



By Julia Malunga
POLICE in Lusaka are on a manhunt for Patriotic Front Eastern Province Youth Chairperson Emmanuel J Banda, commonly known as Jay Jay, who is facing aggravated robbery charges. On Saturday last week, Banda mobilised armed PF cadres and stormed Lusaka Central Police where they beat up some unsuspecting officers on duty and got away with an undisclosed amount of money, belonging to one of the officers. *Story page 10*

PF OFFICIAL ON THE RUN

...after staging armed robbery at Central Police

Trying to end violence by sitting me, HH down is nonsense - Lungu

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu says the idea from some church leaders that only sitting him down with UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema can end violence in Zambia is nonsense.

And President Lungu says he knows there's a plot by the opposition to humiliate him by sponsoring people to jeer him in certain areas.

Meanwhile, President Lungu has asked police to arrest all law breakers, regardless of which political party they represent.

Speaking upon arrival in Lukulu District of Western Province where he had gone to inspect some development projects, Monday, President Lungu said the church should advise "the other guy" to publicly denounce violence. *Story page 4*



Patriotic Front Eastern Province Youth Chairperson Emmanuel J Banda (r) with President Edgar Lungu

It's wrong for govt to award \$17m supply tender to an individual - Mwenye

Story page 3

Zambia's mess should be blamed on Lungu, not advisors – Sangwa

By Mirriam Chabala

CONSTITUTIONAL lawyer John Sangwa, State Counsel, says President Edgar Lungu's corruption fight is a joke and that

his defence for not firing Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya makes him sound like the minister's lawyer rather than the Head of State. *Story page 7*

Lungu removes Stardy from Defence Ministry

By Diggers Reporter

PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu has made some reshuffles at permanent secretary level, moving Ministry of Defense Stardy Mwale to Cabinet Office to be in charge of remuneration in the same capacity.

According to a statement issued by Special Assistant to the President for Press and Public Relations Isaac Chipampe, Monday, President Lungu transferred Luapula Province Permanent Secretary Dr Felix Phiri to the Ministry of Defence.

"Remuneration Division Permanent Secretary at Cabinet Office Mr Kashell Mwenya has since been moved to the Ministry of Housing and Infrastructure Development in the same capacity.

And Ministry of Housing and Infrastructure Development Permanent Secretary Mr Charles Mushota has been transferred to Luapula Province. The President has wished the Permanent Secretaries the best in their new portfolios," stated Chipampe.

US Envoy should stay away from politics - Tutwa

Story page 10



Malawi's rise for regime change

Kwangu Liwewe in Malawi

MALAWIAN President Peter Mutharika triumphantly lifted the sword of command over his head to tumultuous applause from his loyal Democratic Progressive Party supporters and after briefly savouring the moment, passed it onto a military aide. Adorning the characteristic dark sunglasses preferred by Malawian politicians, the slight smile on his face spoke of a man satisfied with the outcome of the controversial election that had just been concluded in his favour.

The election saw him defeat his two closest challengers as he sought a second term in office. They were Lazarous Chakwera, the charismatic Pentecostal preacher and leader of the Malawi Congress Party, MCP who posed his greatest challenge. The other threat came from Mutharika's own former vice-President Saulos Chilima. He had resigned two years earlier in July 2018 in protest at the rampant corruption that he had been unable to bear any longer.

The result was close. Amere three percentage points separated Mutharika and Chakwera, with the incumbent winning 38% to 35%. Chilima pulled in a respectable 20% for a candidate who, after his resignation, had belatedly sought to launch his new party, the United Transformation Party, UTM.

Within hours of Mutharika's second inauguration, however, thousands of Malawians began to take to the streets seething with rage. Over the course of several days needed to count their votes, they had witnessed some of the most brazen attempts ever by a ruling party to ensure that the result went their way.

The biggest culprit in the election turmoil was Jane Ansah, the head of the Malawi Electoral Commission, MEC. She had presided over a process that had been subversively altered to guarantee one outcome; a Mutharika win. There was no limit to what was prevailing. Stuffed ballot boxes, results altered with correction fluid and inflated totals were being exposed even as the votes came in from across the country.

It was not the first time Malawians were being subjected to election tampering. After the 1994 election that saw the defeat of the much-feared Malawi Congress Party, after 30 years of tyrannical rule by the despotic nonagenarian, 99-year-old Kamuzu Banda, elections in 2004 and 2014 had born the hallmarks of the incumbent using all means necessary to stay in power.

This time though, Malawians had had enough. Galvanised by an enraged public, Malawian human rights organization the Human Rights Defenders Coalition, HRDC vociferously spoke out against the outcome as people's power took root.

Mutharika's response was a typical one, one that African presidents immediately resort to in times of election disputes; they called the police onto the streets. Armed to the teeth with tear gas, batons, assault rifles and any other tools that could cause maximum damage to discourage any further such gatherings, the compromised security arm

threw their weight behind the government.

HRDC chairperson Gift Trapence recalls: "The police weren't on the side of Malawians. If there is an institution that was more politicised and siding with the oppressor, the previous government, it was the police. The Inspector General sided with the government as if it was an organ of the ruling party."

In previous elections the Malawi Defence Forces, MDF, have been a key player in protecting the country's citizens from overzealous politicians. When the wind of change swept over Malawi in the early 90's, they were key in the lifting of the veil of fear that kept Malawians under heel when they protected the public from the then ruling Malawi Congress Party's dreaded Young Pioneers, an arm of the party used for strong arm tactics against any opposition. With growing angst in the streets, police brutality increased exponentially. Behind the scenes' however, there was unease at the disproportionate force being unleashed on the protesters.

The head of the MDF, General Vincent Nundwe, recently appointed in July 2019, and a veteran whose tour of duty included peace-keeping in the Democratic Republic of Congo, took the first step that would loosen Mutharika's grip on power. As the Malawi Police Service, MPS, wantonly unleashed their wrath on the public. Nundwe stood his ground, choosing to send his troops into the streets to protect the protesters: "Each one of us is trained to understand the law of the land. People think that army is just an organization that politicians think they can just use like that, but that is not the case."

It was a position few African army commanders would dare take. Their default position inevitably sees them dependent on the goodwill of their appointing authority and they go to all lengths to avoid falling out of favour to sustain the trappings the office brings.

In Malawi's case, General Nundwe chose a rarely walked path: "When you are given a position as the commander they (politicians) think that you are going to serve them. It's not like that. They are mandated to appoint, but they are appointing you to serve the country and its citizens. If that is ingrained in the service members then what we did in Malawi is an easy decision to make. We followed the constitution and forgot who has made your appointment. He has the mandate to appoint you but it does not mean that you are going to serve him in person. No."

Youth activist Madalitso Mwenda believes that the general population had simply had enough, and that the catalyst of youthful exuberance was what tipped the scales: "The demonstrations were largely led by the youth, the main victims of the fraudulent elections that had left them bereft of hope and with little or no prospects of a better life." Mwenda reflects on how the mood changed: "Malawi is going through a very bad pandemic of corruption. The youths felt they had to defend their destiny through electoral justice because



Protesters demand the resignation of Malawi's electoral commission chair Jane Ansah, who sought to help President Peter Mutharika cling to power

we wanted to vote for a good leader who could uplift the plight of young people."

He recalls the ominous feeling when the police were unleashed on the protesters: "We were scared but we remained vigilant because in a struggle you have to have a combination of vigilance and strength. We knew what we were fighting for and so this helped us overcome any fear we had. For change to come there has to be struggle. One word to youth across Africa, they have to be strong and they have to be focused on what they want. You may be suppressed but so long as you are focused and know what you want, change will happen. Today Malawians are celebrating because we knew what we wanted and now change has come."

Another state institution was critical to the change agenda. The Malawian judiciary proved that not all African institutions are fallible to the trappings of wealth that are conferred on those willing to dance to the government's tune.

In January 2020, Malawi's Chief justice Anthony Nyirenda revealed that overtures had been made to the members of the judicial body that would determine whether the elections would be annulled. He reported the matter to Malawi's Anti-Corruption Bureau, the ACB. Ten days later a top Malawian banker, Thompson Mpinganjira, was arrested and taken in for questioning on the matter. Former Ghana state president Jerry Rawlings, speaking to Ghanaian media, went on to praise the Malawian judiciary, saluting them publicly for turning down a \$20-million bribe to rule in favour of the DPP.

On February 3rd, the Constitutional Court of Malawi shook Malawi, and the rest of Africa, to its foundations. Their 10-hour ruling declared that President Peter Mutharika had not been duly elected president. They also annulled and ordered fresh elections within 150 days.

Lawyer Khumbo Soko, who had advocated for the rule of law and for justice to prevail believes the public had had enough of third rate elections.: "We had

been having a series of this kind of flawed elections here and I would point particularly to the elections of 2004 and 2014. These were both marred by serious irregularities and they both had shambolic elements. This was also the case in 2019. There was a sense of fatigue from the people. The expectation of the so-called victors was that people would moan and whine but that eventually they would move on. This time though, there was that insistence that we should have an election as the law says we should. That was the game changer."

According to Soko, the judiciary in Malawi gained much of its strength after reforms that followed the end of the rule of Kamuzu Banda whose tyrannical reign totally subdued the people.

"In reacting to the excesses of the executive of that time, there was a deliberate effort to entrench the independence of the judiciary. So yes, the president appoints judges but once he does, it is very difficult to remove them from office or to attack them by way of reprisals for how they decide. Because of that, there is a great deal of operational independence on the part of the judiciary."

He also believes the army, besides protecting the populace, played a key role in the judiciary's ability to make a decision free of interference: "They stepped in to make sure that the process had the necessary integrity, that no one was able to harm the judges. It created an environment where they felt that their only fidelity had to be to the constitution and the evidence before them."

I would say that from 1994 to date, we have increasingly seen our judges standing up to the executive and the legislature and really defending and safeguarding the constitution.

The Human Rights Defenders Coalition's Gift Trapence believes that the Malawian experience has a lot of lessons for the rest of Africa. He has high hopes for the rest of the continent and the youths that make up the majority of the population but who are the main victims of the prevailing culture: "There is too much impunity on the part of leaders. They think that they own the laws, they think that they own the countries, they think that it's a family farm. The transformation in Malawi is the message we have to send across Africa."

Magistrate warns Kambwili, his supporters against threatening prosecution

By Zondiwe Mbewe

LUSAKA Principal Resident Magistrate David Simusamba has threatened to cite NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili for contempt of court if the alleged threats on the prosecution team by the accused and his supporters are repeated.

The warning came after deputy Chief State Advocate Margaret Chitundu asked for the court's protection by warning Kambwili and his supporters not to threaten them in any way.

However, defence lawyer Keith Mweemba questioned the basis on which the court was being invited to warn Kambwili without giving him an opportunity to be heard or disclosing what the accused had done that he should be warned.

Meanwhile, Kambwili's wife, Carol, has told the court that the accused would sign cheques for Mwamona Engineering and Technical services Limited when need arose as he was a signatory at the bank and had a power of attorney to sign on their son, Mwamba's behalf.

This is a matter in which Kambwili is charged with three counts of forgery, uttering a false document and giving false information to a public officer in relation to the registration of Mwamona Engineering and Technical Services.

It is alleged that on October 29, 2013, Kambwili with intent to defraud or deceive,

forged a 'no change return' (companies form 71) purporting to show that it was genuinely signed by his son Mwamba when in fact not.

It is further alleged that on the same date, Kambwili knowingly and fraudulently uttered the same document to an officer at Patents and Companies' Registration Agency (PACRA).

Previously, Carol, a staff nurse at National Health Service in Leicester city, United Kingdom, told the court that Mwamona Engineering and Technical Services belongs to her and her son Mwamba Chishimba Kambwili, in which they are directors.

Carol, the second defence witness who was testifying via Zoom Video Communications, explained that the company was incorporated in 2001 while the family was still in Chingola, contrary to EEP leader, Chilufya Tayali's claims that it was incorporated in 2013.

She said her and her son, Mwamba, sent a representative, a Mr James Nyasulo to register Mwamona on their behalf at PACRA in 2001.

The matter came up, Monday, for cross examination of the defence witness by the State.

Asked by the deputy Chief State Advocate how involved Kambwili was in the running of Mwamona, Carol said her husband was the chair of the board and would only sign when she asked him to. *Continues on page 10*

By Mirriam Chabala

NATIONAL Democratic Congress (NDC) leader Chishimba Kambwili has asked President Edgar Lungu to use his Presidency to develop Zambia as opposed to intimidating opponents and allowing anarchy in the country.

And Kambwili has called on Zambians to vote President Lungu out of office next year and let him go back to Chawama.

Commenting on the attack on staff at Mufulira’s Mafken radio by PF cadres after UPND

You’ll suffer when you lose power if you don’t end violence, Kambwili tells Lungu

leader Hakainde Hichilema featured on a programme last week, Kambwili said it was unfortunate that the President could not control violence when he was claiming to promote peace.

“[It is unfortunate that we can have this kind of lawlessness] where PF cares can go on the streets without a police permit and with pangas, openly during the day in Mufulira.

And [Copperbelt] Police Commissioner Charity Katanga is there with all the police officers, they cannot do anything. The person who took those PF cadres to Mufulira is very well known, it’s the Provincial Chairman of PF and Bowman Lusambo and the police are not doing anything,” Kambwili said.

“Donors, the international community where are you to allow Zambia to degenerate into

a Banana Republic just because of one man called Edgar Lungu? Echo njipushisha bushe we Lesa uyu Lungu wamumishe kwi (That’s why I always ask, God where did you get this [Edgar] Lungu from)? Lishamo nshi chino chalo chakwata (What kind of bad luck does this

country have) to have a President like Edgar Lungu and we are watching? People are fighting with pangas and he went to tell lies in Western Province that PF will not tolerate violence, yet he’s allowing the Provincial Chairman and the Minister to take buses and buses of cadres from all over the Copperbelt with pangas.”

Kambwili warned President Lungu to reflect on the conduct of his members saying there would come time when he would no longer be in power.

“President Edgar Lungu inshiku mutanda tashichela mumo (not all days are Sundays), there were powerful men here like Kaunda, powerful men like Chiluba, where are they? Presidential powers are not in perpetuity, they’ve got a beginning and an end. Bring this violence to an end, this misbehavior of PF cadres going to disrupt radio stations must come to end. This country does not belong to PF. I was supposed to be on Mufulira radio on Sunday but you sent your police officers all over to stop me from going into the radio station because you don’t want the opposition to be heard. Yama mukacula, mukacula yama (you will suffer). Use your Presidency to develop Zambia, not to intimidate others and allow anarchy in this beautiful country,” said Kambwili.

Zambia’s economy to contract by four percent this year – Ng’andu

By Mukosha Funga

FINANCE Minister Dr Bwalya Ng’andu says the country’s economy is expected to contract by as much as four percent this year.

And Dr Ng’andu says government is engaging the World Bank and the African Development Bank, side by side, on direct support towards the budget and support towards the COVID-19 pandemic as IMF talks come to a close.

Speaking in Parliament, Friday, when he was responding to debate on the Report of the Budget Committee, Dr Ng’andu said following the challenging economic performance this year, growth contraction of four percent was expected.

“The first challenge was at the end of the last quarter of last year, the country was faced with serious drought which disrupted agriculture and power in the southern part of the country and then in the first quarter of this year, the reverse happened in the northern part of the country we were faced with serious droughts which also were very disruptive to economic performance. Mr Speaker, economic performance in 2020 has been challenging, economic growth is expected therefore to be lower than the 1.4 percent growth recently announced for 2019. The economy is expected to contract by as much as 4 percent this year and this is in keeping with the global trend. Most of the countries on the globe are experiencing massive contraction in their economies in the course of this year,” he said.

“Now, in our case, mainly due to underperformance expected in most sectors, including construction, tourism, wholesale and retail trade as well as mining, considering several challenges that the sector is currently facing. The projected fall in tourism arrivals delayed execution in construction projected as well as significant reduction in consumer and investment spending are also expected to weigh down on economic activity. Mr Speaker, the COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated deterioration in economic performance with businesses reporting sharp declines in output and in orders amid falling consumer numbers amid company shutdowns. On the fiscal side, revenues are expected to decline by k12.79 billion while expenditures are poised to be higher at K9.7 billion. This will have spillover effects into the economy.”

He said despite the

challenges the country was facing, resilience was expected in the agriculture and information technology sectors.

Dr Ngandu further told the House that the depreciation of the Kwacha had induced economic slowdown and increased dollar denominated expenditure with regard to debt servicing.

“Further, the depreciation of the kwacha has raised inflation to 15.9 percent and induced economic slowdown. It has also increased dollar denominated expenditure especially with regard to servicing of external debt obligations. Mr Speaker, I have noted a number of concerns and observations that have raised in the report following the review of the first quarter performance of the budget

and these include: review of the 2020 national budget. Following poor quarter one performance on account of the deterioration of all economic indicators and the projected short fall of K14.8 billion in revenue of the 2020 projected figures; high debt levels with external debt portfolio of K11.2billion and domestic debt portfolio of K80.2billion; overly optimistic fiscal deficit of 5.5 percent of GDP which may not be feasible on account of COVID on the economy and programmed financing has been non-existent in quarter one of 2020, a trend which may continue, the mining fiscal regime that does not balance the interest of both government and mines. And I think, Mr Speaker, it’s important to understand that when we are talking about mining fiscal

regime, we have to look at how well we can balance the needs of the country versus the needs of the mining companies themselves,” he said.

And Dr Ng’andu said government had engaged the IMF for support towards the impact of COVID-19.

“Mr Speaker, the government has engaged the IMF for support towards the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The government and the fund have therefore been holding discussions on the basis of Zambia’s applications to support under the rapid credit facility since the 2nd of July. The discussions will continue and hopefully will conclude this afternoon (last week Friday). Further, the government is side by side engaging the World Bank and the African Development

Bank in direct support towards the budget and in discussion towards support towards the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr Speaker, the government is desirous in establishing debt sustainability, to this effect, government in December 2019 passed a number of decision to restore debt sustainability over the medium term, and these include a directive to impose a moratorium on commercial borrowing until debt is put on a sustainable path. Re-scoping some of the on-going projects, cancellation of signed but undisbursed debts and refinancing portions of debt, particularly, the commercial debts. To undertake this exercise, government has engaged legal and financial advisors to assist the republic in discussion with the creditors,” said Dr Ng’andu.

And asked what his message to the Zambian people was, Kamwbili simply said “just vote Lungu out, let him go back to Chawama.”

It’s wrong for govt to give US\$17m tender to an individual – Mwenye

By Natasha Sakala

FORMER Attorney General Musa Mwenye SC says there is no political will to fight corruption in the country, “especially from the highest office”.

And Mwenye says it is wrong for government to award a US\$17 million contract to an individual, warning that the State stands to lose if such an individual died.

Meanwhile, Mwenye says it is questionable that the presumption of innocence until proven guilty only applies to ministers, while civil servants whom they lead are presumed guilty when facing criminal investigations.

Speaking when he featured on Diamond TV’s Costa programme, Sunday, Mwenye said political will was the main ingredient needed for the country to fight corruption.

“You can’t fight corruption in a cosmetic manner. The most important ingredient in the fight against corruption is political will and political will is shown at the highest level and in a very clear manner; you can’t send mixed signals. In one breath, you are saying that we are fighting corruption and we are committed to it, in the other, you are saying the minister who is accused of abusing the office he is serving in can continue to serve...What message are we sending? The messaging is very clear, in this country there is no political will to fight corruption, and I think that’s just very clear. I get into trouble sometimes because I am a bit clear on these issues. Categorically, I can say to you, there is no political will to fight corruption,” Mwenye said.

He said although the country was fighting COVID-19, corruption was the biggest pandemic which the country was facing.

“You are dealing with COVID-19 with respect of hand sanitisers and so on, the biggest pandemic we have here is corruption, that’s a big problem. You cannot have the kind of leakages that

we are having in this country. You can’t harass police officers who are on the road block getting corruption money to buy bread, which is indefensible by the way, but then you are not fighting this grand corruption and when the FIC, which is a government institution, highlights these things, you go after them with such venom and call for their blood. Why? They are simply highlighting suspected corrupt transactions.

Mwenye observed that corruption was a security issue which could destabilise the country if left unchecked.

“Corruption is a security issue. These corrupt individuals become so powerful that they can destabilise a nation and that is what we don’t realise. They can destabilize a nation to an extent where the corrupt now start dictating what policy should be done and where it should be done and they become a security threat. You cannot allow a situation where people can just do whatever they want with respect to government resources and government contracts. It’s completely unacceptable and it starts with me as an individual, when I served in government, at the end of the day, I should avail myself to openness. If you are not willing to be open about what you have and how you got it, don’t serve in government, that’s why is called public service,” Mwenye said.

And Mwenye wondered why government could award a US\$17 million contract to an individual, saying this was something he never allowed during his time in office as Attorney General.

He was referring to a case where the ministry awarded a US\$17 million medical supply tender to an individual businessman called Imran Lunat, a tender which the incumbent Attorney General said he approved.

“The procurement system is only as strong as the people who insist on observing the rules. We have just

heard that an individual was given a contract for millions of dollars. When have you ever heard, Costa, that Musa Mwenye as an individual was given a contract as Musa Mwenye for millions of dollars? As I know it, procurement procedure is that a company should have been in existence for a certain number of years, that they should have some bank statements, they should give certain documents. I have not, in my time in government, I can’t recall an individual, other than those who can’t form corporate entities like lawyers; the Attorney General will appoint lawyers to work for the government because the law doesn’t allow us to have corporate entities, but I can’t remember endorsing the grant of a contract to an individual. So for me, it maybe new procedure, it maybe things that we haven’t seen yet, maybe new law but it’s just something that never happened in government, it’s a new thing to some of us.”

“What if the individual dies three days after receiving that advance? What happens? That is the reason why you give to an established company that has a track record because a company is more than one individual,” Mwenye said.

He said it is naïve to suggest that Ministers had no hand in procurement just because they do not sit in procurement committees.

“It is extremely naïve to suggest that a politician who heads any ministry cannot interfere in a procurement of a contract. They may not sit [in procurement committees] but it is naïve to suggest that they don’t interfere. You know Costa, even we were in government ourselves, sometimes there would be a contract on our table being reviewed by us in those offices and there would be phone calls, what is happening with this, it’s just that we stood our ground and said this can’t happen and if this continues, we have to report it’. There is interference that happens, let’s not beat about the bush and be less

than transparent in these things. It is not inconceivable for a minister to pick up the phone and prevail upon a junior officer to do certain things in a certain way, you know, without leaving finger prints,” he said.

Meanwhile, the former Attorney General wondered why civil servants were suspended when being investigated while ministers were kept in office even after arrest.

“So the civil servants who are suspended whenever they are charged with a criminal offence are not presumed innocent? Why are we presuming them guilty if we follow that argument? The truth of the matter is that the civil servants, whenever a civil servant is charged with a criminal offence, they are put on suspension. Let’s talk about morality, Costa if any of your employees here is accused of stealing anything from this organisation, will you let them continue working? It’s just illogical for me. How do you lead the public service as ministers and you have this Animal Farm arrangement where the civil servants are suspended or removed for these criminal allegations and then you have the people who are leading them not walking the talk. What message are you sending to these people who you are presiding over? How serious are we in fighting graft? We know that ministers were charged under Micheal Sata, they were fired..., of course we were giving that advice but he himself also was convinced that that is the right thing to do. World over, you don’t have a minister who is facing graft charges continuing to serve,” said Mwenye.

“How do you keep ministers in office while they are facing these serious criminal charges and you are having officers having to investigate these people from those official offices where the accused are using those offices, does it even make sense? No one is saying when they step aside then they are guilty”

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu says the idea from some church leaders that only sitting him down with UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema can end violence in Zambia is nonsense.

And President Lungu says he knows there's a plot by the opposition to humiliate him by sponsoring people to jeer him in certain areas.

Meanwhile, President Lungu has asked police to arrest all law breakers, regardless of which political party they represent.

Speaking upon arrival in Lukulu District of Western Province where he had gone to inspect some development projects, Monday, President Lungu said the church should advise "the other guy" to publicly denounce violence.

"Those of you who are concerned about the peace of this country, pray for this country. Pray for your leaders to see the imperative need for peace wherever they are. Pray for those in power and those in the opposition. If you want to advise those who are in political power, see them [and] talk to them quietly and tell them that 'mwana, what you are doing is very bad, so stop it.' I am saying in short, if it is me and the PF who are

wrong, please sit us down and tell us that what we are doing is wrong. If it's UPND who are wrong, tell them. Sit them down and tell them that 'stop it, you are destroying this country,' President Lungu said.

"This desire that you should put us together so that there is peace is nonsense because we know where violence is coming from, talk to the wrongdoers. And those of us who are Christians and some of them who claim to be Christians, we belong to you the church. So, call us individually and tell us that 'stop it.' The reason I am saying this is [because] there is a strategy which some of you may not know, the strategy to elevate violence."

He asked the church to talk to Hichilema and advise him to openly condemn violence.

"I am saying this because I have reliable information that some church leaders are saying that this violence can only end if we put Lungu and HH together, I am not ready to be told to stop violence because

I am saying 'stop the violence.' So, tell the other guy to stop violence right away. Demand that HH talks against violence openly [and] tells his people and the opposition leaders to stop it now," he said.

And President Lungu said he had information that there was a plot to insult and humiliate him even in Mongu.

"I am saying so because I had evidence before I came here that in Mongu, there was a plot to insult Lungu and humiliate me and even here, there is still a plot to insult me and humiliate me. The idea is that we should become confrontational and fight back then they turn the tables and say 'Lungu you are being violent, I refuse,' President Lungu said.

Meanwhile, President Lungu asked police to arrest all law-breakers.

"Police should arrest all wrongdoers regardless of political affiliation. Police should arrest all lawbreakers in this country regardless of

where they belong. Enough is enough. Mahatma Gandhi said 'an eye for an eye will leave your villages blind'. So please, PF, don't revenge, don't fight back. Let us show our peace to the Zambian people. I came in peace to talk about development," he said.

President Lungu said leaders cannot force people to support them by beating, cheating or manipulating the system.

"I, as President of the Republic of Zambia and president of the Patriotic Front what I am saying again here is that please, there is no room for violence. If you are angry, find a way of resolving your anger. It takes one foolish person to destroy the country. Please hear me. Time will come for you to decide who you choose as leaders starting from councillors to MPs to President in 2021 on August 12. So, just

go and get your Green National Registration Card and when the Electoral Commission of Zambia begins to register voters, go and get your voter's cards so that in 2021, you vote. For now, you have your councillors, you have your area member of parliaments, you have your traditional leaders, you have your president, work with them," President Lungu said.

"Leadership of whatever kind comes from God through the people. People decide who you will be if you will be a president, if you will be a minister, MP or councillor. Even chiefs, it is God who decides through the people. What we need to know is that we cannot govern without the will of the people, in whatever position we are governing. We only govern because people have allowed us to govern. So, let's impress the people so that



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Western Province PS Daniel Bukali, President Edgar Lungu, Shangombo DC Marks Kasabi and Provincial Minister Richard Kapita arrives in Shangombo on Saturday, July 11,2020. Picture by Salim Henry

PF won't lose, people still speak good about us – Banda

By Zindikilani Banda in Sinda

KAPOCHE PF member of Parliament Dr Charles Banda has told his electorates that the Patriotic Front party will not leave power in 2021, claiming that there are no signs that Zambians want change of government.

Speaking to his electorates in Kawenda area on Saturday, Dr Banda, who is also Minister of Local Government and Housing, said people still spoke good of the PF, adding that this was an indication that the party in government was still valued by the people.

He further said when change of government was imminent, the environment would reveal that people were fed up and wanted to change but said this was not the case for the PF government.

"We want to deliver and try to finish all our promises before next year so that next year, we are not accused of campaigning. You voted well by electing PF president, PF members of parliament, PF council chairpersons and PF councillors. We say thank you once again," Dr Banda said.

"PF is in power, PF is ruling as a government and PF, together with our president Edgar Lungu, will not leave in 2021 as we are still in power until 2026. When people decide to change government, the situation shows but the way things are, people still talk good of PF. Those thinking next year we are leaving [power], they are wasting their time.

He said President Edgar Lungu had shown "total love" for every Zambian, even in areas such as Dundumwezi, where he only garnered 35 votes out of 35,000.

And Dr Banda asked Zambians to condemn the booing of President Lungu by UPND sympathisers in Monze when he went to commission some developments, saying the behaviour was uncalled for.

He advised his electorates to punish the UPND in the ballot next year for insulting President Lungu.

"Our friends in UPND have no respect for leaders. Imagine the Zambian President went to commission houses for police officers but they lined up along the road showing as if they want to welcome him yet it was to boo him. No! No! That was too much. However, they undressed us by insulting our President so let's open our eyes, let's learn a lesson from what

they have done. What I can advise you, let's go and treat UPND in 2021 as a revenge for what they did in Monze," said Dr Banda.

And council chairperson Michael Phiri said in the history of Kapoche constituency, Dr Banda was the only member of Parliament who had done massive works of development.

He said even when he was in opposition, Dr Banda constructed Chakaka bridge and sunk a borehole.

Phiri, who is also district PF chairperson, further warned communities against trusting anyone in a PF T-shirt because there are "vultures in sheep skin" who wear the ruling party regalia.

And the council chairperson said it would be dangerous for UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema to become Republican President, alleging that he had "shown his unworthy leadership while still in opposition".

"Let's not be childish, Lungu was booed by HH's relatives in Monze, a sign of bad leadership. What more if he becomes a president? Let's wake up and act wisely," Phiri said.

Meanwhile, PF cadres harassed an old man, Jeffer Phiri, in Chakaka area, who had challenged Dr Banda about the rapid development he had promised during the 2016 election campaign.

"You came here to promise us a good road from here to Nyanje Hospital...we suffer a lot! Now you had said you will give us development and we voted for you, you went for good and now you come again. Where is development?" asked Phiri, who appeared to be in a drunken state.

But as Dr Banda answered Phiri, his security team descended on the old man by throwing dust on him and slapping him, a situation which made onlookers scamper in different directions for safety.

Headman Chakaka, Gwazani Zulu, condemned the beating of Phiri in his area, saying such acts would totally scare people away.

And earlier in Kawenda, chieftainess Nyanje's induna Fackson Ngoma thanked Dr Banda for frequently visiting his constituency and urged him to fulfill what was promised to avoid being called a liar next year when he returns to ask for votes.

Trying to end violence by sitting me, HH down is nonsense - Lungu

they have confidence in us and vote for us into office. You can beat people, you can cheat them, you can manipulate the process but if the people don't want you, they won't give you the support. So, win the hearts of the people first."

He also appealed to Lukulu residents not to allow politics to divide them.

"I am very happy that ever since I came to Barotseland here in Western Province, the important thing is unity among the people who live here regardless of their tribes. Let us not allow politics to divide us. Those of us who have the privilege to be in government should remember that we are Zambians first. Let us learn to respect each other. Let us not incite people to fight and injure themselves in our name. And for those of you who are our followers, please take a leaf from us. I am saying this because I have been told that there are political leaders who are insisting that you the youths as our followers should continue fighting so that there is chaos in this country," said President Lungu.

"For you who belong to PF, please emulate your leadership, emulate me as an example. There is no need to fight one another. If you are offended, seek justice through the law. If a certain leader tells you contrary then he doesn't feel for you. The opposition leaders and the ruling party leaders have got their own blood children whom they don't send to go and fight on their behalf. Ask yourselves why they can't send their brothers and children to go and fight for them? It's a shame that some politicians still believe in violence."

Govt receives 8,520 tablets for use in 2020 census

By Natasha Sakala

GOVERNMENT is calling on development cooperating partners and private sector entities to come on board and assist in the successful conducting of the national census to be conducted later this year.

And government has announced that it has received 8,520 of the 30,000 purchased tablets for enumerators' use in the first-ever e-census to be conducted in the country.

According to a statement issued by Ministry of National Development Planning Chibaula Silwamba, ministry permanent secretary Chola Chabala called for assistance from partners, financially and/or in kind to successfully conduct the Census.

"The Permanent Secretary urged Development Cooperating Partners and private sector entities to come on board and assist the Government financially and/or in kind to successfully conduct the Census, which has crosscutting benefits for all," read the statement.

And Chabala stated that an additional 4,260 tablets were expected during the course of the week which would bring the total to 12,780.

"The Zambia Statistics Agency, which is in the

Ministry of National Development Planning, has so far received 8,520 tablets and we expect to receive about 4, 260 in the next few days which will bring the total to 12, 780 tablets. We will receive the rest soon in readiness for the census. The Government of Zambia has bought these tablets and financed the census this far, which is confirmation of the Government's commitment to ensure that we successfully conduct the 2020 Census of Population and Housing and collect accurate data within a shortest possible time," he stated.

"Ministry of National Development Planning Permanent Secretary (Development Planning and Administration) Mr. Chola Chabala said the supplier this week delivered 8, 520 tablets of the 30, 000 tablets that the Government purchased for enumerators' use in the first-ever e-census. He said the 2020 Census will be the first of its kind to be conducted using electronic data collection methodology. Enumerators will utilise the tablets in the field to gather and transmit data for onward compilation at the census centre. The Permanent Secretary said the usage of tablets would enhance real time monitoring

of fieldwork, thereby minimise errors and help speed up processing of results. He said the Census will be conducted within the framework of international standards."

Chabala noted the importance of the census, saying it would be cardinal in forming the formulation of the eighth national development plan.

"The Permanent Secretary explained that census of population and housing was important as it provides the Government, cooperating partners, private sector entities, individuals, and other stakeholder with accurate data to enable them plan and implement socio-economic, political and other developmental undertakings vital for national development. Mr. Chabala said the results of the 2020 Census of Population and Housing will be cardinal in informing the formulation of the Eighth National Development Plan (8NDP) for the country," the statement read.

Chabala stated that the mapping and listing exercise had been successfully conducted adding that ZAMSTATS was on course to successfully conducting this year's census on population and housing.



The Opportunity Cost of Board Directorship

MY VIEW is that busy organisations want to bring on board busy people to join their rank as directors, but these individuals are just too busy to want to be engaged in another busy organization. The result is that individuals who are fully deserving to be directors are not easily available. They are already engaged in activities that pay them so much per day such that pulling them off their business even for half a day for board business is a huge opportunity cost. In other words, there are individuals who will carefully weigh-in an invitation to be director of a board.

Though I have not carried out an actual survey on why many people want to serve on boards in Zambia (and there are many who lobby to be appointed), I have some perceptive knowledge that three things drive this desire. Starting with what I consider to be the last motivating factor among the three, it is the desire to serve. There are individuals who have earned sufficient experience and will love to make a contribution to the current and future generations.

When you have made money and now in retirement, you begin to be concerned about legacy. This comes in many ways, such as ensuring organizations are strong enough to provide for needs of the future. In a PriceWaterHouse publication on Leadership in State Owned enterprises, I read the following, ‘Strong leadership sets out to create a legacy for the long term, ensuring that future generations of employees, and leaders, can draw on a reservoir of knowledge and assets and build on a sound foundation of organizational integrity, accountability and commitment.’

There is also the general assertion, which I passionately emphasise during board inductions, that directors act as trustees for an entire generation of people, ‘Public trust is the obligation placed on Directors to maintain, preserve and further develop and expend resources and to ensure that the organization’s activities remain in the public domain to benefit this and further generations.’

This is what motivates certain individuals to serve as directors in organizations, particularly public establishments. I read an interesting piece on the internet some 13 years ago that revealed that there are not many busy people who are willing to sit on public boards,’ ‘A major problem faced by boards today is that they are charged with doing the work of government without the stable funding of government. Often the people who have the best skills have no time to volunteer. Also, many people

who are active in various parts of the community find themselves in conflict of interest situations.” We, should, therefore, applaud those individuals who offer their time and expertise to serve on such boards.

The second reason individuals seek to sit on boards is for purposes of leveraging. Being a director can be a springboard for wider opportunities. First, you enrich your CV. Second, board directorship gives you the kind of networks and connections that can help you fulfil personal interest. Third, sitting on a board can lead to another Board appointment based on consideration for experience. I remember telling one organisation two months ago I would not accept the nomination of appointment as a board member because I was already sitting on too many boards (a topic for another day). This disclosure prompted additional interest to have me on their board. It signalled to them if I was that much on demand, there was some intrinsic value that others had seen about my potential effectiveness as a director.

The main reason many people want to be on boards in Zambia is financial empowerment. There is this belief that board appointments

can be the best way of making money while seated on a round table glancing at board papers, seconding minutes (you did not read), munching biscuits, and getting paid for it.

The truth is that there are boards that pay quite well. We did some survey a couple of years ago and established that some commercial banks have retainer fees in the north of K60,000 per quarter, which translates to K240,000 per annum. If converted as a monthly income, it comes to K20,000. This is the gross salary of a university lecturer and very few civil servants come closer to this figure. When you look at this, some directors will not want to leave the board when the term expires, its quite healthy money. That is of course for some commercial banks and other high rewarding companies which even remunerate much more than this.

The average remuneration in public boards is K3,500 per quarter. This figure is comparatively quite low but only for those with a high opportunity cost. If I lose half a day reading board papers and lose another half day attending a board meeting, it can be very costly if my business generates three times this much for this period. I do remember having a difficult decision about attending a board meeting with a sitting allowance of K2500 when I had another engagement for the same period of time where I was going to be paid ten times more. If the financial motive had prompted my board appointment, it was cheaper sending an apology for the board meeting than lose that much money.

There are many Zambians who desire to sit on boards because they view the opportunity as the means for survival. Unfortunately, the moment such

individuals realise that they are paying a financial price for spending so much time to earn so little, they seek ways of enhancing their compensation. For public entities, they will seek to engineer project tours to earn something from subsistence allowances.

We also had another interesting case in Zambia a few years ago when the Auditor General revealed that one Board had 21 board meetings in one single calendar year. This usually happens when a comma is missing in the management report and someone will bring forward a motion, ‘Chair, management has done a mediocre job. We assigned them to report financial figures with three columns indicating the trend over three years but now they decided to incorporate only two years. We do not accept this. We give management two days to respond adequately to our demand and we meet again next week.’

This is the price we pay for appointing to the board individuals whose objective is not to contribute to the organisation but to eat from it. In deciding on remuneration of directors, it is important to consider critical factors: What is the organisation’s financial performance: long-term versus short-term? Is the board helping towards the achievement of strategic and operational goals? What is the scope of responsibilities of the director? What are the personal skills, other characteristics of the director? What are the typical levels of remuneration in the organisation and the industry? What are the associated individual and institutional hazards or risks of the role? What is acceptable (culturally) in Zambia?

My sincere view is that a board will never sufficiently compensate a competent director for the contribution they make. This is because board directorship is not for that four hours meeting. It is about the time you spend before the board meeting and the actual contribution you make to the organisation.

Directors give the organisation the strategic focus it needs (topic I will discuss soon). The board is involved in the contingent planning of the organisation so that the set objectives are met through the oversight role. Directors provide a system for the setting of priorities when there are competing demands on limited resources.

By doing this, directors would have saved significant resources for the organisation. There is no board compensation that is ever adequate for this kind of intellectual, moral and technical contribution to the organisation. There was even a time I asked myself, ‘Why should I sit on another company’s board, provide exceptional ideas for the transformation of the organisation when I am supposed to be with my own business?’ When you frankly address this question, you will realise that board appointments can be a huge opportunity cost unless your motive is to simply make a contribution for the benefit of future generations. Next week: ‘The Micro-managing Board: That is Overstepping Your Role!’

Chibamba Kanyama is a Fellow of the Institute of Directors- Zambia and Trainer of Trainers on Corporate Governance.



SHODDY ROAD WORKS SMELL OF CORRUPTION

BY Geoffrey Pinyiwibulula, Deputy Chairman, Industrial Development

Pursuant to the statement by President Hakainde Hichilema recently on the shoddy road construction works that the PF has been doing in Lusaka, and perhaps across the entire face of this country, I wish to state our party’s concern that all these road resurfacing works which PF contractor Avic International has embarked on are indeed a definite cost to this country, whichever way the Minister Vincent Mwale would choose to look at it.

Contrary to the Minister’s assertions that the resurfacing of these roads is being done at absolutely no cost to the Zambian treasury, we in the UPND and many other discerning minds out there, are seeing cost, and more cost written all over these works. To that effect, we feel duty bound to put our concerns about the increasing cost in a perspective that will not only benefit the general populous but the Minister as well.

Mr. Minister, have you heard the saying that time is money? Have you seen the traffic congestion in and around town resulting from the closure of Lumumba Road? How can you say the roads are being redone at absolutely no cost to government, when as a result of the closure of these roads, the time it takes someone to navigate from point A to point B has more than doubled? Knowing that the very people that get stuck in traffic do constitute part of the machinery that turns the economic wheels of this country, it is a no-brainer that anything that tampers with the smooth running of this machinery, does ultimately cause and indirect cost to government, doesn’t it?

Since it takes longer than normal for one to get to their destination when the roads are heavily congested, as has been the case of late, it also goes without saying that the amount of fuel that one is going to use, whose price has of late already hit unprecedented highs, has increased, much to the burgeoning of the very economic cost that the Minister can hardly see because the extra expenses on fuel ultimately affect economic output. If this be not a cost, then what is it?

When it comes to the issue to do with government projects, of which road construction is part, we in the UPND have been as clear about how we intend to do things differently as we have clearly pointed out the mistakes the PF has been making in their handling of road construction projects. We have been called all sorts of names raising corruption alarm in the processes that lead to the awarding of road contracts. Much as the reconstruction of these roads has justified our concerns, we do not take any delight in this justification as it comes at a huge cost to the people of Zambia. We only hope the people of Zambia will now fully know and understand this government for

what it is; a selfish government. As an objective political party, UPND has over the years attracted objective minds within its ranks, who are also experts in divergent fields. Therefore, when we criticise PF for the manner they are handling road construction projects in this country, we do so from a very technically informed stand point. The Minister talked about the defect liability clause embedded in the contract as being the reason government won’t spend anything as the road works are being redone before its expiration. Maybe we can now go a bit technical to have even just a snippet understanding of the technical aspect of road construction, shall we?

In road construction, just like in many other construction contracts, a defects liability period is simply a period within which a contractor is obliged to re-do a particular portion of their works which could not have come out in conformity with the required standard, as may have been noticed from the defects that may have arisen from the works in question within this period. In other words, we could simply call it a guarantee period.

What is surprising about these particular contracts, however, especially in the case of Lumumba Road, is how the entire stretch from Down Town to Mandevu Roundabout has turned out to be a defect. According to what we know about these construction works, much as we in the UPND appreciate the defects liability clause, we will always endeavor to restrict it to what it really is; a safenet to cover any weakness in a piece of work that may have eluded the stringent quality-ensuring eye of the inspectors.

However, as can be seen from the unfortunate turn of events where Lumumba Road in its entirety has turned out to be a defect, the only plausible conclusion about the PF’s work culture is that for them, the defect liability clause in a contract is a replacement for quality ascertaining inspections. Otherwise, if the inspection was done as per standard practice of collecting samples at every about 200 meters of the road, the actual resurfacing loss, regardless of who it has accrued to, would have been mitigated before it grew this big.

No matter how dip the PF would choose to bury their heads in the sand and refuse to accept, not only the Lumumba Road but their whole much bragged about road construction policy as a sheer mess, to an extent of vilifying and dismissing our voice of correction as merely jealous for their success, the quality of these roads itself will always vindicate us. For the current problem of having to resurface these roads, though within the Minister’s much talked about defect liability period, we in the UPND don’t know how this would be a contractor’s problem alone when entirely the RDA’s duty to inspect and

approve these projects before handover. Even the excuse that the Minister is giving that Lumumba Road had not even be commissioned is at best frivolous because it doesn’t save this country a dime. Though making a mistake may be a problem, not learning from that mistake is even a bigger problem. Out of all the mistakes the PF have made in the way they approached their road construction crusade, the PF seems not to have learned from any. The biggest and perhaps most difficult to resist on their part is that of single sourcing in the awarding of contracts. For the PF, save for Afcons, their search for a road contractor has always started and ended with the Chinese. But why do they seem to have this soft spot for the Chinese?

The answer is simple. They have found the Chinese to be the most accommodating of their pilfering strategies in contracts. How would anyone expect them to ditch their partners whose work policy is to avail everyone with a particular service, with the only differentiating aspect being quality? The Chinese can truly live up to the “telala musuma”, good tailor principle, and will always design your coat according to the size of your cloth. Furthermore, they will not turn you away even when you tell them to write you two different receipts, with one altered to your liking. This is what has made them PF favourites.

We in the UPND do not believe in cheap things, especially with such things as infrastructure because we know that they ultimately turn out to be a lot more expensive and just put unnecessary pressure on the already stressed public coffers. It is quite sickening to see how while Zambia in her situation yearns for a leadership that will make the most out of her corruptly dwindled resources, those in charge have sought to fish on troubled waters, much to the suffering of innocent people.

The UPND still stands on terra ferma in criticising even the rate at which the roads are purported to be done in this country as being the highest in the entire region.

The on-going rehabilitation works on Lumumba road are not the fault of the contractor but the consultant who in this case is RDA or their agent. So PF government should not run away from meeting the costs of these poor works. If not who do they expect to meet the poor quality of materials earlier used on this road? And who did not provide the traffic data on that road? The answer to these questions is RDA which is a wing of government which should pay the costs of the repeated works.

As UPND government we will clean the system at RDA by decentralising to district levels. This will make road maintenance budgets for district roads reach the targeted roads on time to the intended project. As for National roads, professionals and not cadres at RDA head office, will handle them.

By Mirriam Chabala
CONSTITUTIONAL lawyer John Sangwa, State Counsel, says President Edgar Lungu’s corruption fight is a joke and that his defence for not firing Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya makes him sound like the minister’s lawyer rather than the Head of State.

And Sangwa says President Lungu’s advisors should not be blamed for the mess in the country but the Head State himself because he is the one Zambians elected to manage the affairs of the country.

Meanwhile, Sangwa has advised the ruling Patriotic Front to hire a crowd to boo opposition UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema if they are still aggrieved by the booing incident that happened to President Lungu when he visited Monze, as opposed to criminalizing the issue.

Speaking when he featured on Muvi Television’s The Assignment programme, Sunday night, Sangwa charged that President Lungu’s argument on why he had not fired Dr Chilufya was misguided.

He said he did not think President Lungu was serious about fighting corruption.

“What is even sad is the subsequent argument by the President, which was basically a misguided argument to say presumption of innocence and so forth. First of all, it’s even wrong; it is not the job of State House to give legal opinions. If anything, if there was to be any legal statement made, that should have come possibly from the Attorney General, not from State House. I mean it’s like the President is now acting as the minister’s lawyer, arguing a case for the minister, you don’t do that. The President is the Head of State; he is looking at the interest of each and every person, he doesn’t need to show support or favour for one person. We are

not saying that when you resign, then you are guilty and that’s what that misleading statement from State House was trying to suggest that if he (Chitalu Chilufya) resigns, then we are saying he’s guilty, nonsense! That’s not what the law says. It is simply a requirement because the whole essence of justice is all about perception,” Sangwa said.

“Can you tell me; there is this young magistrate trying to adjudicate. Are you saying this magistrate will feel free to freely adjudicate on this matter? Because clearly, there is already a signal sent that this minister standing before me has the backing of the Head of State. Now do you really believe that this magistrate will not have those issues at the back of his mind? Of course he will. [So] President Lungu’s fight against corruption is a joke, that’s how I would describe it. I don’t think he’s serious about fighting corruption, he’s not.”

He said the moral thing to do for a minister charged with corruption was to resign.

“In a normal functioning system...the moment the minister was under investigations, two things would have happened: the minister on his own accord, he ought to have resigned and if he was not willing to resign, then the President should have relieved him of his responsibilities. When we say you resign or you are relieved of your duties, we are not saying you are guilty, the reason you resign is that when you are a minister, it is a position of trust. But when the ACC come to arrest you and they even make a decision to arrest you, they are

basically saying that ‘we have investigated you and we have established that there is reason to believe you have committed an offence,” Sangwa said. “Now when you are being prosecuted, you are being prosecuted by the people of Zambia. So when you are serving as minister while under prosecution, it becomes a contradiction. So to avoid that contradiction, what do you do? You resign. The other point is that when you are facing criminal charges, these are very serious matters because you can go to jail. Unless you believe that the entire arrest and prosecution is a sham and the system is already rigged and you know that you will be acquitted at the end of the day, then there is reason for you not to take it seriously. But any reasonable person facing criminal charges, the first thing that will be there is for that person to focus. They ought to resign so that they focus on defending themselves because these are serious charges.”

He said a minister served at the pleasure of the President and could be removed anytime for any reason or for none.

“You are there to serve the people, that is why we are saying for you to give integrity and legitimacy to the whole process, you resign. In any case, why would you cling on to any office? Are you the only one capable of performing the function of Minister of Health in the Republic? Of course not, but the point is this; these are all examples of lawlessness,” Sangwa said.

And commenting on the foreign road construction pictures that were posted on President Lungu’s Facebook page, the prominent lawyer said such a mistake should not be blamed on the State House advisors because the Head of State could fire them if they were not good at the job.

“Advisors don’t get elected; it’s the President who gets elected. So the mandate ultimately is with the President. Therefore, whatever happens at the end of the day, the buck stops with the President. So when you

try to blame the advisors then you are simply avoiding the issue, the culprit is the President because at the end of the day, we don’t even know maybe they may even have advised. The President is not bound to his advisors; ultimately, it is his decision because he chose those advisors. So if they are failing him, then he himself has failed in terms of his own judgment. And the President doesn’t always take what he’s told, at the end of the day he has to make his own judgment call. This has nothing to do with the advisors; you can’t blame the mess that is going on in the country on the advisors, you have to blame the President because he’s the one in charge,” Sangwa said.

He also encouraged the ruling PF members to hire a crowd to boo Hichilema if they did not appreciate the booing of President Lungu in Monze as opposed to threatening violence.

“If you have reduced the booing of the President to a political party issue, what stops PF from organizing if they have identified that the leader of the opposition is the culprit? Why can’t they arrange also to boo him? They can do that if they have the following and they can manage to rent some crowd here and there. It is so easy to rent a crowd in this country anyway. Of course it’s not nice to be booed, but is there a law that was broken? There was no law that was broken. You expect such things in the political arena. There is a reason some of us are not in the political arena because we don’t have a thick skin. So when you get in the political arena, expect such things, but if you can’t stomach it then get out of the political arena. So my point is that it’s not an offense to boo someone but if it is an offense then let the people be arrested,” Sangwa said.

He further condemned some PF ministers who were threatening to block Hichilema from entering some parts of Zambia following the Monze incident, saying it was impossible to run a country through threats.

“You have other people saying that leader of opposition will not be allowed to go to Northern Province, what have we become? That’s madness! What’s sad here is that you have ministers threatening violence and asking people not to go to certain parts of the country. Nobody owns Zambia, we own Zambia together. And the police know that it is actually an

offense to threaten violence but those ministers have not been called to the police and have them warned that they have no right to threaten violence against other citizens, for me

that is the saddest thing. You can’t run a country through threats; you run a country by providing convincing arguments why things should not be done, why things should only be done this way and not the other way,” said Sangwa, who also expressed shock at the billboards mounted around the country in support of the Constitution Amendment No. 10 of 2019, describing them as “crazy and complete nonsense”.

We’ll be judged by our actions – Shonga

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

NEWLY-ELECTED Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) president Abyudi Shonga says he will consistently sing about professionalism in order for his council to have impact in the country.

And Shonga says it is normal for people to accuse the association of being compromised but that the current leadership will be judged by their actions.

Shonga, who is a former Attorney general, said in an interview with News Diggers that he wanted to see professionalism among lawyers.

“I am not going to downplay the role that previous presidents of LAZ have played because we are all unique in terms of our projections and in terms of what we bring to the table. But what I will tell you is that the song that I will consistently sing is that I want to see professionalism in how we go about our business. And once that is achieved, it opens up other doors for the association to have impact on various processes going on in the country,” Shonga said.

And asked to comment about the some sentiments that his election symbolised the end of LAZ because he was pro-government, Shonga said it was normal for people to think like that.

“We will be judged by our actions. And it’s very normal for people to take positions because sometimes LAZ has to comment on sensitive political matters. So, it depends on which side of the spectrum you are and your comment will of course be guided by the position that you have taken. But for us, we are lawyers. We are professional people and that is how my council will act in a professional manner, well, in mind with the Act that establishes the Law Association of Zambia,” he said.

Shong thanked members of the legal fraternity for placing their confidence in him.

“The Law Association of Zambia is an important institution in this country. I am clear when I say that I am happy to have the opportunity and the faith reposed in me by members to lead it,” he said.

Meanwhile, Shonga appealed to the media to be professional and add value to the governance of the country.

“I value the press or the media. I value your role because you are the ones responsible for taking information out there. So my plea is that just as I am going to try really hard to act professional as LAZ, we also hope that the media can do the same. Then, we will both be adding good value to the country. Let us all be professional,” said Shonga.

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- 2 Semi-Detached 3 Separate Gates (Corner Bedroomed Flats On Plot). Each Flat Has 2 Bedrooms Which Are Self-contained, Own Borehole, Wall Fenced in Makeni.
- 4 Bedroomed House, Master Self-contained, Own Borehole, Wall Fenced in Chilanga.
- 4 Bedroomed House, Master Self-contained in Chilanga.
- 6.4 Acres, 7.4 Acres Land Near Zesco Power Lines in shimabala.
- Residential Plots In Kafue And Barmoral In Chilanga. Contact: 0954815407 / 0977888042

ANY fool can spend, but not everyone can make money. Zambia has many problems, but the biggest issue we have on our hands is debt. That's the most serious issue. We are concerned that all these political parties that are expressing interest to lead this country are running away from this issue in their debates and manifestos. First of all, we can eliminate PF because they caused the problem. So, they can't be the solution. But when we look at what the opposition is offering, we are hearing a lot of silence on the issue, why?

People are just saying 'we will fix it', but how? When we ask these questions, our critics say we are decampaigning the opposition. No we're not. But if asking such questions amounts to decampaigning the opposition, then let it be. You see, we never interrogated Michael Sata to say 'bwana, you are promising more money in our pockets, how are you going to achieve that?' We never questioned how he would lower taxes and create millions of jobs. We have learnt a lesson now and we must never fall for the same rhetoric again.

Our politicians have all these popular ideas but at the end of the day, we have ended up with a debt mountain of almost US\$15 billion, and people still have no money in their pockets. The only money that is available is in the pockets of those who control

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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Zambia's debt must be main campaign issue for 2021 polls

national resources and award government tenders, the President, his ministers and a few MPs. So we need to ask these questions to make our politicians understand that this time, we are serious about credible leadership.

Our current debt is approaching US\$15 billion. The question is, how are you going to liquidate this debt and still be able to develop the country? We have a big problem here that we must not downplay. A good portion of this debt we are talking about is commercial. Those Eurobonds and other commercial loans they were contracting need to be repaid. So what's your repayment plan as a government in waiting. We are happy that you will fix it, but what's your

fixing formula?

Our people should be in position to vote for a candidate that has a viable plan on how to address this debt problem. This is what the citizens of this country, including the technocrats at the Central Bank, want to hear. They have sung relentlessly about prudent use of resources, practical implementation of austerity measures, cutting down on borrowing, but this message has been falling on deaf ears. We need leaders who can provide a realistic and honest turnaround plan.

We have scanned through the manifestos and ten-point plans of those who are seeking votes from Zambians, but we cannot see anyone who

is addressing this debt issue. Zambians need to evaluate the manifestos and ten-point plans. Are they viable? We have intelligent people in this country who can analyse. We have economists who can know whether you are talking nonsense or not. Show us your plan.

Donor dependency is not a reliable debt dismantling plan. Look at what has happened during this Covid-19 pandemic! Most of these Western governments are fast losing interest in helping Zambia. Not long ago, they gave relief aid to our neighbours, but they refused to consider Zambia. It's easy to understand them because our leaders have demonstrated a high level of recklessness and are

unteachable. So, who is going to give money to such a stubborn government? Like any other investment, the rules of donor aid are simple: if you are irresponsible, there is nothing for you! No one is willing to fund your stupidity?

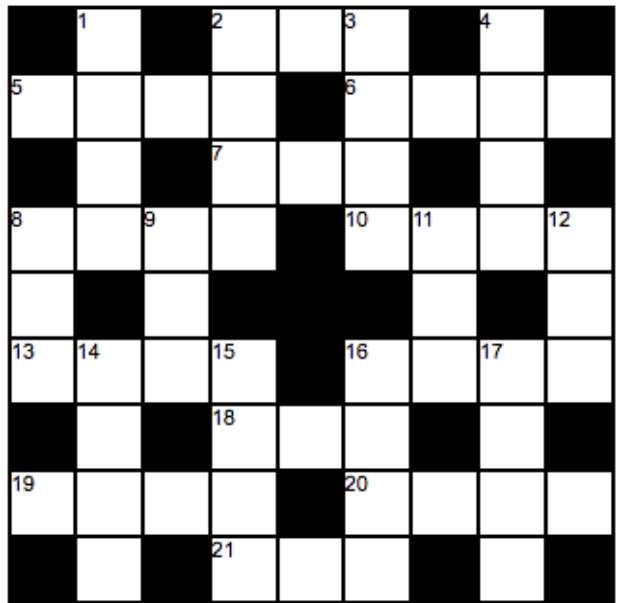
How can a poor country like Zambia have leaders swimming in so much riches? And when a global summit comes up, they go with begging bowls seeking funding for more projects so that they can enrich themselves further through corruption. When the donors give you money to help your poorest and vulnerable, you divert that money and buy luxury cars and boats for your friends and families? Is that not stupidity? None of these

leaders have had such conspicuous wealth. Most of them were poor. Where has all this money come from? You cannot swim in riches in the midst of poverty, it simply doesn't add up. The end result is debt and more debt. So we need people who have a plan, and this plan should include an overhaul of the procurement system which is riddled with endless flaws.

Recently, we heard the Chinese Ambassador saying "as one way of helping Zambia, China has decided to cancel interests on all loans that are due at the end of 2020". Now, if you are saying that you are canceling interest on all Chinese loans that are falling due in 2020, that's a very small proportion of what you need to pay back to China. So, they are sweet-talking you and you are very happy and excited that you even want to borrow more. That's how reckless our leaders are.

Any fool can spend, but not everyone can make money. Any party that will win the next elections will first look at the budget. And that is when reality will dawn. There will be no money left to run the economy. How will you run the government? These are the questions that all the 2021 contenders must answer. Yes, the PF has failed to find the solution, but what's your plan as the government in waiting? We are challenging presidential aspirants to a debate on this issue. Tell us!

Crossword puzzle No 645



“A superior man in dealing with the world is not for anything or against anything. He follows righteousness as the standard.”
- Confucius

- Across**
2. Stitch
5. Weight measurement
6. Deserve
7. Web address
8. Fail to mention
10. Temporary worker
13. Equal amounts
16. Glance over
18. Iota precursor
19. Skiing surface
20. Reebok rival
21. Small amount
- Down**
1. Gift tag word
2. Lewd material
3. Contusion
4. Prudish; proper
8. Mined material
9. Make angry
11. Deer relative
12. ___-pom
14. Blow off steam
15. A lizard
16. Beach surface
17. Tattooist's supply

Crossword puzzle No 644



Readers' Feedback

Wina's claim that PF has put money in some people's pockets

Editor,

"Yes we know, it's in cadres and Ministers pockets!" - Chishimba Shipanuka

"Mum rest and bear us the insults... We are not in the mood to argue but in the mood to retire you and your son!" - Andrew Benjamin Kalota

"Sometimes it's better to keep quite". - Misinzo Maunga

"For sure. You've put more money in the bottomless pockets of the few thieves in your inner circle. You think we don't know that?!" - Masiliso Malale

"Madam I see now why Mweetwa called you shameful!" - Himoonga J Nkombo

I have alot of respect for you madam and your family. I knew the WINA BROTHERS very well but of late I'm getting disappointed with your statements. Please, tone down and retire in dignity!" - Levy Ngulube Sr.

"Mama your age and your office commands so much respect. Please stop swimming in this kind of politics. Your being quite commands respect than your talking. You leave us with no choice but to respectfully ask you to retire from politics". - Temani Mwale

"Ati in some people's pockets... But zoona, Mweetwa please don't apologise I now understand why you refused to apologise!" - Dennis Makowane

"I like the fact that she has mentioned that 'some' people, she actually was supposed to say that they have put more money in the pockets of some FEW people, we know them!!!" - Innocent Mufalo

"Yes, we saw the video of the honourable giving it to some old ladies". - Thabale Ngulube

"Cornelius Mweetwa was right! #Shameful & #Shallow! On gassing she lied! On this one she lied!" - Jones Freeman Simukoko



EDITOR'S NOTE:

Go to our News Diggers! Facebook page, select a story you like and jot down your comment. We will pick that as your feedback and get you published on this page. The shorter the comment the higher the chance of getting published. Note that we block Facebook users who use abusive language.

Kafwaya's COVID-19 positive test result

Editor,

"If they can fake roads, they can as well fake corona virus.... So trust these guys at your own risk! There's no truth in them!" - Ian Malekhanie

"Beans!!!" - Kelly Likokoto

"Corona yapa zed! So when he comes for debate tomorrow he will be up and running". - Malcom Mwelwa

"This Covid in Zambia is very selective its only targeting high profile PF ministers". - Kenny Chewe

"We know were this is going, BEANS!" - Ezra Madaliso Phiri

"Bring bill 10 medicine, he will be cured and rush to parliament. Bill 10 is the best medicine so far for PF parliamentarians". - Martin Ngandu

"Bring Bill 10 in parliament he will be negative, try that medicine". - Briant Muunga

"The only vaccine for these guys is to table Bill 10 in Parliament, he will have a quick quick recoverly. These cheaters tefintu". - Chisala Modest

'There's everything wrong with Lungu campaigning while on duty!'

Dear editor,

"Everything is wrong with it, this is why I have issues with you, it has been difficult for you to follow stipulated rules on politics when you start ruling you can't be campaigning you will be focused in your party affairs rather than the national affairs". - Andrew Longa

"Head of state bakamba! Campaign mode activated since 2014... Akalayiti takashimapo! Like a corrolla ya taxi driver". - Kopala Physio

"How careless and heartless can a head of state be, putting the people he swore to protect at risk. Lets keep these for future reference...." - Gershom Habile

"He doesn't do anything really....got to look busy". - Krash Infinix

"Lawlessness, greed and selfishness. And desperation to stay in power. Even when he knows he has already served two terms in office. Coming from someone who swore to uphold the Constitution. We deserve better". - Daniel Maswahu

"The only president ever in panic mode!" - Kimmick Senior Palapala

German Envoy on Zambians jeering politicians within acceptable range of expressing opinion

Dear editor,

"The biggest problem in PF now is, it's full of bootlicking cadres who get paid by championing a no vision agenda". - Danny Chitalu Chilufya

"Jeering/ booing is actually a nuisance while those PF statements in response are tribal, hate-speech and incitement to violence!" - Collins Munthali

"Wina azalila because they think grownups don't get criticised..." - Kapembwa Wigan Chansa

"The problem with PF is that it survives on lies, deception and inconsistencies... So every little thing makes them agitated! Because that booing was not even suppose to make headlines, but for some strange reasons they made a big deal out of it... See the embarrassment now!" - Ian Malekhanie

"Shameful that our politicians continue dragging especially the more enlightened general populace in exposing their backwardness over things that do not matter... So shameful!" - Douglas Simonda

"Those with real democracy have spoken". - Musese Miyoba

"Bootlicking...only problem at the moment!!" - Thomson Chongwe



By Julia Malunga
PATRIOTIC Front national mobilization committee chairperson Richard Musukwa says the fact that PF cadres were beaten by Mufulira residents and some UPND cadres for trying to stop a program featuring UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema is not a that the ruling party is losing popularity.

But some PF youths say PF is finished on the Copperbelt.

In an interview, Musukwa, who is also Mines Minister, said PF was still the party of choice.

“Popularity is not lost by orchestrated political violence as evidenced from the Mongu and Mufulira incidences. As PF, I want to urge all our members countrywide to remain peaceful and not fall prey to the violence that is being orchestrated by the UPND. Elections are won through the ballot and not through machinery of violence. And certainly, the violence that was in Mufulira is condemned and it is not indicator of losing power. You cannot lose power by violence, it is evil and as PF, our members are attacked, they must not reiterate. I heard some political leaders who have said they should defend themselves, that is negligence! The Presidency must be respected. If UPND think they can sway the thinking of Zambians through propaganda, they must brace themselves for the worst,” said Musukwa.

“Grip on the Copperbelt, including the opposition strongholds, is not lost by violence; that reflection is coming from people with evil minds. Elections are won by getting the hearts of the people across the country through the ballot and not by booing and violence. PF remains a party of choice! We are determined to fight poverty and hunger and ensure that corruption which is enemy number one is fought. The people of Zambia rejected UPND. They are destabilizing the country and putting the country under fear because of violence and hooliganism is not a recipe for changing government. The UPND is headed for another big defeat of their lifetime.”

But some PF youths said the party had lost popularity on the Copperbelt.

In several audios posted on PF blogs, one of the youths said he had stopped supporting the party.

“Nomba ni banani abalaya mukulilwa PF abena Spax

abakwata abantu mwaliba twala ku jele. Abantu mwabapela dump 67 ama minister baleta ba lawyer. Aba bena ama guys baku Mufulira ba PF mwabapela fye ulupili, mwabapela license yeka yeka. Nani walaya muku lwilwa ulubuli lwa PF? Mulefuma ku Lusaka uko kwine ku intercity naku Soweto mwaisha lwa ulubuli kuli konse muchalo mu Zambia. Mwalimona kwati twali sekelamo? Nga tulelanda mulemona kwati tatwakwata amano tulifipuba. Mwasenda dump 67 mwapela ba minister. Mwabula ulupili lwa Ku Chingola mwatwalisha umuntu ku jele (Who is now going to fight on behalf of the PF? Guys like Spax who had some backup and used to fight for the party were sent to jail. You gave dumpsites to ministers and even brought lawyers. The PF cadres were only given licenses. So now who will fight on behalf of the party? They should be coming all the way from Lusaka to come and fight on their behalf. You think we are happy? When we are talking you think we don't think, we are fools? How can you give the dump sites to a minister and send people to jail?” he asked.

“Bakala myuma ififine. Loleni fwebafitala twali kala zee teti tuye mukulwa ulubuli lwa PF. Aba bene mule pela ama one kwacha ebakalamikonka. Tapali neo unga mikonka. Tatutina no kutina ifwe. Ifyabupuba tule ikala nensala imwe mulelya. Ifi bana fyenu mulefitwala kuma skulu aya kuma England nakwisa uko. Ifwe abana besu baleya kuma community schhol. Twami votela twami winisha ama election mwatampa ukututinya ati tule ku twala ku jele. Naku Lusaka uko kwine balatampa ukumiponona ba UPND. Lesa ni malyotola. (They will be beating you. Us stubborn ones we have taken a step back. We cannot be fighting on behalf of PF. Those you are giving one kwachas are the ones who will be following you around. We cannot be hungry when you are feasting, that is foolishness. You are taking your children to schools overseas when our children are going to community schools. We voted for you and helped you win and when we talk you are threatening to send us to jail? Even in Lusaka you will be beaten by the UPND. God is a God of fairness).”

Another youth said the PF cadres were booed by Chililabombwe residents during a march against the UPND.

“Kuno ku Chililabombwe kwachiba protest iyakweba ati HH naba UPND...Musebanya weka weka uchitike kuno. Bachiba wela abantu benu ba PF. Noti bamibepa ati standstill. Mutumine ba bululu benu abaku Chililabombwe ati bushe pa ground PF olo ba MP chili shani? Ichilemi ponena ba PF chikali. Yambeni ukupanga peace na bantu nanguniwe cadre tontokanya there is tomorrow,

Nganimuno mu Copperbelt I don't think mulafwala ifa ku fwala fya PF ngayaisuka fye campaign. Bakalami wela fye. Ilya yine yachitike ku Monze eya chitika kuli ba PF abachila marchinga. (Here in Chililabombwe, people were protesting against UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema and the party. It was embarrassing, there were booed. They should not lie that they brought the town to a standstill. PF is not ready to believe what will befall on them. Ask any of your relatives who are here and ask them if PF or the area

member of parliament is popular. What I can advise the PF is that it's high time you stared making peace with people. You have to think of what will happen tomorrow. I don't think people will be wearing PF regalia when campaigns begin. People will be booing them. What happened in Monze is exactly what happened here when the PF were marching),” said the youth. Meanwhile another youth said the PF had lost popularity in Mufulira. “Kuli akantu kuno! Ewo bachetekleka ati commander

Mufulira 1. Bachuma! Tamwaba PF Mufulira. Muli zee. Filepitana fi UPND tekwakwasha ukufika. Bakumone ulefwala akatenge ka PF file uma not ukwangala. Katwishi eko bafifunysishe ifi. (There is chaos here! The person they believe in was badly beaten. There is no PF in Mufulira, it is quiet. The UPND are roaming around the town. It's not a playground the UPND shouldn't see you wearing PF regalia, you will be beaten. We don't know where these UPND cadres have come from),” said the youth.

PF official on the run after staging armed robbery, beating cops at Lsk Central Police

By Julia Malunga
POLICE in Lusaka are on a manhunt for Patriotic Front Eastern Province Youth Chairperson Emmanuel J Banda, commonly known as Jay Jay, who is facing aggravated robbery charges.

On Saturday last week, Banda mobilised armed PF cadres and stormed Lusaka Central Police where they beat up some unsuspecting officers on duty and got away with an undisclosed amount of money, belonging to one of the officers.

Sources say the incident happened after the C5 anti-robbery squad shot and killed a suspect earlier, who happens to be a relative to Banda. The suspected robber died after sustaining four bullet wounds.

This infuriated the PF official who demanded to meet the officers involved in the shooting incident. However, the officers did not comply, prompting Banda to mobilise cadres and besiege the provincial police headquarters, with at least one visible firearm.

Noting the arrival of Banda, armed with a gun, some officers scampered into hiding while one of the officers, Ian Mbewe who is charge of anti-motor vehicle theft unit, fell victim to a thorough beating.

Banda and his gang then left the police station and went on the run, before officers could mobilise to take him on.

Lusaka Province Police

Commissioner Nelson Phiri, who was present during the raid of his station, was unreachable for a comment, but his Eastern Province counterpart Luckson Sakala confirmed that police in the region were also looking for Banda, who had fled from Lusaka.

“That incident of cadres beating a police officer happened in Lusaka. Here in Chipata we have just been looking for this fugitive suspect. He ran away from Lusaka. I will not disclose the name. We have launched a manhunt for this person and we will not mention the name so that he is left in suspense.”said Commissioner Sakala.

Banda is the same PF official who urinated in the mouth of then Post Newspaper Reporter Peter Sukwa in December 2015, during the presidential by-election campaigns in Vubwi.

He was fined K14, 000 for assault after being found guilty by the Vubwi Magistrates' Court.

In February last year, Banda was expelled from the party by Provincial Chairman Andrew Lubusha, on grounds that he had breached the PF constitution, but President Edgar Lungu nullified the expulsion, saying Banda who was a Petauke District official then, had not been granted an opportunity to be heard.

And in February this year, Banda was one of the PF cadres who disrupted a Law Association of Zambia-organised public discussion on Constitutional

Amendment Bill number 10 of 2019 at Intercontinental Hotel. A few months later, Banda was elevated to the rank of Provincial Youth Chairman, a post he currently occupies.

US Envoy should stay away from politics - Tutwa

By Julia Malunga
KABWE Central PF member of parliament Tutwa Ngulube says United States interim Chargé d'Affaires David Young should avoid involving himself in politics because politicians have no business with envoys.

Last week, Young condemned Ngulube for threatening to break protestors' bones.

“Now, please allow me to share a couple of reflections on freedom of speech in Zambia; like the United States and other countries, Zambia is a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and thus committed to free speech. Some people say if you are criticizing the President, you are unpatriotic. One leader in the National Assembly said 'government and party cadres should break the bones of its critics.' That is inflammatory and not a peaceful exercise of freedom of speech. For me, freedom of speech needs to take place in the context of peaceful expression,” said Young.

However, in an interview, Ngulube denied ever issuing such remarks but .

“We have no business with envoys. We are politicians so whatever we say as politicians, they should not get involved. They should remain in their diplomatic corridor. So tell him to stay away from politics unless it is really necessary. We know that he might end up abusing his role. For me, if he has evidence that I said what I said, he should have talked to me first than going to run to the press,” Ngulube said.

But when reminded that there was a video of him threatening youths who had planned a protest against corruption, poor governance and violations of their freedoms of expression, the deputy chief government whip claimed it was propaganda.

“I never posted any video. That is where you guys keep making a mistake. You can't come across a video and say that it is authentic. Who took that video? There is a lot of manipulation on social media and unfortunately, you guys are downplaying the role of propaganda. There is so much propaganda. As far as I am concerned, I have never made such a statement,” said Ngulube.

Last month, a video circulated where Ngulube urged police officers to break bones of youths who would protest.

“We have heard that there are youths and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) who are masquerading as protestors. The idea is to go into our towns, loot shops so that the country can look like it's ungovernable. But we want to urge the police that they should not take them lightly. The police must deal with all these law breakers with the force that they can. These are the same people who started masquerading; they became gassers from nowhere; they became serial killers and now they want in the name of protests to start breaking the law with immunity. Zambia is a peace loving country and the people of Zambia are not interested whatsoever in all these protests that they are trying to put up,” said Ngulube.

“And we urge the Zambian people not to be used because very soon, they will be dumped and abandoned. And we want to urge the youths to say anyone who will participate in such kind of activities will be treated as a law breaker and we urge the police that when you detain such people, don't even give them a police bond. Let the people of Zambia live their lives in peace. We cannot be incited, every time one politician or one NGO is not happy with anything, they should take our people in the streets. The police must be ready for them to break their bones if possible. Let the people know that a law breaker is law breaker.”

Magistrate warns CK, his supporters against threatening prosecution

From page 2

“He is a signatory at the bank so he would sign cheques. He was given permission to sign because me and my son were in England. We would discuss if he wanted to sign anything. He was given a power of attorney to sign on Mwamba's behalf,” she said.

But after Carol finished her testimony, Chitundu sought the court's protection.

“We wish to seek the protection of this court as the prosecution if the accused and his supporters would understand that proceedings in this matter are not personal. We are officers of the court and when we are before court we are only executing our duties and it ends there,” she said.

“We are asking for the protection of this court, and with the wisdom and guidance of this court if the accused and his supporters can be warned to not address the prosecutions after these proceedings and not to threaten them in any way.”

But Mweemba questioned the basis on which the court was being invited to warn Kambwili without giving him an opportunity to be heard or disclosing what the accused had done that he should be warned.

“The State is inviting the court to give a warning to the accused, on what basis? The procedure is very clear is the state is aggrieved, let the State follow the right procedure and report the matter to the law enforcement agencies. What the prosecutor has told the court cannot be entertained as it amounts to adducing evidence on the bar. What has the accused done that he should be warned for?” he asked.

Mweemba said it was very unfair that Kambwili was deliberately being brought in the spotlight to make him look like he was a problem.

But in his ruling, Magistrate Simusamba said he had inherent power to protect the interest, dignity, security and rights of not only Kambwili but also all officers of the

court such as Chitundu.

“If the State advocate has decided to seek the protection of this court from the harassment by the accused person and his perceived supporters, this court has such powers to do [so] and has no reason to doubt the sincerity of the state advocate when she says that the accused and his perceived supporters are addressing her outside these proceedings,” he said.

Magistrate Simusamba warned Kambwili against such conduct, adding that he would not hesitate to cite him for contempt if he continued behaving in such manner.

“Let me here warn that such conduct especially if committed within the court premises amounts to contempt of this court. The accused is warned to desist from such conduct,” he said.

He gave Kambwili a last adjournment to bring more witnesses and adjourned the matter to July 27, this year.

By Abraham Kalito
THE maiden Betbarter
Zambian Cricket League
has come to an end, with
Kabwe Stars being crowned
champions after the Central
Province-based side defeated
Ndola Blitz.

The league kicked off on
July 4, a day after its launch,
with four teams – Ndola
Blitz, Kabwe Stars, Lusaka
Heats and Kitwe Kings
– selected to participate
in the first-ever league
competition.

Kabwe Stars and Ndola
Blitz squared off at Lotus
Cricket ground in the

Kabwe Stars are Cricket champs

finals of the competition
on Sunday evening and the
former emerged victorious.

Lusaka Heats came in
third while Kitwe Kings
finished fourth.

The final was a hard-
fought game with the
two sides ending up on
equal runs as the allocated
10-overs were done.

The game eventually
required a Super over to
determine the winners.

At the end of the Super

over, it was Kabwe Stars
which came out on top
and emphatically settled
the scores to be crowned
champions.

Kabwe stars cricketer
Godfrey Kandela was
awarded the Man of the
Match accolade while his
teammate, James Zimba,
came out as the competition's
Best Bowler.

Ndola Blitz's Connor
Fletcher bagged both best
batsman and player of the

tournament awards, with
the Emerging Player of
the Tournamen accolade
awarded to his compatriot
Kayle Russel.

The final, which was
played behind closed doors,
was witnessed by Ministry of
Youth and Sports permanent
secretary Joe Kapembwa,
Zambia Professional
Cricket Association (ZPCA)
president Kushal Jain,
National Sports Council
of Zambia acting general
secretary Raphael Mulenga
and board member Mabvuto
Ng'uni and National
Olympic Committee of
Zambia president Alfred
Foloko, among other senior
government officials.

Meanwhile, Jain

expressed delight that the
maiden 'Cricket League was
successfully held.

"This is only the first step
in taking Zambian Cricket to
the international platform.
I am very happy with the
performance of all the teams.
All the teams played superb
and the results speak to how
close all the matches were.
This initiative of Zambia
Cricket League will definitely
motivate more youths to join
cricket. We want to develop
cricket not only in Lusaka
but in all the 10 provinces
so that in future, we have
clubs from all the provinces
participating in the league.
Without their support, the
tournament would not have
been possible," Jain said.

He disclosed that the
association broadcast the
games in 13 countries where
average views of around
10 million people were
expected.

"So that was a huge
success for the Zambia
Cricket and we would love
to have this tournament in
the near future with more
teams," Jain said.

He further explained the
first ever league only had
four teams participating
as COVID-19 restrictions
limited the association from
accommodating other teams
that were willing to compete.

Jain said the league was
next year expected to have
at least six teams competing
for glory.

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Klopp sets Liverpool departure date

JURGEN Klopp has set a
date for his departure from
Liverpool, with the German
planning to head home when
his contract at Anfield expires
in 2024.

The enigmatic 53-year-
old committed to fresh terms
with the Reds in December
2019 and, since putting pen
to paper, a first English top-
flight title in 30 years has been
delivered on Merseyside.

The Premier League
crown has been added to
the Champions League and
FIFA Club World Cup prizes
collected over the course of a
memorable 13 months.

The challenge facing
Klopp is to build on that
success and establish another
dynasty for Liverpool.

He intends to oversee that
project, but is also starting to

piece together plans for the
next chapter in his career.

"Four years in Liverpool,"
Klopp told SWR Sport when
asked how long he intends to
stick around in England.

Asked if he intends to
head back to Germany at
that point, the Reds boss said:
"Definitely to live, after my
career. Most likely even to
Mainz."

Klopp concedes that
anything is possible once his
association with Liverpool
comes to a close, with the
opportunity there for him to
work in another club role,
a national team post or "do
nothing for a year".

A man who has been at
Anfield since October 2015
is, however, aware that no
long-term plans can be set in
stone at this stage.

He added: "In five years
the world can look very
different again."

Much has changed during
his time on Merseyside, with
the coronavirus pandemic
of 2020 presenting another
unexpected challenge.

Liverpool have wrapped
up a long-awaited title
triumph with no supporters
in attendance to acknowledge
the achievement, but Klopp
maintains that a "crazy"
party will be held once public
health concerns have been
eased.

He said on getting fans
back into stadiums: "The
moment we can do that
again, we want to celebrate
the title. Even if that is a little
strange, that you celebrate
a title several months later.

GOAL

FAZ adopts model for league restructuring

By Abraham Kalito
FOOTBALL Association of
Zambia (FAZ) president Andrew
Kamanga says his administration
has approved a model that will be
used to ensure that the process
of restructuring the League is
implemented to the latter.

During the 2019 AGM, FAZ
members approved the decision
to de-link the Premier League
from the association, marking
the birth of the Zambia Premier
League (ZPL).

Kamanga said the decision
implies that FAZ is ceding
political and economic power to
focus on other matters that are
critical.

"It was one of the things that
I personally committed to prior
to taking up office. However, we
have committed to seeing this
process to the letter. The de-
linking of our league means that

the association is ceding not only
political but economic power too.
It is something we have carefully
considered and weighed the
cost and are more than happy
to implement as it speaks to the
growth of the Zambian game.
With the de-linking of the league,
we will see the sponsored league
which is the Super Division
and National Division One
administered by the Zambia
Premier League. Already, the road
to full restructuring is in motion
with the ZPL currently being
managed by Mr Brian Mulenga
as interim Chief Executive
Officer. Mr Mulenga is expected
in the next few months to set up
structures that will enable the ZPL
have its full-fledged secretariat,"
Kamanga said.

He hinted that a limited
company called Zambian Premier
League had already been set up

and rules for running the league
established, and expected to come
into force when the de-linking
was completed.

"The Zambian Premier
League will establish its own
secretariat and will operate as an
independent company owned by
the clubs in the Zambian Premier
League. The League will however
not establish independent judicial
bodies and will concentrate on
administrative and commercial
affairs. The League will also have
FAZ representation on the Board
of Directors, with FAZ owning
10 per cent of the shares of the
limited company. All teams in the
League will be subject to full club
licensing and will be independent
corporate bodies that will be
expected to be fully compliant
with the legal and regulatory
requirements of the laws of the
Republic of Zambia," Kamanga

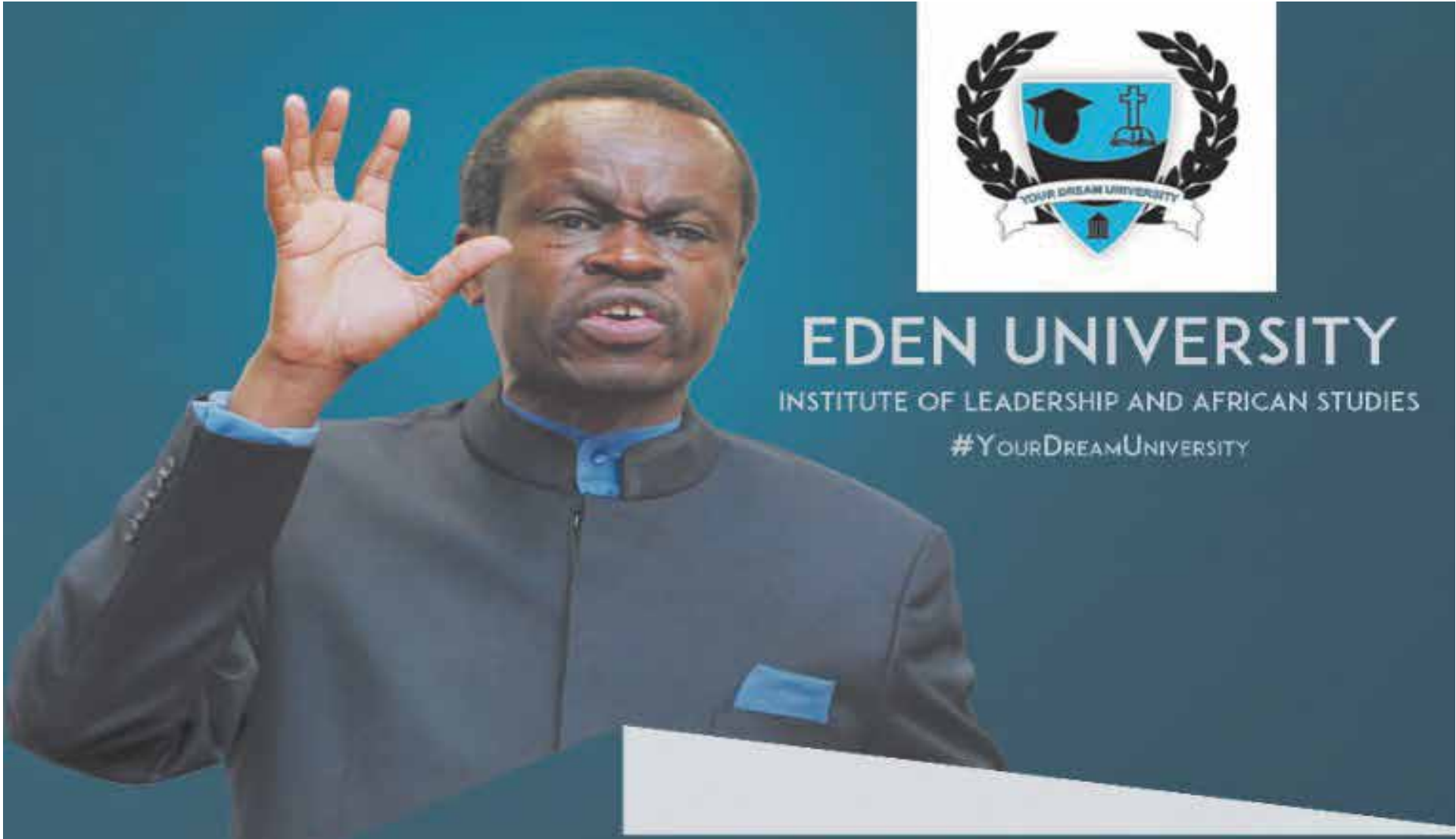
said.

He said once the process was
complete, FAZ would concentrate
on managing the national teams
and also developing leagues,
including grassroots soccer.

"The model has been
developed after FAZ and its
various organs like the adhoc
League Restructuring Committee
investigated and familiarized
itself with models that have
succeeded in various parts of the
world. We may not have had to
look too far with South Africa
having set an example for the rest
of the continent. On our part,
we had also benefitted from our
engagement of David Dein, a
former Arsenal vice chairman
who offered his consultancy
services for free to help refine our
model. With the de-linking of
our league, FAZ will concentrate
on managing the national teams

and also development leagues,"
Kamanga said.

"My executive has prioritized
development from the base which
will help sustain the grassroots
football development drive. We
will have more time to develop a
more grounded structure that will
enable us have more promising
talents seen by our national team
coaches. With a little effort we
have put in so far, we have been
able to reap some instant results
with our under-17, 20, 23 and
women national teams. This is
not in any way to suggest that we
are looking for quick results as
long-term development requires
patience and careful planning.
With the burden of managing the
Super League freed from us, we
can have more time and resources
to strengthen the development
structures that we have been
putting in place."



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