught pants down. Dora did not say anything when Lusambo insulted the youths that stupid. It was Lusambo who said 'stupid disgruntled youths' and Dora never said anything. The Ministry of Religious Affairs also never said anything. Now when the paper quoted Lusambo in the article, they now want to threaten the News Diggers that they are using derogatory language. What is good for the goose must be good for the

gander. And madam Siliya must be ashamed of herself," Kambwili said.

And Kambwili said it was clear that Soko had the backing of some individuals within RTSA.

"It is theft! If you collect something that you are not entitled to, you are stealing. Soko has been stealing fuel from RTSA. He is not an employee of RTSA and he is not entitled to fuel. He knew that he was not entitled, but he went ahead and drew fuel worth K55,000. This idea of saying, 'we will sort it out administratively' when people are stealing is what is making people corrupt and continue stealing public resources. Imagine, if it was me with a report that I drew fuel after I had left the Ministry, what could have happened? Police would have already been on me!" Kambwili said.

"I don't think if Soko had no backing from the system, he can do what he did. You saw the nolle prosequi in his case, so it has become normal in this country that people can do acts of corruption and enter a nolle prosequi, they can draw fuel even if they know that they are not entitled and the issue can be dealt with administratively. What a country! If it was somebody else, you could have seen headlines in their newspapers and police coming to pick somebody as if he is a treason criminal or as if somebody was about to do a coup d'état! But for others, they just say, 'oh, it's been dealt with administratively'. What a country!"

He said police should not always wait for people to produce a physical report, but should take swift action when such cases were exposed.

"This country is now an Animal Farm. Some animals are more important than others. A lot of people have been taken to the police for such matters, but why are they treating Soko with kid-gloves? And the mere fact that the police have also read about it, sometimes you don't need to move the police by making a report. They should also pay attention to newspaper articles and follow up on their own," said Kambwili.

Kambwili was commenting on a revelation where RTSA had fired its transport manager Mulenga Chibabala for failure to retrieve a Total Petroleum Limited Fuel Card (TomCard) from Soko, which he used to draw fuel amounting to K55,000 long after he had been dismissed from the agency.

We're not proposing closure, violence against *Diggers* – Malupenga

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

INFORMATION Permanent Secretary Amos Malupenga says his ministry was not in any way proposing closure or violence against News Diggers when it warned that the newspaper should have itself to blame for calling youths as "stupid."

Responding to questions from journalists at a press briefing in Lusaka, Wednesday, Malupenga said the ministry would invite News Diggers managing director Joseph Mwenda to make him understand the context in which the statement was made.

"All what the minister is saying is that when the need arises, the ministry will provide that counsel or that advice. And like she rightly said [that] two wrongs don't make a right because [News] Diggers is saying it was Lusambo who used that word and the Minister is saying... and that is the example she was giving of the uncle who was saying 'don't insult' and then you say talk to the other

uncle before you can come to talk to me. And in giving that advice, it is not in any way suggesting that government is proposing violence against the newspaper or closure. It is just a reminder that as we communicate, we must use the language that is palatable and repeating a wrong word or an insult may not necessarily be a good enough defence," Malupenga said.

He said the difference between the newspaper and the ministry was more of a "family talk".

"And that is not to say the uncle who used that [word] is right. There will be other procedures that will ensure that that uncle who could have used unpalatable language is also reminded [to say] 'when you are communicating, you communicate in this way'. We can summarise that as family talk. So, as a parent, when she (Dora Siliya) sees that two things are not going well in our family, we need to speak to each other. So that is just family talk. When there is a misunderstanding, we can

exchange," he said.

"So, maybe I will invite the MD for News Diggers Mr Joseph Mwenda so that we can compare notes and explain to him that this is the context in which the minister guided. And we seize the opportunity to reassure colleagues that the government as you heard the President last week saying 'the government is for freedom of expression' but let us always remember that that is not practiced in isolation. We have the professional guidelines that will guide us on how far we can go."

And Malupenga said no media should feel threatened because his ministry is there to support the industry.

"So, no one should feel threatened. Just like you (media) if you have issues to share with the ministry, you can come and engage the minister on your concern. Everyone should feel very free for as long as they are within the parameters of the law and the professional guidelines," said Malupenga.

By Diggers Reporter

CEC has no special attachment to the Bulk Supply Agreement (BSA) and is not fighting for its reinstatement, says Copperbelt Energy Corporation Plc (CEC) Senior Manager – Account Management, Mulenga Bwalya. And Bwalya has asserted that it is not possible for someone to lose more money than they can possibly make from a contract.

This is contrary to claims made by Patrick Mwila, Zesco's Director of Strategy and Corporate Services, Patrick Mwila that Zesco was losing over \$200 million annually due to the "unfair and one-sided" nature of the BSA.

Bwalya described the BSA as having been an important agreement that guided the commercial relationship between CEC and Zesco during its validity but that with its expiry, CEC had moved on and was looking to enter into other appropriate and mutually acceptable agreements.

"What is never said by Zesco is that the BSA granted them exclusivity of power supply to CEC. This means that the BSA did not allow CEC to source or buy power from anywhere else other than Zesco. How was that not a benefit to them, especially given that the region has sold cheaper power than Zesco on several occasions?"

Quizzed about Zesco's claim of having sustained major financial losses due to the BSA, Mulenga stated that CEC's income is about \$80 million per year from its power supply business to the mines in Zambia, after paying Zesco for power purchases under the BSA.

He revealed that over the period of the BSA, CEC paid about 75% – 80% of what it earned from the mines to Zesco annually. Even if CEC was to retain zero revenue from its power sales to the mines and pay everything to Zesco, their [Zesco's] additional revenue would at the very most be \$80 million.

And Bwalya wondered how such a claim was possible because a senior person like Mwila is expected to understand that if CEC only remained with \$80 million annually after paying what was due to Zesco, even assuming that CEC paid all the money earned from the mines, it would not make up for the \$200 million Mwila claims Zesco were losing.

"How, then, can Zesco lose \$200 million?", he wondered. "How was Zesco expecting to make more money than the total value of the supply chain to the mines? This perhaps explains why the negotiations between CEC and Zesco for a new agreement failed. It would appear that Mwila expects more money from the value chain than it is able to provide at the moment. Maybe he can show us how we can make that \$200 million."

He insisted that CEC is a listed entity whose financial statements are public documents accessible to anyone and encouraged members of the public and interested parties to read and scrutinize these reports for

CEC not fighting for BSA – Bwalya

their own satisfaction.

On Mwila's claim that CEC buys subsidized electricity because Zesco generates and buys the power from independent power producers at not less than 11c/kWh, Bwalya said that CEC was not a party to the power purchase agreements that Zesco has with its suppliers of electricity, hence, it is inconceivable that the company could be blamed for losses that it has no part in creating.

Further, he explained that whereas Zesco does buy some power from independent power producers, this forms

only about 20% of the national installed capacity.

The bulk of the electricity, about 1800MW, comes from old or legacy power plants built many years ago, and that from his knowledge power from these plants is produced at about 3 cents to 4 cents per kilowatt hour.

"Based on this, my understanding is that the final generation tariff should be a weighted average of the two – that is the tariff from the old plants and the one from the new plants – but I guess they know better how to derive a tariff. This is a fundamental

theory and that's probably the reason why there is no consumer in Zambia today who is paying a tariff higher than the 13c/kWh that Mwila alluded to as the expected minimum tariff that CEC should be buying power at. If there is such a customer, we would also be interested to know about them. In any case, the Cost of Service Study currently in progress is expected to help the nation with this information."

Bwalya said CEC found it even more perplexing that while Zesco has determined that it is supplying power to

CEC and other customers at a subsidy, given the cost it takes to generate the electricity, and complaining of losing out on colossal amounts of money to a bad contract with CEC, they have in the same breath said they have given and are benefitting from a better deal with Konkola Copper Mines whom they have offered a tariff much less than 9 cents, certainly a number much lower than what they determine to be cost-reflective at not less than 13 cents.

"This raises the question of who is subsidizing who. You can't be pushing to be getting

more from one customer yet go ahead to give another customer discounted rates knowing fully well that you produce the power at a much higher cost," he stated.

He continued, "I'd go further to suggest that Zesco publicly makes available the tariffs paid by all bulk consumers to allow the public to see and judge for themselves who pays a lower tariff and who does not. If you want to undertake a quick analysis, refer to the Zesco financials and see the contribution to its revenue by mining companies against the revenue contribution of all the other sectors."

Asked about the claim that CEC is not transparent in its metering and denies Zesco access to its meters, Bwalya, who is also an expert in metering, explained that normal practice in the electricity supply industry is for representatives of all involved parties to witness meter readings being taken. In this case, meter readings to inform Zesco invoicing are taken at billing points stated in the agreement in the presence of the designated representatives of both CEC and Zesco.

"Remember that Zesco supplies power at the interface of the Zesco and CEC networks so the meters at that interface belong to Zesco, they are not CEC meters. CEC always witnesses the meter reading for the power being injected in its network. This is in accordance with the provisions of the BSA. The allegation, therefore, that CEC does not grant access to Zesco's own meters does not make sense at all. They are not our meters but theirs and our role there is to witness as they read the meters."

"However, from my reading of what Mwila said, it would appear that Zesco want to come and read the CEC meters to our customers. Again, that does not make sense and it goes against industry practice and standards. That would be similar to Zesco supplying a distributor like Northwestern Energy Corporation and instead of metering at the supply injection point to Northwestern Energy, which is the interface between the two networks, they insist on metering each house being supplied by the distributor. Alternatively, it would be like ESKOM supplying power to Zambia and insisting that they will not meter at the boarder where the two networks meet but would like to start metering each of Zesco's customers. It's important to consult the technical people with the right knowledge when people speak about certain things to avoid misleading the public."

Regarding the claim by Mwila that the CEC Board Chairman wrote to Zesco explaining that the CEC team negotiating the agreement to succeed the BSA earlier this year had no mandate to negotiate with Zesco, Bwalya said he found it very unfortunate that Mwila found it appropriate to mislead the nation on the matter when he knew, as well as CEC and Zesco did, that no such letter exists.

400 jobs will be lost due to Zesco, CEC rift, warns Mwila

By Ulande Nkomesha

MINEWORKERS Union of Zambia, Copperbelt Energy Corporation Plc (MUZ CEC) branch, says the declaration of CEC's assets as common carriers arising from Statutory Instrument No. 57 of 2020 will result in a loss of 400 jobs.

In a statement, Union branch chairperson Gift Mwila stated that 400 employees faced potential job losses that might arise from the possible restructuring of CEC's operations, induced by factors outside the control of the power utility.

She added that the Union was disheartened that the two parties involved had failed to seek solutions amicably.

"CEC branch is concerned about the negative impact on the operations of the Copperbelt Energy Corporation Plc (CEC) that the declaration of its assets, as common carrier, arising from Statutory Instrument No. 57 of 2020, is likely to have on the company's continued viability. This worrisome development is compounded by the company being owed a huge debt of more than US \$144 million by Konkola Copper Mines Plc (KCM), especially that there is no commitment on the part of KCM as to how and when the debt will be settled," Mwila stated.

"In view of the foregoing, the MUZ-CEC branch is deeply concerned that without an amicable solution in sight, CEC's 400 employees, whose interests the Union represents, face potential job losses that may arise from possible restructuring of CEC's operations induced by factors outside the control of the business; but whose resolution is not impossible if all parties involved are willing to discuss with objectivity and putting the interests of all stakeholders into consideration. The Union is further disheartened that whereas key parties to the matter are expected to be actively and amicably seeking solutions, they have resorted to using the media to throw mud at each other and in the

process painting a very bad picture about the country's investment climate."

Mwila warned that the current situation posed a serious financial constraint on CEC and that it was evident that the company could not continue to operate and survive in its current state.

"It is worth appreciating that CEC has, even in the toughest of times, been steadfast in protecting jobs and creates quality employment, evidenced by the non-acrimonious negotiations for improved conditions of service that are conducted smoothly every year with ourselves. In the last five years, CEC has employed a lot of youths, some of whom have just started their families. The company has also substantially invested a lot in skills development of its employees, which is evident in the way the company has operated and safeguarded its infrastructure and served its customers. CEC is also a social investor of outstanding repute, well known for its social investments across sectors, including its consistent material and financial support to Power Dynamos Football Club," Mwila stated.

"As a Union, our hearts are so heavy and if an amicable solution to the challenges that have besieged CEC, in particular the declaration of its infrastructure as common carrier, the non-renewal of the BSA (Bulk Supply Agreement) and KCM's outstanding debt is not found, such expertise may be thrown in the streets as the current situation poses a serious financial constraint on CEC and it is evident that the company cannot continue to operate and survive in its current state."

She appealed to government to help Zesco and CEC reconvene on the negotiation table without disadvantaging innocent people.

"We are, therefore, appealing to the government to help Zesco and CEC get back to the negotiating table so that the two parties can reach an amicable solution and get to a win-win situation without disadvantaging the innocent employees. As MUZ-CEC branch, we would like to quote the sentiments by the ruling Patriotic Front secretary general, Mr Davies Mwila, which appeared in the Zambia Daily Mail newspaper

dated 13th January, 2020, stating that, 'government will constitute a task force to look into the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) negotiations between Zesco and CEC. The party has taken interest in the matter being resolved amicably. The party does not want anyone to lose employment if the contract is not renewed. However, the story seems to have changed after the Minister of Energy issued SI No. 57 of 2020 on 29th May, 2020,' lamented Mwila.

"Nonetheless, we are hopeful that our listening government will reconsider the position taken. We also make an appeal to KCM to reciprocate CEC's goodwill of having continued to supply power to them even when they defaulted by expeditiously settling its over US \$144m outstanding debt to CEC. As a Union and employees' representatives, our special and humble appeal goes to the President of the Republic of Zambia, Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu, to come to our aid by restoring CEC to its original position so that both its business and the future of employees are safeguarded."



L-r: Home Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo, Information and Broadcasting Services Minister Dora Siliya and Energy Minister Matthew Nkhuluwa during a joint press briefing in Lusaka yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala



NDC
NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS
The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom
 Why we deserve your vote



THE EDUCATION SECTOR

ZAMBIA'S education system falls extremely below international standards and is in a state of crisis. The government has failed to provide an education system that enables the preparation of students for entrepreneurship and the highly competitive job market. Millions of children are coming out from primary school with reading, writing and numeracy skills far below expected levels. These skills have been totally neglected. The education system currently lacks highly qualified, well paid and highly motivated educators. Under the existing educational structures there is deficiency and erratic allocation of resources. The management of the whole education system is structurally dysfunctional. The existing system does not address the lack of educators in the areas of science, math, cultural, arts, entrepreneurial and technical subjects.

The situation has been compounded by; inadequate teaching aids and learning materials; broken-down and inadequate infrastructure; poor sanitary conditions; and a poor learning environment. The high school fees and other financial demands have de-franchised many children from completing grade 12.

As a result, the 2015 target of attaining nine years of basic education for all has not been achieved in Zambia.

The relative share of the education sector budget is at its lowest level in five years at 15.3 per cent in 2019 from 20.2 per cent at peak in 2015. 2019 allocation to Early Childhood Education has declined by 88 per cent because of no allocation for Early Childhood Education infrastructure due to austerity measures.

A study by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Examination Council of Zambia discovered that 15-year-old Zambian students achieved only 5 per cent and 2 per cent of the minimum international level of proficiency in reading and mathematics respectively.

NDC shall offset these challenges by;

- Increasing funding towards the education system so as to increase teacher recruitment and training.
- Reduce teacher-pupil ration to 1: 35 students in three years, and increase teaching aids
- We shall ensure that local government authorities efficiently run early childhood education centres in each and every ward in the country.
- Under our education policies, no child shall remain behind in terms of information communications technology (ICT)
- We shall Do away with grade Seven exams and improve on evaluation and

assessment tools for progression of students from grade to grade

- The NDC shall increase the number of boarding and technical schools at district level to ensure that pupils are in boarding to cut back on long distances travelled to access schools, so as to increase pupils' concentration and reduce the bad vices that distract them from attaining education; such as early child marriages and child labour. This shall reduce school dropouts. We shall do this in conjunction with the private sector, NGOs and churches.

- Reintroduce school feeding programs from government pre-school to grade 12 for boarding schools and all rural based schools.

- We shall also ensure that each district has a fully-fledged and functional college and each province to have at least two universities.

- Learners shall be stream lined into academic, cultural/arts, vocational and sports from the 1st Grade up to 12th grade, with attachments in the 12th grade as part of curriculum and year end exam.

- We shall put in place measures that shall strongly link the education sector to all sectors of the nation, such as mining, energy, construction, health sector, National Engineers, and social sciences sports and Arts.

- We shall introduce an Education system designed to foster independent and rational thinking, innovation and problem-solving – starting from elementary schools through to colleges and universities. This shall be done by ensuring that there is yearly curriculum review.

- We shall diversify the education system and ensure that it is highly specialized to properly address the vocational, technical, culture, arts, sports and academic needs of the country.

- In all the schools, colleges and universities, we shall make entrepreneurship training compulsory so that students shall learn the principles of how to start, develop and manage businesses. By so doing when they finish, they shall contribute to job creation.

- Under the NDC our education system shall be free up to grade 12 and strategies put in place to make tertiary education accessible and made more affordable to all those who qualify.

- We shall be developing a highly qualified, well-paid and highly motivated team of educators to achieve quality education.

- We shall introduce more teacher training colleges and provide for more bursaries in targeted subjects such as math, science and technical subjects.

- We shall also ensure that each district has a special school and college for the physically and mentally challenged citizens.

- As NDC we shall ensure that public tertiary institutions develop programs and

curriculums to offer courses in the study of renewable energy at undergraduate and post graduate.

- As NDC we shall mandate all, private schools, missionary school, church schools and other schools sponsored by NGOs to introduce a curriculum for ICT. Further all schools must ensure that from the 5th grade and upward, a specific curriculum on information communications technology (ICT) development must be an option. These two conditions must be fulfilled before the school is registered or give a license. This includes the studying of information communications technology (ICT) development, robotics and artificial intelligence from higher education to tertiary education.

- Under the NDC government, ICT technology shall be integrated into all fields of study at institutions of higher learning.

- Re-introduce and strengthen the literacy programme to be undertaken by the ministry of Education for all ages that have not been/ or are not in formal education. To get as many Zambians as possible to be able to read and write in both their local languages and English.

- The UNZA great east road campus has grown to a point where it is has become unmanageable. To promote efficiency, we shall Re-organise UNZA Great East Road Campus by Dismantling and establishing schools to other provinces for instance: move the School of Agriculture to South Province, the School of Mines to the Copperbelt, School of Veterinary Sciences to Western Province, etc. The above scenario shall eliminate mob psychology. Moreover, this shall help to trigger development in the country.

- Reintroduce bursaries and maintain educational loan schemes

- Devolve powers of ministers from closing public institutions

The above will be made possible through increased allocation of the budget sector. Since 2015, there has been a reduction in budget allocation towards the education sector from 20.2% to 15.3% in 2019. For us to achieve meaningful development,

- we will allocate of 22% or more of the national budget towards education in accordance with SADEC bench mark.

- The biggest budget in the educational sector will go towards recruitment of teachers/ lecturers, infrastructure, feeding programmes and teaching aids.

- We will ensure prudent use of financial resources as it is critical to the improvement of educational outcomes which are currently poor. Notwithstanding immense investments in the sector, education outcomes are poor due to corruption and imprudent use of resources.

Catholic PF MPs don't mean well – Chikoya

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
COUNCIL of Churches in Zambia (CCZ) general secretary Fr Emmanuel Chikoya says if the Association of Catholic Parliamentarians meant well, it should have incorporated views from all Catholic MPs across the political divide.

And Fr Chikoya has insisted that Bill 10 is a defective baby which should be withdrawn.

Meanwhile, Fr Chikoya has warned clergymen under his leadership to desist from making statements on Bill 10 without consulting the secretariat.

In an interview, Fr Chikoya wondered why only Catholic MPs belonging to the ruling party held a briefing to disagree with their bishops on Tuesday.

“Regarding the comment by some catholic parliamentarians, because the Association of Catholic Parliamentarians is not just about the ruling party, it also involved MPs from across the political divide. So, if there are those that met and excluded their friends, they cannot be claiming to be representing the association of parliamentarians. If they mean well, they should be able to meet as the entire group of association of catholic parliamentarians,” Fr Chikoya said.

He insisted that Bill 10 must be withdrawn.

“I affirm and stand in strong agreement with the Catholic bishop's position [on

Bill 10]. Our members should realize that the shepherd mean well. There is an African proverb saying 'what a young person cannot see while standing, an adult will see while seated' meaning the shepherds who have guided the church over so many years are saying there is a problem. Let us pause, let us withdraw, let us retreat and redo. Those with their own vested interests are entitled to their opinions. But the statement by the catholic bishops is on firm ground and should be supported,” Fr Chikoya said.

And commenting on the ZNBC news item attributed to a Kasama archbishop under the headline “CCZ local chapter endorses and calls upon MPs to debate Bill 10 objectively, Bill should not be withdrawn”, Fr Chikoya said members of the clergy should stop using CCZ without consultations.

“I want to remind all of us that we need to consult and clear issues of this nature with the secretariat. Constitutionally, the CCZ general secretary is the one mandated to give authoritative position on various national and church matters within our ranks as CCZ. The local chapters are meant to amplify and add to that voice and be able to maintain a collective position on issues of national importance,” Fr Chikoya added.

“Let's ask ourselves on what is really happening in our country. For example, other people want to hold

petitions on 22nd June and they are threatened that their bones will be broken. Suddenly today, there is a countrywide petitioning and protests to petition that certain things are done. What kind of laws do we have that favour certain individuals and other stakeholders are not supposed to be protected? I am calling on us to have a deep reflection and let us not allow ourselves to be caught up and being used by those that are already on the political chessboard. Please do not use the name of CCZ to endorse certain things without checking with the secretariat on the position on this matter.”

Meanwhile, Fr Chikoya insisted that Bill 10, in its current form, was still a defective baby.

“The Bill 10 is a defective baby and this is shared without any malice and without any intention to be unnecessarily problematic. There are a lot of things that we are not able to share in public spaces, the private meetings, the behind the scenes meetings that we were involved in as the three church mother bodies trying to promote and facilitate national dialogue, those were deliberately sabotaged and we saw the introduction of the NDF. The issues that are to be dealt with are of governance in nature and the best platform could have been a comprehensive and inclusive national dialogue,” said Fr Chikoya.

By Mirriam Chabala
FORMER North-Western Province Minister Dawson Kafwaya says it is not fair for people to call him “unstable” simply because he has left the ruling party, arguing that politics is about ideas.

In an interview, Kafwaya explained that he left the Patriotic Front (PF) because he did not agree with the party's principles and ideologies.

The former minister, who also disclosed that he would be announcing the party that he intended to join soon, wondered why people were creating an issue out of his decision to leave the PF when there were people who had gone to other parties before and are serving in the ruling party today.

“...Am I the only person who has changed a political party? Who can tell me in PF that he's the owner of PF? Who can tell me in UPND that he's the owner of UPND? Who can tell me in MMD that he's the owner of MMD? Politicians move, it is about ideologies. Certain values, if you don't appreciate them, you move. We've seen of late (people) have been moving; GBM was in UPND, but he has gone [back] to PF now, he has been accepted and they've even given him a position in PF; we've also seen the Mayor of Lusaka; he was in UPND, he went and formed his own political party and later on he went back to PF; he is now the Mayor of Lusaka. We've also got the likes of Father Bwalya, who formed his own political party (Alliance for a Better

Don't call me unstable just because I've left PF – Kafwaya

Zambia) and later on went back to PF and he's now an Ambassador (to Australia). So, what's wrong with me leaving PF to go and join UPND or any other political party? I don't see anything strange,” Kafwaya argued.

“If you look at some of the PF ministers, like Dora Siliya and Vincent Mwale, they came from MMD and today they are in PF. So, for those saying, 'I am unstable because I have left PF', I think that is unfair because we have seen people moving from one political party for various reasons. If you don't appreciate the ideologies of a political party, what do you? When we see people are complaining then we have to sympathize with them. So, for me, what is happening in the country where we are not agreeing on principle is what is causing people to move. So, for my supporters, let them be calm. I will soon be announcing the party I will be joining just like it happened when I joined PF, it was on TV. So, even this time, it will be public when I announce the party I will be joining.”

He added that he was equally available to contest any position in next year's general election.

“For now, we can only

organize as opposition parties, those that are interested in taking power from this government. Otherwise, issues of standing are issues which are obviously there for someone who is still young, like me. So, I don't think it would be a bad idea for someone like me who is still young to contest any position starting from MP or even [Republican] Presidency; I am a Zambian citizen and I can stand for any position I want. But for now, I think we have to speak one language as opposition political parties if we are to fight the government and remove the party in power,” Kafwaya said.

He also encouraged Zambians to take advantage of the imminent voter registration exercise commencing on October 18 to register as voters for next year's election and ensure that they vote wisely.

“I am also encouraging people to register as voters; people should remember that the time has been reduced from 60 days to 30 days. So, people have to register to vote so that they can fight all these problems, which they are complaining about, through an election. And for the youths, who are crying for employment, I think it is important that they register to vote so that they can make an informed decision next year and have a better tomorrow,” said Kafwaya.

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THE statement issued by the Ministry of Health on the Honey Bee Pharmacy Contract is embarrassing. This statement confirms all our fears. It is very clear that there is something very rotten about this contract. What is particularly embarrassing is the fact that a very well educated spokesperson for the ministry was prepared to issue that statement without seeing the wrongs that were being confirmed. In that statement, the Ministry of Health attempts to respond to this newspaper's exposé on the Honey Bee Pharmacy's US\$17 million contract, and their explanation leaves much to desire.

Our story which took many months to investigate and verify was very clear and simple. The Ministry of Health apparently engaged in a limited bidding process for the supply of health centre kits. And one of the entities that bid for the contract is called Honey Bee Pharmacy. Having already come across a retail drug store by the same name in Kamwala, the first question that we asked ourselves was, what is or who is behind this entity? When we carried out some basic investigation, we found that Honey Bee Pharmacy was not a limited liability business. But instead it was a pharmacy being run by a sole trader called Imran Lunat in Kamwala, Lusaka. That immediately raised the red flags.

A sole trader called Imran Lunat bid for, and was awarded a contract to the tune of US\$17 million. How was this possible? How much was this individual worth to accept a 17 million liability from government? The procurement rules are that to win a government tender of that magnitude, you must at least have the financial capacity equivalent to about three times the value of that

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Ear to the ground

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Ministry of Health should be ashamed!

contract sum.

As we delved into the investigation, we realised that the entity that allegedly bid for this contract was indeed Honey Bee Pharmacy, but when they ministry awarded the contract, they awarded it to Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited. And today, the ministry wants the public to believe that this was just an innocent mistake. A mistake? We don't think so. The Ministry of Health knew that they could not give the contract to a sole trader, hence they awarded the contract to a limited liability company, bearing almost the same name as the sole trader.

What is interesting to take note of is the fact that this contract was awarded to Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited on November 22, 2019, but on this date, no company with such a name was registered at PACRA. Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited simply did not exist. So that means the Ministry of Health had given a contract to a company that did not exist.

What demonstrates the criminality of what was going on, is the fact that there were pathetic attempts to launder this transaction.

Here is what else we found out. On September 3, 2019, the Ministry of Health invited bids from what they termed as shortlisted bidders, which included a company called Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited. These shortlisted companies were to deliver their sealed bids by 10:00 hours on September 13, 2019. And according to the Ministry of Health's own records. They received a bid from Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited. The only problems is that no such company existed. Since this was a limited bidding process where the ministry of health themselves were inviting bidders, who were they dealing with from this non-existing company? At this point, the only Honey Bee Pharmacy was a shop in Kamwala run by a gentleman called Imran Lunat according to PACRA records. Where did the Ministry of Health deliver the letter inviting Honey

Bee Pharmacy Limited? In Kamwala? The ministry must explain.

In October, 2019, a few days before the evaluation of these bids, some individuals incorporated a company called Honey Bee Pharmaceuticals limited. Which, it would appear, they wanted to pass off as the company that was going to be given a contract. The only problem again was that the company bidding was called Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited, this one created on October 16, was Honey Bee Pharmaceuticals Limited.

This is the problem of working backwards. You cannot avoid mistakes. After the evaluation, Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited which did not exist was given a US\$17 million contract. The question remains, who was the ministry of Health dealing with and what track record did this company have with the Ministry of Health for this contract to be awarded through a limited bidding process?

Since it was limited

Bidding, it was expected that they would pick entities within the same bracket, but they picked this sole trader among big multinationals and it won the biggest contract. What is the explanation from the evaluation committee for this?

To add to this comedy of errors, on April Fool's Day this year, April 1, 2020, these geniuses who had won a US\$17 million contract in absentia finally decided to register their company. The entity that was awarded a contract on November 22, 2019 was finally created and registered, on April Fool's Day in 2020. It is interesting that when the first attempt to launder this transaction was made by registering Honey Bee Pharmaceuticals Limited, the sole trader who owned Honey Bee Pharmacy was not on the documents. But in the last attempt on April 1, 2020, he emerged as a shareholder in Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited.

This narration demonstrates that this is a dirty deal. There is something criminal about this deal.

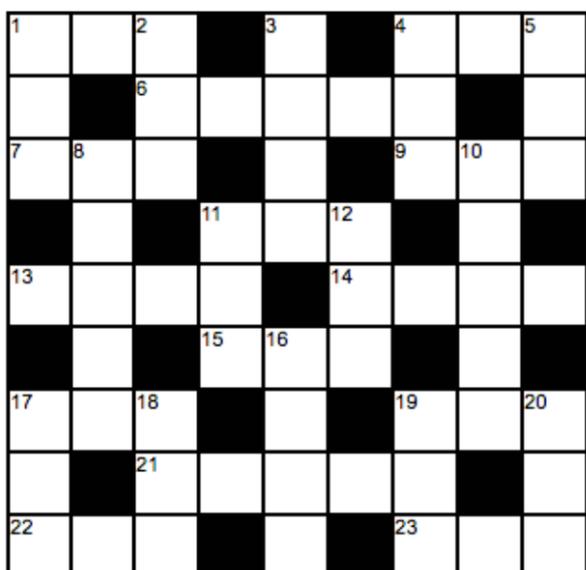
Before we published the story about Honey Bee Pharmacy, we contacted the sole trader in Kamwala who is supposed to have been given this contract, and we asked him about this US\$17 million deal that his small retail shop in Kamwala was awarded. Mr Imran Lunat informed us that the contract was actually given to himself as Honey Bee Pharmacy. He confirmed that some other directors had since come in and he was now working for them.

We asked him to explain how he, as a sole trade was given a contract worth US\$17 million, he refused to answer but instead said the Ministry of Health should explain. And he was probably right. The Ministry should explain how they gave a US\$17 million contract to a sole trader, and why there has been all these attempt to launder this transaction. We are dealing with people's lives and this kind of approach should not be entertained.

The Ministry of Health knows that their own documents show that this is a rotten deal. The only question that our law enforcement agencies should take interest in is; who is eating in this deal? It is very clear that it is about eating. It does not matter that people's lives are being endangered, as long as these people can eat. This is wrong and our law enforcement agencies must demand a halt to this deal until a thorough investigation is done.

We now have three entities associated with this transaction. There is Honey Bee Pharmacy of Kamwala, there is Honey Bee Pharmaceuticals registered on October 16, 2019, and Honey Bee Pharmacy Limited registered on April Fool's Day, 2020. This deal stinks. The explanation from Ministry of health is not making sense. Someone is trying to fool the Zambian people.

Crossword puzzle No 627



“Discussion is impossible with someone who claims not to seek the truth, but already to possess it.”
- Romain Rolland

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Across | Down |
| 1. Public transport | 1. Lingerie item |
| 4. Golf score | 2. Pig's home |
| 6. Once again | 3. Pass by |
| 7. Vanderbilt or Irving | 4. Small green veggie |
| 9. Perform a role | 5. Scoundrel |
| 11. Inquire | 8. Taxi ticker |
| 13. The sun, for one | 10. Skirt the rules |
| 14. 2, 4, 6, 8, ... | 11. Jacket part |
| 15. Spring month | 12. Lock opener |
| 17. Sphere | 16. Low female singing voice |
| 19. Parent/Teacher Association | 17. Not young |
| 21. Modify | 18. Defective |
| 22. Father | 19. Debate side |
| 23. Not in | 20. Aardvark snack |

Crossword puzzle No 626



Readers' Feedback

Luo's plea to youths not to wait for govt to do things for them, but to work hard

Editor,

"Very true, we should only wait for them to increase taxes for the small businesses we do and also increase fuel costs!" - Nkole Jimmy

"The government is responsible for creating an environment for the people to succeed and the people are responsible for their individual success". - Nasho Sombe

"What she is saying is like trying to find a sixth gear from a five speed gear box. Youths in this country are already over worked to cover the huge cost of living and doing business. So professor Luo just thank your God for

having it easy at this tough time, kwasila!" - Coxy Kaluba

"This lady is clueless. No youth is asking for handouts from anyone. All they want is an environment where their talents and gifts can develop and blossom. That enabling environment and at times enabling resources is what any responsible and competent Government should be able to provide. The youths, well, most of them have self esteem and self respect because they have been well brought up and would not want to be anyone's slave or receive alms from anyone. In fact you Luo and your fellow politicians are responsible for this dependency mentality because you encourage it by

giving beer, salt, sugar, mealie meal, vegetables, cooking oil to these young people whom you have enslaved to be your cadres. Please Madam Minister, get off your seat, stop whining and begin supporting the youths in a meaningful way. In other words begin to do what the youths pay you for!!!" - Kanyata Mubita

"I wonder if government didn't give you free education from primary to university if you'd be a professor today. It is the duty of government to invest in youths because youths are the future of any nation!" - Chala Siame

"They can say this but during their time KK gave them

free education, they had proper care and sponsorships at universities, when they graduated government gave them jobs, houses and free transport. The youths of today do not have those opportunities, how much more harder do the youths have to work? Even if you got 6points you are not assured bursaries, jobs and simple accommodation. At the same time, give the youths of today credit, the things they have achieved in a terrible work environment are so many. At the same, time politicians have turned some into zombies called cadres. Besides, when are you retiring so that a youth can have your position? Mwalikatilila fyonse mwebakulu and yet tell youths to work hard!" - Leah Liheshi



EDITOR'S NOTE:

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Fr Chikoya's advice to govt to allow youths to express themselves

Editor,

"It's more than just an expression of views, but representation in governance to reflect the demographics of the country. It's about youth equity and not having grand daddies and mummies always making decisions that don't deal with the majority in the Zambian demographic picture. Instead, you see the Chinese move in, the Sudanese move in etc and then Bill 10 that intends to create a state within a state,

creating rules for themselves and rules for others to be institutionalised so that it continues to favour China.

Two sets of rules in one country masked at times in tribalism, or foreign investment but nothing for the youths". - Fredeico De Santos

"The majority voters in Zambia are the youths. PF is digging its grave by not allowing youths to air their views through peaceful protests". - Sylvester Muzende

Lubinda on Zambia not being a theocracy for church to lead constitution-making process

Dear editor,

"You yourselves declared it a christian nation to be governed by christian values. So if the constitutional making process does not respect those values, the Christians have a right to remind you". - Chola Mwale

"THE EFFECTS OF APPOINTING SOMEONE WITH A DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE AS JUSTICE MINISTER". - Joseph Kanyungo

"Little power is going to Lubinda's head. This is what happens when someone believes he is presidential material and starts to scheme to pave his or her way to the Presidency. Constitutions are not about me, myself and the other fellow. A Constitution is a serious national issue which must be divorced from parochial

personal or partisan interest". - Kanyata Mubita

"Church state relationship is only affected in a kleptocracy". - Ackie Mumba

"I last saw such arrogance during the last days of MMD". - Isaac Sibwani

"When all you have is a hammer, everything

looks like a nail" ~ Abraham Maslow. The Church, particularly the Catholic Church, will never be the servant of the state but rather its conscience. It will forever be its guide and critic and never its tool as highlighted by Martin Luther King, Jr. And Vox Populi, Vox Dei - The voice of the people is the voice of God. The Church has spoken for the people. Take heed". - Felix Nkonge

Japanese Embassy revelation on not donating any bicycles to Zambia Police

Dear editor,

"LET'S ALL GATHER HERE AND WAIT FOR THE NEXT RESPONSE FROM GOVERNMENT. MIND YOU; IT'LL COME FROM ANYWHERE AS SUCH KEEP VIGIL IN ALL DIRECTIONS". - Jonathan Chikumbe

"It was houses now miraculous bicycles. I love my country!" - Boniface Kayombo

"I feel as guilty as a murderer for voting for this mess of government, and I am even scared to vote because I may vote for wrong characters again". - Joseph Mwape Chipulu

"It seems, we are awake now as Zambians. We now know how to make follow-ups to ensure accountability with our leaders". - Paccem Cem

"And so it continues.... The levels of lies cannot be tolerated by any well meaning Zambian. These politicians are robbing us and future generations of our country's resources. Zambia is not a limited company!" - Jonas

Lumbila Yaniv

"No we demand accountability... stand up Zambia!" - Grz Zambia

"So ati someone is misleading the President.... This is insane!" - Mulenga Sondie Kasonde

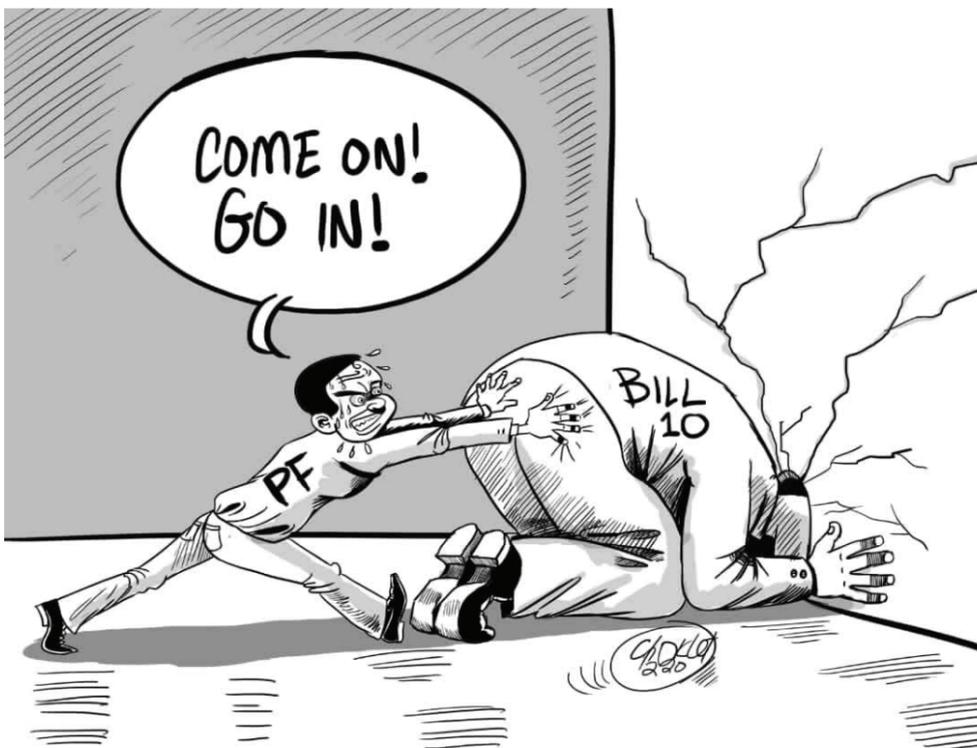
"Now they will expel the Japanese ambassador". - David Frank Mvula

"Everything that they do now is questionable, last man standing, CHELLAH TUKUTA to the rescue!!!!!" - Chisesa Chisesa

"This is so embarrassing, why accuse a country of having made a donation?" - Mercy Mwanza

"This makes a very sad reading. Why should the whole world knows us as a nation of crooks?" - Richard Mweetwa

"Disgruntled youth, over to you. Another addition to the agendas for 22nd June, 2020". - Martin Nyanjagha



By Miriam Chabala

BRITISH Prime Minister Boris Johnson says his country needs to strengthen its position in an "intensely competitive world by making sensible changes" to its international relations.

Johnson said this when he announced the merger of the Department of International Development (DFID) and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) into one new department to bring together Britain's international effort.

He wondered why Zambia should get the same amount of aid as Ukraine when the latter was vital for European security.

"We give as much aid to Zambia as we do to Ukraine, though the latter is vital for European security. We give 10 times as much aid to Tanzania as we do to the six countries of the Western Balkans, who are acutely vulnerable to Russian meddling. And, regardless of the merits of these decisions, no single department is currently empowered to judge whether they make sense or not: so we tolerate an inherent risk of our left and right hands working independently. Faced with this crisis today and the opportunities that lie ahead, we have a responsibility to ask whether our current arrangements dating back to 1997 still maximise British influence. Those intentions and decisions of 23 years ago were right for that time... we must now strengthen our position in an intensely competitive world by making sensible changes," Johnson said.

"So I have decided to merge DFID with the foreign and commonwealth office to create a new department, the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office. This will unite our aid with our diplomacy and bring them together in our international

Boris questions relevance of giving huge aid to Zambia

effort. DFID has amassed world class expertise and all of its people can take pride in how they have helped to transform the lives of hundreds of millions of people across the world. Just to cite a few examples, they have paved way for millions of girls to attend school for the first time in countries such as Pakistan. DFID have done their utmost to ease suffering in Syria and Sierra Leone they were central to the defeat of the outbreak of Ebola and all of this amounts to the finest demonstration of British values following in the great tradition. It is precisely that ambition, vision and expertise that will now be at the heart of the new department, taking forward the aid of the UK to reduce poverty and will remain central to our mission."

And announcing the merging of two government departments in Parliament, Johnson said the new department called the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) which would be established later this year would be led by the foreign secretary.

The Prime Minister explained that the UK's trade commissioners would be placed under the authority of UK Ambassadors overseas in order to bring more coherence to the UK's international presence.

"The foreign secretaries will be empowered to decide which country will receive British aid while delivering a single UK strategy for each country overseen by National

Security Council (NSC) which I chair. Those strategies will be implemented on the ground by the UK ambassador who will lead all of the government work in the host country and in this we are following the examples of Australia, Canada and New Zealand, all of these run their development programmes

from their foreign ministries. We will align other British assets overseas including our trade commissioners who will come under the authority of the UK ambassador, bringing more coherence to our international presence," he said.

Johnson said the merger of the two departments was

also an opportunity for the UK to have a greater impact and influence on the world stage as it recovered from the effects of COVID-19 pandemic.

"Now amid this (COVID-19) this house may ask if this is the right moment to reorganize this but in reality this crisis has already

imposed fundamental changes on the way that we operate and if there is one further lesson it's that the whole of government approach, getting maximum value for the British taxpayer is just important abroad as it is at home. And so, this is exactly the moment when we must mobilise every one of our national assets including our aid budget and expertise to safeguard British interests and values overseas and the best instrument for doing that will be a new department charged with using all the tools, our British influence to cease the opportunities," said Johnson.

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

HOME Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo says the confusion surrounding the police bicycles was created by a coordinated propaganda team which is hell bent on maligning government officials.

But Kampyongo has warned that police and ZICTA will soon identify the people behind social media sites which were used to spread falsehood about the cost of bicycles.

Speaking at a press briefing at Government Complex in Lusaka, Wednesday, Kampyongo said the confusion surrounding the bicycles started when UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema posted a picture on his Facebook page and asked his followers to guess the cost.

"The Genesis of this issue started with Mr Hakainde Hichilema's Facebook posting. Mr Hakainde who has rebranded himself as a 'yo bally' posted a picture of a female officer on a mountain bicycle with a comment that 'our officers are looking nice, but guess how much each one of these bicycles is costing,'

Kampyongo blames HH for bicycle scandal confusion

Following that, propaganda machinery was triggered to the extent that some individuals masquerading as management at the ministry had confirmed that. They alleged that I as Minister of Home Affairs had actually confirmed that the Zambia Police Service had procured these bicycles at the cost of US \$700 per bicycle and the quantity being 1,000 bicycles and they calculated the totals," he said.

Kampyongo said his ministry had already communicated the mistake on the actual bicycle donors to both the Japanese and Indian embassies before News Diggers published a story.

"Our police officers are making very good progress. They have gone to all the Facebook sites which were utilized and I want to inform the members of the public that Facebook is collaborating very well

and is cooperating with the Zambia Police Service and other Law Enforcement Agencies like ZICTA because it would appear there is a coordinated agenda by people manufacturing falsehoods and maligning government officials as a way of justifying lawlessness," Kampyongo said.

He maintained that 30 bicycles were donated by the Indian Government while 100 were bought at a cost of US \$242 per unit.

"There were 100 bicycles which came with camping equipment for police-community services. In addition, on 14th August 2019, the Indian Government did donate about 30 bicycles and we are grateful to them for that very important gesture. It was shocking to hear comments from people like Nevers Mumba, the president of MMD trying to lecture us on how diplomatic etiquette is observed and

making [it seem like] the minister has spoken about an embassy. That is incorrect. The first time I am speaking on this matter officially is now. The 100 bicycles were part of 100 units of camping equipment consisting of mountain bikes, tents, camp beds and sleeping bags. The cost of each unit was US \$242 dollars," Kampyongo said.

And Kampyongo has warned that those who wanted to make his ministry a playing ground for spreading falsehood would have themselves to blame.

"There has been a lot of falsehoods that have been flying around. We who are in this business of pursuing the wrongdoings of criminals, are very much aware of how much wrongdoers would want to throw mud at us and fight us. I would make it very clear that we are not going to take it kindly that the institution mandated to protect citizens from being attacked, ridiculed, and made vulnerable will protect citizens. To those who think they are going to make a playing ground, the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Zambia Police Service as playing ground will have themselves to blame," said Kampyongo.

"There is nothing that is being concealed. There is this scheme which we are following up and this is connected to these protests that are prepared to try and concoct fake news and false allegations. As to whether we are being proactive. If you look at the police officers today, we have been receiving equipment publicly from this arrangement. I know that the president has said every Jim and Jack wants to be a news disseminator through social media and he has said you people in the media have got a responsibility to protect your space because what these criminals are doing has potential to erode public confidence in you. We are available with the Law Enforcement Agencies to ensure that this doesn't escalate because it has potential to bring anarchy."

By Zondiwe Mbewe

PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu's former Special Assistant for Press and Public Relations Amos Chanda has narrated to the Lusaka Magistrates' Court how an unknown person allegedly forged the Head of State's signature and a letter purported to have been written by him.

He was testifying in a matter where Richard Mutale, 43, of Makeni, is facing 11 counts of forgery, uttering false documents and obtaining money by false pretences.

It is alleged that in March, last year, Mutale forged President Lungu's signature.

It is also alleged that on March 14, last year, Mutale allegedly forged a land allocation letter in Petauke District addressed to the acting District Commissioner, purporting to show that it was genuinely written and signed by President Lungu when in fact not.

It is further alleged that on March 13, last year, Mutale forged Chanda's signature purporting that he had written and signed a letter to managing director at Truck and Trailer Sales Limited company based in

There's never been an 'appointment fee' at State House, Amos tells court

the UK.

The alleged forged letter was a business appointment between the company and President Lungu.

When the matter came up for continued trial before Chief Resident Magistrate Lameck Mwale, Wednesday, Chanda testified that on March 19, last year, he was approached by police, who wanted to authenticate certain documents which were purported to have been signed by him.

He added that other documents were purported to have been signed by the President.

"The documents included a letter purportedly written by President Lungu and addressed to a District Commissioner in Petauke. There was another letter purported to have been written by me addressed to a trucking company based in the UK confirming an appointment between it and State House. There was also a purported government general receipt as payment for

processing of the appointment for that investor," Chanda said.

He said when he examined the documents, he noticed that they were all not genuine.

Chanda explained that the emblem of an eagle on the letter purportedly written by the President was computer-generated and that the signature on it was fake.

"The signature on the

left side saying, 'EC Lungu President' is false and never on the left side, it is supposed to be in the middle and his first or last name is supposed to be in full," he told the Court.

Chanda further testified that President Lungu would not have written the letter as he did not deal in land matters, but the Commissioner of Lands dealt with that on his

behalf.

He disclosed that the letter purported to have been written by him was also forged and had several anomalies.

Chanda explained that there was never any charge for presidential appointments, adding that there was no Presidential Affairs Ministry indicated on the stamp.

"We only have the Presidential Affairs Minister and we do not transact anything at State House. Appointments are free," said Chanda.

Trial continues on June 29, this year.



LIONEL Messi must help Antoine Griezmann start scoring goals to ensure the French attacker does not suffer the same fate as Philippe Coutinho at Barcelona, Rivaldo says.

Griezmann joined the Spanish giants from Atletico Madrid last summer after a long speculation-filled saga, as was the case with Coutinho before his move from Liverpool to Camp Nou in January 2018.

Coutinho ended up being sent to Bayern Munich on a season-long loan in August 2019 after

Important for Messi to help Griezmann avoid becoming the 'new Coutinho' - Rivaldo

he failed to live up to expectation in La Liga and is expected to be sold on a permanent basis in the next transfer window.

Griezmann, meanwhile,

has made 39 appearances and scored 14 times for Barca, but he has not found the net in his last four matches.

Ex-Barcelona and

Brazil star Rivaldo fears the World Cup winner's place at the club may be under threat and feels it is up to captain Messi to help boost his confidence.

"Barca have won both their games since the restart, with Antoine Griezmann as a starter, but he continues to be far from the player he was at Atletico Madrid and some are wondering if he may become a 'new Coutinho' at Barcelona," he told Betfair.

"It's harsh to start making those comparisons, but it's up to the player to prove it on the pitch.

"The lack of goals is

demotivating and damages Griezmann's confidence, so I believe it's important for Lionel Messi to help him.

"Messi could, for example, let Griezmann take penalties when Barcelona are winning comfortably - just to get the Frenchman scoring - just like he did with Luis Suarez in the past."

Current Barca boss Quique Setien replaced Ernesto Valverde in January and his side have won 10 of the 14 matches they have played during his tenure.

Rivaldo admits the Blaugrana have not been at their best, but he feels

it is too early to judge the 61-year-old.

"Barcelona beat Leganes 2-0 last night but they didn't produce a great performance and many are still sceptical about Quique Setien's new system. I think it's difficult to pass judgement after just two matches post-lockdown.

"We need to wait a few more weeks to see how the team evolves. It's understandable that their rhythm and intensity isn't at its peak yet as they were a lot of time without playing or training.

"There are players returning from injuries and others still looking to be fit, so we must give them some more time before deciding if Setien's system can truly work in the long run.

"At the moment, and while the quality of play is not yet at his best, the most important thing is for Barcelona to continue grabbing wins, to keep the leadership of La Liga ahead of Real Madrid and put pressure on them." **GOAL**

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DEC's probe on Kashala, not FAZ - Minister

By Abraham Kalito

SPORTS Minister Emmanuel Mulenga has clarified that the Drug Enforcement Commission (DEC) is investigating Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) general secretary Adrian Kashala and not the association.

Meanwhile, Mulenga says consultations between his Ministry and FAZ, including stakeholders such as the Ministry of Health and the National Sports Council of Zambia, have reached an advanced stage and a conclusion will be arrived at soon.

Speaking during a press briefing, Wednesday, Mulenga said after an inquiry with the Ministry of Home Affairs and DEC, it was revealed that the investigation was on Kashala's dealing prior to joining FAZ.

The DEC last week confiscated Kashala's computer

and processing unit and a desktop belonging to his personal assistant.

"I wish to state that after inquiring with Ministry of Home Affairs, as well as the Drug Enforcement Commission, they did state to my ministry that they are not investigating the Football Association of Zambia. They are investigating Mr Kashala as an individual. And the issues they are investigating him on do not concern the Football Association of Zambia. It's the activities which were done before he joined FAZ. And I cannot clearly start discussing an individual, because as a citizen of Zambia, he enjoys privacy. And the law states that a person is only guilty after being proven guilty by the courts of law," Mulenga said.

"So I cannot discuss him and drag him into disrepute

but I can confirm that he is being investigated by the Drug Enforcement Commission and government has no hand in it. No ministry has a hand in the investigations of Mr Kashala. And there is no clause in the FIFA statutes which immunizes a member of the association from investigation. And I can [also] indicate that our working relations with FAZ now are very good."

He further said Kashala and officials from the Ministry of Sports had been meeting to look at health regulations on the possible reopening of the Zambian league amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

"So there have been serious consultations among FAZ, our ministry, Sports Council of Zambia as well as Ministry of Health. Yesterday (Tuesday), FAZ submitted conditions on how they



can open under the new normal. Even my ministry submitted, Ministry of Health submitted as well as Sports Council of Zambia. And we will sit this afternoon to make sure that we come up with single regulations which everyone will agree to that they are going to

be adhered to and thereafter, we will pass on such regulations to his Excellency the President of Zambia who is also eager to see that many sectors of sport are open. So as a ministry, we are working very well with FAZ," said Mulenga.

MY FOCUS IS ON FAZ PRESIDENCY - MUNAILE

By Abraham Kalito

Emmanuel Munaile says he is steadfast in his campaign to be elected FAZ president even though the momentum has been undone.

Munaile told Goal Diggers that a number of factors, including the halting of the electoral process and the Coronavirus, had slowed down his momentum but that he was still focused on the presidency.

“Coronavirus has affected everybody’s way of life and it’s no exception that I am equally affected

or any other person wanting to stand in this coming election because you cannot campaign like we used to campaign. And there is so much at stake, we don’t know when the elections are going to take place, so all that has slowed me down but we remain focused, very focused,” Munaile said.

He said he would endeavour to make pronouncements that were attainable instead of wasting people’s time on vague promises.

“I will tell you without wasting

much of your time because I am promising the people of Zambia things which are attainable. The VAR at this point in...this country is not attainable. I would be lying if I use that as a campaign tool. One, how much does it cost? It’s not free, it needs money. Secondly, it will be just one game, you know in Zambia it’s only one or two games that are televised. So for me, I think that is a good thing that has been started but it cannot be implemented now in our

country because we need more time and resources. We need a number of things to change. Let’s look at how many stadia we have in the country. We don’t have a lot so I cannot use that to stand as president speaking for myself. If there are others who have used it, I can’t use it,” Munaile said.

He said his experience as a footballer, coach and administrator made him a well-placed candidate for the FAZ presidency.

“The only thing I can tell

you is that I will not discard the colleagues I am standing against. But speaking for myself, I have what it takes to be president of the football association because I have experience, as a coach, as a player and as an administrator and I have gone as far as becoming the vice-president of the association, meaning that everything that goes on in football, I understand. So, on the basis of that, I am well placed to be the president of the football association,” said Munaile.

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