



# IT'S YOUR LOSS, NOT UPND - HH

## ...you'll keep losing until you rise like Malawi did when the election was stolen

By Julia Malunga

UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema says it's not the UPND that is losing when the PF wins elections, but the people of Zambia, adding that citizens will continue losing until they "stand up to the nonsense like Malawians did when their election was stolen".

And Hichilema says he is having sleepless nights because he is thinking of how God will allow him to takeover the country's leadership so that he can take away the people's suffering.

Story page 4

### Zambia records 213 new COVID cases, 2 deaths

By Natasha Sakala

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And the ministry says Zambia also lost two COVID-19 patients in the last 24 hours, bringing the total number of deaths to 173.

Speaking during the COVID-19 briefing, Tuesday, Ministry spokesperson Dr Abel Kabalo said the two patients who had died were being treated for severe pneumonia.

Story page 2



Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya, his wife Mutinta, and lawyer Tutwa Ngulube arrive at Lusaka Magistrates' Court for his case yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

### Court orders trial in Chilufya's corruption case to commence today

By Zondiwe Mbewe

LAWYERS representing Dr Chitalu Chilufya in a case where he is charged with being in possession of property suspected to be proceeds of crime yesterday asked the Lusaka Magistrates' Court to discharge the accused if the ACC is not ready to prosecute him.

Story page 10

## ZAFFICO didn't submit expenditure returns worth \$1.2m from sale of Mukula logs - AG

By Julia Malunga

THE Auditor General's Report has revealed that the

Zambia Forestry and Forest Industries Corporation Limited (ZAFFICO) did not

submit expenditure returns to the Office of the Accountant General in amounts totalling

US\$1,200,000 from the sale of Mukula logs.

And the Report disclosed that the corporation paid K 4,560,947 towards electricity bills for former institutional houses.

According to the Auditor General's Report on the Accounts of Parastatal Bodies and other statutory institutions for the financial

year ended December 31, 2018, US\$5,474,914 was realized from the sale of Mukula logs.

"On 17th August 2015, ZAFFICO Limited was granted authority by Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection to export the already harvested Mukula logs. On 30th May 2017, ZAFFICO Limited received..."

Story page 7

## It's impossible to stop people from seeing Lungu - Chipampe

Story page 4





*By Natasha Sakala*  
FORMER finance minister Dr Situmbeko Musokotwane says it is incorrect to attribute Zambia’s budget deficit to COVID-19 because it was caused by debt servicing obligations.

And Dr Musokotwane has urged government to implement empowerment programmes that can remove young people from perpetual poverty, rather than making piecemeal donations.

Speaking when he featured on Diamond TVs, COSTA programme, Sunday, Dr Musokotwane, who is UPND chairperson for finance, wondered why government was saying the budget deficit was as a result of COVID-19 when the huge jump in expenditure was caused by debt servicing costs.

“You are now saying that the current (2020) budget is in trouble because of COVID. I

# Budget deficit caused by debt servicing, not COVID-19 – Musokotwane

tell you that you are confusing yourself! COVID plays a part, but only a small part. Study the supplementary budget that the Minister of Finance presented, you will discover that there is a big jump in expenditure and the reason for that is because he (Dr Ng’andu) needs money to service the debt and not to buy medicines and so forth. Yes, there is an aspect of that, but the elephant, the big chunk of that is the debt service that you want to pay. If you look at the revenue, the revenue has only declined by about five per cent, but expenditure jumped up, why? He must service the debt. On top of that, surprising this government in the midst of

failing to hire teachers, in the midst of lack of adequate facilities for the COVID, go there and say, ‘test me,’ they will tell you, ‘we don’t have enough material.’ Apart from servicing debt, the other priority is by-elections, just last week, there were 15 by-elections, by-elections are very expensive,” Dr Musokotwane said.

Of the K15.01 billion supplementary budget Finance Minister Dr Bwalya Ng’andu unveiled last week, K5.7 billion is earmarked towards debt servicing, representing around 38 per cent of the total budget, while K5.5 billion will be allocated towards expenditure drawn from the COVID-19 bond,



leaving only K3.9 billion remaining to fund other government functions.

And when asked whether he would accept being appointed Finance Minister again, Dr Musokotwane responded in the affirmative, adding that he would negotiate the country’s huge debt stock as his top priority.

“Yes, I would accept. What I would do to fix the current challenges, the first thing is to ensure that we come to terms with these lenders that the government has so carelessly borrowed from. We’ve said over and over again, one of the biggest problems that this country is facing today is that most of the money is going out to pay the debt, that’s why we are not able to hire the teachers, that’s why you are not able to provide sufficient money to run the economy sufficiently,” he replied.

He also noted that Zambia lacked sufficient incentives to attract more Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from either local or foreign investors for them to create the much-needed jobs in the local economy.

“My view is that the

incentives that are there, if at all, is not enough, for any type of investor, whether they are foreign, whether they are local, they are not enough. We must also understand that the most important empowerment in the economy is job creation. Job creation is the most important empowerment anywhere in the world and if we do not create sufficient incentives for both the local and foreign investors to create those jobs that are so desperately needed, you are in trouble and, of course, for us in Zambia today, the most important or the most serious problem that we have is youth unemployment. The issue of saying, ‘we don’t want foreign investors,’ it is an important issue, but less as important as creating jobs whether by foreigners or locals. And we are not creating jobs quick enough and some of the few that were there as you know some businesses are closing, so this is gun powder, the issue of youth unemployment,” Dr Musokotwane observed.

He said the fastest way to create jobs for youths was to revive the mining sector.

“For us, as UPND, the most important thing in our minds is to sort out the issue of youth unemployment. In our view, we must focus on those issues that are down to create youth employment and for me, to our part, the easiest thing that we can do today is to revive the mining sector, why? Because the mining sector is such a big bunch, it comes in billions, jobs are created in thousands. In the mining sector, you have direct jobs, you have indirect jobs, contractors, suppliers. If you take care of the mining sector, youth unemployment will be catered for quickly,” he said.

He, however, advised government to avoid playing politics with the mining sector because it remained key to the country’s economic emancipation.

And Dr Musokotwane noted that government should have an all-round youth empowerment approach to eradicate high levels of youth unemployment.

“I don’t mind that... artists need to be supported, that is fine. But what I want to say is, let’s not act like we are panicking, today, we throw something at the artists, tomorrow we throw something at that. What we need to do is to uplift the entire economy to create conditions whereby investors, whether local or foreign, will create that conducive environment so that not just artists, but young people rearing chickens, you can go to a bank, borrow money and do your chickens. Young people wanting to do fish farming, they can approach a financial institution to borrow, do fish farming and so on. If we are going to say, ‘today I give money to artists,’ tomorrow the mechanics will come and say, ‘what about us?’ The other day, footballers will come and say, ‘what do you have for us?’ Are you going to manage that?” wondered Dr Musokotwane.

“So, when you hear me talking over and over about the mining sector, these are the sectors that have the capacity to raise money, generally, because the money now can start going across, not donations, just abrupt donations from government. It helps, but the number of people that you are going to help is going to be limited. Create conditions whereby people on their own can afford to buy cars; they can afford to buy machines on their own because the conditions are good and not what it is today, things are tough!”

Dr Ng’andu’s K15.01 billion supplementary budget is the second successive one after K9.8 billion was approved last year where K6.4 billion was allocated towards both external and domestic debt obligations last year.

## 7 Chongwe family members die in house fire

*By Diggers Reporter*  
SEVEN members of the same family in Chongwe District have been burnt to death after the house in which they were sleeping caught fire.

According to police spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo, this happened around 20:00 hours in Shisholeka village on August 3.

“This occurred on 03rd August, 2020 at about 20:00 hours at Shisholeka village, Chief Nkomensha in Chongwe District. The matter was reported to Police by Misheck Njovu aged 74 of Shisholeka Village, Chief Nkomensha, the grandfather of the victims and identified the deceased as male juvenile MISHECK NJOVU aged five (05) Years, Female juvenile MAGGIE MATIBENGA aged 6 years, female juvenile EMELDAH MOYO aged (04) years, female juvenile MARVIS MOYO aged (03) years, female

juvenile REBECCA MATIBENGA AGED (03) years, male juvenile AMON MATIBENGA AGED (01) year two months and female juvenile HARRIET MATIBENGA all of the same family,” stated Katongo.

“LAWRENCE MUZOLEWA aged 43 Years who is the owner of the house and Gift Matibenga aged 12 years who were also in the house at the time of the inferno survived with burns on their faces, hands and legs. LAWRENCE MUZOLEWA is admitted to Chongwe District Hospital while GIFT MATIBENGA is in Levy Mwanawasa Teaching Hospital.”

Katongo said the fire allegedly started when Muzolewa was pouring Petrol into a container which later spilled on a brazier and engulfed the house .

She said the bodies of the deceased were in Chongwe District Hospital mortuary awaiting postmortem

## Zambia records 213 new COVID-19 cases, 2 deaths

*By Natasha Sakala*  
THE Ministry of Health has announced that Zambia has recorded 213 new cases of COVID-19 in the last 24 hours out of 1,091 tests done.

And the ministry says Zambia also lost two COVID-19 patients in the last 24 hours, bringing the total number of deaths to 173.

Speaking during the COVID-19 briefing, Tuesday, Ministry spokesperson Dr Abel Kabalo said the two patients who had died were being treated for severe pneumonia at Levy Mwanawasa University Teaching Hospital.

“In the last 24 hours, Zambia has recorded 213 new cases of COVID-19 out of 1,091 tests done in the period. This brings the cumulative total of COVID-19 cases to 6,793. The 213 cases include 77 cases identified through health care facility screening in Lusaka. 62 were truck drivers identified in Nakonde and then 49 individuals identified from routine

community screening. Two from the 213 came from health workers in Lusaka. Among the active cases we have 41 parents on oxygen support, five of who are in intensive care unit. We have discharged 408 in the past 24 hours in Lusaka, this brings the cumulative recoveries to 5,109 since the beginning of the outbreak. Sadly, we have lost 2 patients at levy isolation centre, both were being treated for sever pneumonia. The cumulative number of COVID related deaths now stands at 173 following the reclassification of the deaths in which the virus has been detected and it has been determined that 55 are COVID deaths, while 114 are COVID associated deaths, cumulatively, four deaths are yet to be classified,” Dr Kabalo said.

He said Zambia was experiencing an increased number of severe cases.

“The coronavirus is already moving rapidly globally and indeed within Zambia. The outbreak is

growing at an exponential rate. Furthermore, we note an increased number of severe cases. According to data from countries affected early in the pandemic, about 40 per cent of cases experienced mild disease, 40 per cent will experience moderate disease including pneumonia, 15 per cent of cases will experience severe disease and five percent of cases will have critical disease. A similar picture is presenting in Zambia with the majority of those presenting severe symptoms having underlying conditions such as diabetes and hypertension. Currently, there are no therapeutics or vaccines proven to treat or prevent COVID although there are major efforts among experts working urgently to coordinate the rapid development of medical counter measures,” said Dr Kabalo.

“What is of our best date in stemming the current trajectory of increased transmission, severity and fatality, the government of

the Republic of Zambia through its Ministry of Health has clearly stated the factors exacerbating the outbreak which include; poor adherence to stipulated public health measures. Most people continue to ignore wearing masks in public, many members continue to gather in large numbers at social functions without adequate physical distances, lack of compliance with known and unknown medical conditions that make them vulnerable to severe disease and poor health outcomes. The multi sectoral response continues to implement and enforce measures, however, if the public cannot adhere, winning this battle and fight against COVID-19 will be very difficult. The clarion call, therefore, is that every individual should make it a personal drive of COVID-19 prevention, taking care of themselves and their loved ones, embracing humanity through humanism and then together we can win this fight.”



*By Julia Malunga*  
THE UPND remains in denial that they are losing grip in their perceived strongholds, as evidenced by their losses in local



# UPND will cry next year – Chama

government by-elections, says PF deputy national chairperson Davies Chama. In an interview, Chama, who is also Defence Minister, argued that the UPND were fast-losing grip in their strongholds, but wouldn't admit it because they have never conceded defeat. "The UPND are like a sick person, who is in denial when they find that person with a disease. They

have always been in denial. Have you ever heard of UPND from the time they started participating in elections? Especially after president Hakainde Hichilema took over from the late Anderson Mazoka, he has never accepted defeats. From president (Levy) Mwanawasa, he never accepted; president Rupiah Banda, he never accepted, even president Michael Sata, who came from far behind. UPND was formed a long time ago, but PF only formed in 2001, but we came and surpassed them! It is a signal that people are fed up because they (UPND) are anti-development. They have always been asking their members of parliaments and councillors not to cooperate with us. But it is the government that brings development. They

know that UPND is not taking them anywhere and they will be walloped badly! They will cry next year because they will be defeated badly," said Chama. "Remember, when we were in opposition, PF never lost to MMD, if anything, we used to grab their seats, we used to defend our seats. But them, in their so-called strongholds, which is no longer their strongholds in North-Western Province, they have lost it! In Western Province, they have lost it and basically they are wiped! The Zambian people are looking forward to a party that is committed to the transformation agenda of this country. This country is being transformed beyond recognition. And within a short period we have been

in power, this country has changed drastically and it will continue to change. And in the next 20-30 years, this country will be transformed beyond recognition. The UPND are in denial; they can't even see change in their own bedroom. So, I can assure that the PF has come to change the way we do things. And for us, we are focused. They can be in denial, but they will cry in 2021 and finally abandon their leader." On Monday, UPND spokesperson Charles Kakoma argued that the ruling Patriotic Front would badly be defeated in the 2021 general election because it will not have the resources to bribe every voter like it had during by-elections. The ruling party boasted winning 10 out of 15 ward by-elections, including in Kasempa District of North-Western Province, among others.

## 72% of enterprises unable to raise funds due to COVID-19 – FSD

*By Natasha Sakala*  
A SURVEY has revealed that 72 per cent of Zambian businesses are unable to raise funds due to COVID-19, with the lowest income segments being particularly vulnerable to the economic impacts of the pandemic. The FSD Zambia Impact Survey results show that Zambian businesses critically need working capital, with 72 per cent of businesses unable to raise funds, but remained confident and optimistic about recovery.

"Highlight results of a Survey on the Financial Impact of COVID-19 on Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) conducted by FSD Zambia in collaboration with BFA Global show that Zambian businesses critically need working capital, with 72 per cent of businesses unable to raise funds. The research, which was aimed at understanding the economic situation from the perspective of MSEs, shows that about 40 per cent of MSEs are seeing a significant decrease in revenues. The Survey was also designed to assess MSE digital readiness as a method to limit the impact of COVID-19. Despite these odds, most MSEs foresee continuing operations. They are confident that their business revenue is enough for the same level of production and are optimistic about recovery," read the statement issued by FSD Zambia communications manager Eneyah Phiri.

"As recent studies have shown, the lowest income segments are particularly vulnerable to the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic and the resulting economic slowdown." The Survey also revealed that most respondents planned to increase the use of digital applications in the functionalities of their businesses.

also show that the use of digital applications to conduct business was widespread among these small enterprises. The primary activities included marketing (72 per cent), receiving payments (68 per cent), completing sales (51 per cent), and operations (45 per cent). Most respondents plan to increase the use of digital applications in the functionalities of their businesses. The result highlights can help FSD Zambia, government and other financial market players to fill the gap in digital technology, to facilitate commerce, not only in the time of COVID-19, but in the near future. As MSEs are encouraged to adopt the use of digital platforms, partnerships, among key stakeholders of the sector, should aim to improve Internet connectivity issues, technological infrastructure and lower prices of digital financial services," the statement read.

And FSD Zambia chief executive officer Betty Wilkinson stated that the organisation will be working to help financial institutions grow working capital loans and expand their own Working Capital Access project to help these enterprises survive and thrive.

Meanwhile, FSD Zambia director – analytics Floyd Mwansa said assessing the impact of COVID-19 on SMEs remained vital as the country needed key insights for policymakers and other market players so they could design interventions that helped MSEs navigate through the current economic meltdown. The Survey by FSD Zambia and BFA Global was conducted to better understand the effects of the crisis on MSEs in the country. The first wave of the Survey polled 170 self-employed, traders and

other micro and small entrepreneurs. About 33 per cent of the respondents were women and 67 per cent being men, with 71 per cent residing in urban areas, while the rest derived from peri-urban and rural areas.

## Lufwanyama pupil explains difficulties of learning amid COVID-19 pandemic

*By Mirriam Chabala*  
A GRADE 12 pupil at Milemu Secondary School in Lufwanyama District on the Copperbelt Province has lamented that learning amid the COVID-19 pandemic is especially difficult for learners in rural areas.

Prescovia Kasazhi, 17, says some of her peers have fell pregnant when schools were indefinitely closed in March while those from poor and vulnerable households were unable to access government sponsored learning programmes on TV and online.

Prescovia urged government to invest more in e-learning by ensuring more support for pupils in rural areas.

"COVID-19 has affected the learning of children in many ways. Most children in Zambia are not going to school at the moment because only pupils in examination classes have been allowed to reopen. Those children who are not going to school are behind in learning, especially children like me who are coming from rural areas. Most children here in Lufwanyama don't have anything to do especially girls; so they are falling pregnant as a result of just staying at home without doing anything. This is bad for a girl child because when they become pregnant, some of the girls are shy to go back to school. Even at our school there are some girls who have fallen pregnant and some of these are actually in exam classes; they are in Grade nine and 12 some of these girls who are pregnant. So these girls refuse to go back to school, they are just staying at home. Some of these are girls who never intended to get pregnant while in school but because they didn't have anything to do after closure of the schools, they ended up engaging in illicit activities and getting pregnant," Prescovia said in an interview.

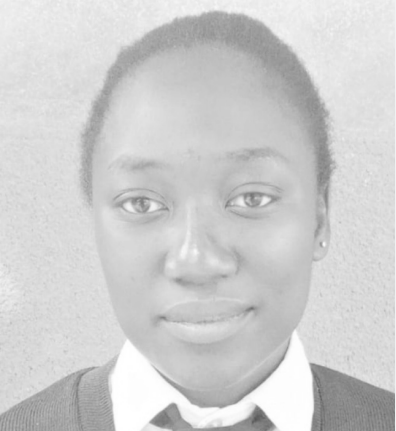
"So this is really worrying and to me as a girl child it's something I fear would even make development in this country to go down because the goodness with education is that it helps in the improvement of the welfare of citizens. But when schools have been closed indefinitely like this and pupils are not certain when they would return to school, it is going to make a lot of children to lose their creativity and become very dull. And for girls it's even worse because then girls will just be falling pregnant anyhow and this will just worsen the burden of our parents."

She explained some of the challenges she was facing as a pupil in an examination class.

"Staying at home really affected me a lot in terms of studying. When I am at school, I am able to study, but when I am at home it's difficult to study. So during that time of the closure I was finding it very hard because we were not allowed to go anywhere and at home you know there are younger sisters and brothers and those make it difficult to study during the day and for me I study during the day. But while at home I was unable to study during the day because of the disturbances. So this made me to really be behind with school work and it is very dangerous for someone who is an examination class to stop studying. I imagine this is the experience with many other who are not going to school; they must be getting behind in their studies," she said.

And Prescovia called for more investment in online education.

"Some of the steps taken by the leaders such as the introduction of TV learning are commendable. But some children from vulnerable households and those from rural areas, some of them don't have access to those things and it is making it



difficult to learn on TV because they don't have TV sets to use to access education. I would therefore propose that the government invests in more online and TV learning so that all children in Zambia can have access to education. Then government should also provide more learning materials like books to areas where children are not able to go to school due to the closures can continue to study as schools are still closed," she said.

Meanwhile, Prescovia encouraged learners in non-examination classes who were still not allowed to go back to school to continue studying in order to keep their minds active.

"My fellow children, do not be relaxed just because you are not going to school. Continue studying as you wait for schools to be reopened for you as well. Study hard and look for study material wherever you can; on the internet, TV channels, books and many other materials so that you can continue staying informed and keeping your brains active. I wish to also appeal to the government to continue providing us with the necessary material such as face masks, sanitisers, water buckets and even to build more schools as well as provide desks so that the social distancing guidelines can be followed well," said Prescovia.



# It’s your loss, not UPND and you’ll keep losing until you rise like Malawi did - HH

By Julia Malunga

UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema says it’s not the UPND that is losing when the PF wins elections, but the people of Zambia, adding that citizens will continue losing until they “stand up to the nonsense like Malawians did when their election was stolen”

And Hichilema says he is having sleepless nights because he is thinking of how God will allow him to takeover the country’s leadership so that he can take away the people’s suffering.

Meanwhile, Hichilema says President Edgar Lungu is the one spreading COVID-19 as evidenced by the huge crowds that accompanied him to the commissioning of the Makeni overpass on Monday.

Speaking when he featured on Chingola’s I-wave Radio, Tuesday, Hichilema Zambians had suffered enough at the hands of the Patriotic Front government.

“Umutima ulekalipa ngatwaumfwa ama callers abengi baleilishanya. Nshilala no kulala bwino bwino ngabaleilishanya. Nganaya ku bed ndentontokanya (My heart bleeds when I hear people calling in complaining. I hardly sleep when they complain. When I go to bed, I keep thinking) how God should allow us to take over this country and solve the people’s problems. Abantu balila pafula. Ningumfwa naine ndelila nshilala noku lala. (People have cried, enough is enough. I have heard your cries, I hardly sleep). Illegal miners, we will give you licenses. You will become legal miners,” said Hichilema.

When asked to enlighten the people why UPND lost the by-elections in its strongholds, Hichilema said it was not the UPND losing but the people of Zambia, adding that they would continue to lose until they stand up to the nonsense like Malawi did.

“If you look at COVID, we are not allowed to campaign. We are asked to respect the health guidelines and as obedient citizens, we follow those guidelines. What we saw is that the PF will be campaigning, when we want to campaign, they send police on us, they send cadres on us. What are we supposed to do? To fight back? To kill each other? No. We are supposed to be responsible but they are driving us to extremes now. And then we have the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU), a government department that is distributing mealie meal; teku wina uko ( that is not winning), it is deception. It is not the UPND that lost, it is the people of Zambia that will continue to lose until they stand up and say ‘we will not allow this nonsense to continue’, as the people of Malawi did when the election was stolen. I call on the people of Zambia, don’t misinterpret those by- elections. I want to remind you that when a government is losing, it does all sorts of things, it buys people,” Hichilema said. *Story continues on P6*

By Zondiwe Mbewe

LUSAKA Chief Resident Magistrate Lameck Mwale has convicted and sentenced a 39-year-old driver of Kalingalinga Township to two years imprisonment with hard labour for assaulting Justice Minister Given Lubinda when he toured Kabwata Market last year.

In his judgment, magistrate Mwale said the prosecution team had proved the assault case against Martin Mambwe beyond reasonable doubt, adding that the 39-year-old PF cadre deserved a custodial sentence to deter would be offenders from engaging in political violence.

He said the convict’s physical attack on Lubinda was not only retrogressive but barbaric and un-African.

In this matter, Mambwe was accused of assaulting Lubinda, thereby occasioning him actual bodily harm on July 12, 2019.

Mambwe was also charged with five other Patriotic Front cadres with proposing violence against Lubinda when they allegedly said “we will beat you next time you step your foot in Kabwata market”.

However, magistrate Mwale acquitted the other five but found Mambwe with a case to answer on the charge of assault and placed him on his defence.

Delivering his judgement yesterday, Magistrate Mwale said it was a fact that on the material day, Lubinda was touring Kabwata Market and that in the process, the minister saw a large group of youths, two of whom were wearing

# PF cadre gets 2 years for slapping Lubinda

masks.

He said it was also a fact that the group went towards the minister’s entourage and that one of them slapped and punched Lubinda who was left with a red hot face.

Magistrate Mwale said it was a fact that Lubinda and other witnesses identified Mambwe as the assailant.

He said an identification parade was also conducted at which Mambwe was identified as the assailant.

Magistrate Mwale said he was satisfied that the incident happened, adding that the possibility of mistaken identity was not there as Mambwe was identified by Lubinda and other witnesses.

He said Mambwe’s defence of being at home on the material day was an afterthought because there was no way that several witnesses could only mention him as being the assailant out of the entire group.

Magistrate Mwale further said he had no reason of doubting that Mambwe committed the offence and found that the prosecution had proved its case beyond any reasonable doubt.

He found Mambwe guilty of the offence as charged and convicted him accordingly.

In his mitigation, Mambwe, through his lawyer Aggripa Mulando, pleaded for the court’s lenience as he was a first

offender and had four children to look after.

But passing his sentence, magistrate Mwale sentenced Mambwe to two years imprisonment, effective yesterday.

He said he had taken into consideration the fact that Mambwe was a first offender but noted with regret and concern the high level of political violence and intolerance.

Magistrate Mwale said the convict’s actions were barbaric and that he deserved a custodial sentence.

“I note with regret the high prevalence of politically charged violence and intolerance. The convict’s physical attack on the complainant is not only retrogressive but barbaric and un-African. I will be failing in my duties if I allow such kind of violence to go [on], especially violence on an elected representative of the people occasioned during the performance of his parliamentary functions,” said magistrate Mwale.

“I therefore sentence him to 24 months with hard labour, effective today.”

Judgement could not be delivered on July 23, 2020 as Mambwe allegedly developed a running stomach and was rushed to the hospital for treatment.

Mambwe allegedly fell sick within the

Court premises while waiting for his judgment to be delivered.

In March this year, Lubinda broke down as he narrated to the court how he was allegedly slapped and punched on the face by Mambwe.

Lubinda, who is also Kabwata PF member of parliament, said it was the worst kind of humiliation to have gone through as a person who had diligently served the nation, adding that he was extremely fearful for Zambia that a minister with 24 hours security could be beaten in public.

But in his defence, Mambwe had denied assaulting the Justice Minister, saying he was home on the material day recovering from an illness.

He informed the court that he was a driver who operated from Kamwala market.

Mambwe explained that from September to December 2018, he was sick and was put on medication for Tuberculosis for eight months.

“I was put on TB medication in December 2018,” the accused said.

Mambwe said his legs started swelling as a result of the drugs, which made him have difficulties walking.

He told the court that on the material day, July 12, 2019, he was home when he was visited around 13:00 hours by a man he worked with in Kamwala.

“I told him that I was recovering except for my legs which were swelling,” Mambwe said.

# It’s impossible to stop people from seeing Lungu – Chipampe

By Julia Malunga

IT is impossible to stop Zambians from all walks of life from seeing President Edgar Lungu, even amid the COVID-19 pandemic, says Special Assistant to the President for Press

and Public Relations Isaac Chipampe.

On Monday, a multitude of PF cadres flouted COVID-19 guidelines to witness the commissioning of the Makeni overpass.

Rather than enforce

the COVID-19 prevention measures, President Lungu expressed delight at the presence of the PF cadres, most of whom were unmasked.

“Ladies and gentlemen and most important for me,

how are you going to stop people from coming to that function? The President was invited so if you want details about the organisations, ask the Ministry of Local Government, that was their function. You can’t expect the President to stop people from coming to that function,” said Chipampe.

“If you were the President yourself can you stop people from coming? Because the people lined up from Makeni up to Kamwala...can you stop them from coming to the road? Is it possible to stop people? The message has been sent to the people as you are aware the President has always spoken about COVID-19 and everyone knows there is COVID-19. He has been very consistent about it. But whether we will manage to stop people who want to see the President is another question.”

fellow PF party cadres. We are here because of you. We shouldn’t lose sight of your presence. You made us what we are,” said President Lungu.

But reacting to widespread criticism in an interview, Chipampe said President Lungu was serious about the fight against COVID-19 although it was impossible for the Head of State not to interact with huge crowds at showpiece events because all stakeholders wanted to see him.

“The President is serious about COVID-19. The President was invited to that function and it was a public function as you know. So, it was almost impossible to stop people from coming to see the President, they wanted to see him. It was a public function, it was not in Nakatindi Hall or in some hotel it was outside. So,



A crowd awaits President Edgar Lungu when he commisioned the new Makeni flyover bridge in Lusaka on Monday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

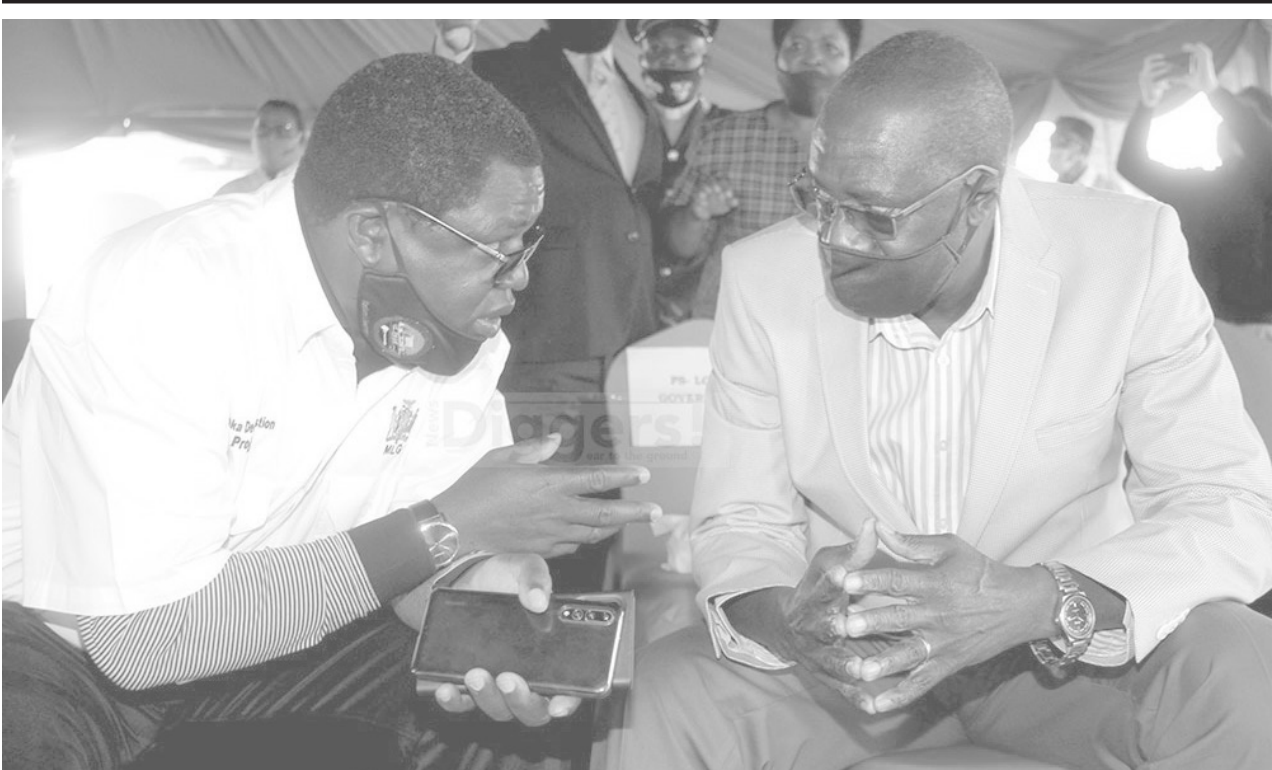


**By Natasha Sakala**  
THE Auditor General has revealed that the Eastern Water and Sanitation Company (EWSC) owes the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) and the Local Authority Superannuation Fund a combined total of K10.5 million in respect of outstanding statutory

obligations. And the Auditor General has revealed that the water utility incurred a cumulative revenue loss of around K37.6 million in 2017 and 2018 due to Non-Revenue Water (NRW). According to the Auditor General's Report on the accounts of water and sanitation companies

for the financial year ending December 31, 2018, EWSC owed the ZRA over K9.7 million in unremitted Pay As You Earn (PAYE), while it equally owed LASF nearly K840,000 in unpaid remittances of pension. "Failure to Remit Statutory Obligations: EWSC owed amounts

totalling K10,567,178 in respect of outstanding statutory obligations as at 31st December, 2018. Zambia Revenue Authority, PAYE: K9,728,255; LASF, pension: K838,923," read the report. The report further revealed that the utility had K683,540 in unaccounted-for stores during the period under review. "Unaccounted for Stores Contrary to Public Stores Regulation No. 16: various stores items costing K683,540 procured during the period under review could not be accounted for in that there were no disposal details," it read. And the report disclosed that the company lost over K37.6 million in revenue due to NRW, which is the difference between the quantity of treated water distributed in the network and quantity of water actually billed. "NRW consists of technical losses (leakages) and commercial losses (illegal connections, unbilled customers, wastage on un-metered customers' premises). According to NWASCO, the accepted level of NRW was between 20 per cent and 25 per cent of the quantity of treated water distributed in the network. However, during the period under review, the Company's NRW was 42 per cent in both 2017 and 2018 against the recommended benchmark of between 20 per cent and 25 per cent. This resulted in a cumulative revenue loss of K37,643,788. The NRW deprived the company of the revenue to help improve its operations," it narrated. The Auditor General further revealed that despite staff efficiency, EWSC still recorded inefficiencies due to high staff costs. "Staff Cost in Relation to Billing and Collection Billing per staff per month is the billing attributable to one member of staff per month. A higher figure indicates better staff efficiency. On the other hand, average personnel cost per staff per month reflects the cost attributed to each staff. A billing per staff per month must be higher than the average personnel cost per staff per month, implying that what the commercial utility pays each employee must be lower than the revenue the employee is bringing into the company. The desirable target for the sector is to have a combined weighted average of 40 per cent or less. It was, however, observed that although the Company's staff per collections reduced form 98 per cent in 2017 to 75 per cent in 2018, it was still higher than the sector desired target of 40 per cent. The company was, therefore, inefficient as the staff cost was higher than the billed and collected amount, thereby affecting its profitability," read the report. Meanwhile, EWSC was also found to not hold title deeds for 96 properties, which included their head office building, among others, contrary to the Lands Act No. 29 of 1995, which required that institutions or individuals owning land should have or possess title deeds as proof of ownership.



Foreign Affairs Minister Joseph Malaji (l )speaks to his Finance counterpart Dr Bwalya Ng'andu during the commissioning of the new Makeni Flyover Bridge on Kafue road by President Edgar Lungu, Monday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

## Kambwili wasn't involved in incorporation of Mwamona – Witness

**By Zondiwe Mbewe**  
A witness has told the Lusaka Magistrates' Court that NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili was not in any way involved in the incorporation of Mwamona Engineering and Technical Services. James Nyasulu, 62, told the Lusaka Magistrate's Court that he is the one who lodged the registration documents of Mwamona Engineering at PACRA on August 23, 2001 on behalf of Kambwili's wife, Carol. And on why the NRC number for Kambwili's sister Sampa was reflecting under Mwamba Chishimba's names on the incorporation documents, Nyasulu said the anomaly was caused by the person he had given to type the forms for him at a business center. In this matter, 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). When the matter came up before Principal Resident Magistrate David Simusamba for continued defence, Tuesday, Nyasulu, a farmer of Chingola on the Copperbelt Province, testified that in 2001, Kambwili's wife Carol, who was then a nurse at Nchanga South Hospital, asked him to help her take some company incorporation documents to PACRA. He added that the company which she wanted to be incorporated

was called Mwamona Engineering and Technical Services. "I told her that I haven't done that kind of job before but I will enquire from PACRA how we can register this company," Nyasulu said. He said he also informed Carol that he would consult some of his friends who had registered a company before. Nyasulu said when he consulted one of his friends, he was given some forms to fill in which he took to Carol. He said after taking the forms to Carol, she told him that she wanted three people (directors) indicated on the documents, being herself 'Carol Chansa', her son Mwamba Chishimba and her sister in law, Sampa Kambwili. "I asked her why she wanted to register another company when they had other companies and she said 'my husband at this time is in politics and mines are not giving him jobs. So I have seen that life will be hard for us because we have children,'" Nyasulu said. He said Carol further told him that for the company that was going to be incorporated, she didn't want the 'Kambwili' name to appear on any of the documents due to political interference. Nyasulu said he then started off from Chingola, going to Lusaka. He said when he arrived at PACRA, he was received by one of the workers at the customer service bench. Nyasulu said after showing the documents to the said worker, he inquired if a minor could be part of the incorporating documents. "That person asked if the parents were both Zambians and I

said yes. They said this minor won't be a child forever he will grow up," he said. The defence witness said he then called Carol who advised him to get new forms to fill in since he had been advised by the said worker at PACRA that a child could be part of a company. He said Carol also told him that she wanted Sampa Kambwili removed from the documents because of the 'Kambwili' name. Nyasulu said when he reached Chingola, Carol gave her permission to have the forms which he had collected from PACRA typed and to remove Sampa Kambwili. He said when the forms were typed at a business center, Carol Chansa and Mwamba Chishimba were put as shareholders and directors of the company. Nyasulu said after the documents were typed, Carol signed on the provision where her name was, adding that on the provision for Mwamba Chishimba, he indicated that he was a minor. He said he then went back to PACRA where after paying, he was given a certificate of incorporation for Mwamona Engineering as well as other documents. "I'm the one who lodged these documents [for the incorporation of Mwamona Engineering] at PACRA on August 23, 2001," Nyasulu said. The witness who was led in his evidence in chief by defence lawyer, Musa Mwenye State Counsel, denied that Kambwili was involved in the incorporation of the company. Headed that all the instructions relating to the incorporation of Mwamona Engineering were

coming from Carol. Asked by Mwenye who signed for Mwamba Chishimba, the defence witness said it was him. Further asked by the defence lawyer why Sampa Kambwili's NRC number was reflecting under Mwamba Chishimba's names, Nyasulu said the anomaly was caused by the person he had given to type for him at the business center. "I didn't notice that the person who was typing the forms in Chingola had put Sampa's NRC under Mwamba Kambwili's name. I had instructed him to only indicate under Mwamba Kambwili's name that he is a minor," he said. Asked in cross examination by the deputy Chief State Advocate Margaret Chitundu if there were any special reasons why Carol had asked him to incorporate the company, Nyasulu said it's because he had his own company at that time. He, however, said he doesn't know the name of the person at PACRA who advised him that a minor could be a director as long as it was indicated on the documents that the person was a minor. When Chitundu put it to him that Carol had previously testified that she herself filled in the documents, Nyasulu insisted that he was the one who took the documents for typing. He also insisted that he didn't notice that the person who had typed the forms had attached an NRC number under Mwamba Chishimba's names. Asked how long he had known Kambwili, Nyasulu said since 1995. Defence continues on August 13 and 21, 2020.



*By Diggers! Reporter*  
USAID’s “Let’s Read” project, the US government’s flagship education project in Zambia, has developed audio-based “Tips for Teachers”, among others, to ensure continued literacy instructional and professional support for teachers and learners.

According to a statement released by US Embassy Public Affairs Officer Sean McIntosh, Tuesday, the new audio-based programmes have been launched in collaboration with and in support of the Ministry of General Education’s (MoGE) response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The programmes, which include “Folktales for Students”, are an initiative provided through Interactive Radio Instruction, an approach that uses radio broadcasts of pre-recorded, interactive lessons to reach students, teachers, and parents to ensure continued literacy instructional and professional support for teachers and learners amid COVID-19.

Commenting on the launch, Ministry of General Education Permanent Secretary Dr Jobbicks Kalumba observed that teaching and learning could no longer be confined to the conventional classroom environment, particularly amid the COVID-19 outbreak, which had resulted in mass school closures, leaving an unprecedented number of children stuck at home.

“Teaching and learning can no longer be confined to the classroom situation, particularly during this COVID-19 pandemic. We need, therefore, to devise new and better ways to reach out to our learners,” said Dr Kalumba in the statement.

“With support from our cooperating partners, like USAID, the Ministry will ensure that teachers are assisted in every way possible for them to be more skillful and innovative.”

And US Embassy Chargé d’Affaires David Young added that the innovation arrived at the right time to enhance learning for young students.

“In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on education, the U.S. government remains committed to ensuring that the support to the Ministry of General Education continues, particularly our assistance to early-grade reading and teacher professional development,” said Young.

“Worldwide, countries are working tirelessly to develop distance learning for students, and Zambia is no exception. This

# USAID unveils radio-based education programme to boost learning amid COVID-19

innovation has come at the right time as it offers an opportunity for teachers and students to continue the learning process during this difficult time.”

The programmes were developed in partnership with the Ministry of General Education’s Early Childhood Education (ECE) Centres, which focus on Grade one through Grade three, and

will offer an innovative distance-learning solution for students and teachers in the five USAID Let’s Read target provinces—Eastern, Muchinga, North-Western, Southern, and Western.

The US Agency for International Development’s

(USAID’s) “Let’s Read” is currently working with the Ministry’s ECE programme to develop and record additional Interactive Audio Instruction materials to be released in early next year.

With US government

funding of approximately K875 million (US \$48 million) over a five-year period, USAID “Let’s Read” is the US government’s flagship education project in Zambia, which was launched in January, 2019.

The project aims to

improve reading outcomes for 1.4 million Zambian children in over 4,200 public and community schools, and help ensure that learners read with comprehension and fluency in one of Zambia’s seven official local languages.

## It’s your loss, not UPND and you’ll keep losing until you rise like Malawi did - HH

*From P4*

“IF you remember before 2011, 23 members of parliament of PF were bought by the MMD government. MMD was winning by-elections, almost all of them and when 2011 came, the people had the last laugh, change came. It is not different now. You can buy councillors as you wish, you can manipulate people as you wish, ngabamipela impiya abena PF pokeni (If they give you money, get it). Zambia pokeni, ngabami

pela ubunga, sendeni (if they give you mealie meal get it). Use their slogan Donchi Kubeba. That is your mealie meal. But you should know the general election is coming in 2021. PF, whether they like it or not, kuya bebele (they have to go), there is no other way. So there is no issue of saying UPND lost, it is the people of Zambia and the UPND that are being deceived as the MMD was deceiving the people in 2011.”

He said UPND

members were being arrested when they tried to hold intra party elections.

“In Western Province, the ruling party came to win by-elections there. If you remember before 2016, PF won Mangango parliamentary by-elections, they won Mulobezi by-elections, they won Mongu Central. The PF had three parliamentary seats before the 2015 elections and when the general election

came, how many MPs did PF have? Zero! We beat them everywhere, even in the wards like Mangango, the one they won one year before the elections. When we came in 2016, we beat them like they didn’t exist; it will be the same thing in 2021. I want the people of Zambia not to lose sight of history when a government is about to leave office, like PF is about to leave office. If they say they won those elections, look at the total numbers, very small numbers. And on the other hand, we want to hold our intra party elections, baletukanya, baletukaka (they are refusing us, they are arresting us.) Ten days ago, our people who were holding intra party elections in Chililabombwe, even when they were practicing social distancing and masking up, our people were arrested,”

And Hichilema said the PF was risking the lives of people and wondered why Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya did not advise President Lungu not to attend the commissioning of the Makeni overpass.

“We are geared. We go through a lot of challenges. COVID is creating problems for all of us except those in the ruling party who are ignoring the COVID challenges who are actually becoming carriers of the COVID virus because they are mingling in big crowds like yesterday in Lusaka, you saw it on television. Without social distancing, without masks, basically transmitting COVID and Mr Lungu was there himself. The one who is supposed to protect our people is the one exposing our people to death. And you know, there are a lot of cases in Lusaka. A lot of them are being taken to the hospital dead. And you see a leadership that doesn’t

care about the welfare of the people but exposing people to the virus. These are the challenges we are having,” Hichilema said.

He said President Lungu was the one spreading the COVID-19 pandemic.

“They are the ones transmitting COVID-19, risking the lives of our people. Chitalu Chilufya is telling us not to go to funerals, not to gather at Chilanga Mulilos and weddings but what did he do at the Magistrate Court himself? He took cadres without masks and social distancing. We must practice what we preach. You are exposing people to death, you are not a leader, you are masquerading as a leader. What did Mr Lungu do yesterday (Monday)? Why didn’t Chilufya tell his President that he must not go to that function with hundreds of people who were so close to each other? After that function, they went back to their homes and they could have carried the virus. So who is transmitting the virus in this country? It is the PF and leaders of PF. Chilufya must tell the President to stop what he is doing, he will cause the death of many people,” Dr Chilufya said.

“When leaders are doing wrong things, followers will do the wrong things as well. Then you blame followers? No. This is the lack of leadership we talk about. The President was the one transmitting COVID yesterday (Monday) at the Kafue bridge. They must lead by example, this is not happening under PF, that is why everything has broken down; Chingola is broken down, Copperbelt is broken down, Zambia is broken down because we don’t have leadership. We have never suffered like this because there is no leadership.”



## S/Province Police nab “Chilombwana” on rape, assault charges

*By Natasha Sakala*

POLICE in Southern Province have arrested a 19-year-old suspect commonly known as “Chilombwana” alleged to be behind a spate of crimes such as rape, unlawful wounding, arson, and assault experienced in Zimba and Kalomo Districts.

In a statement, Tuesday, Zambia Police public relations officer Esther Katongo announced that the suspect was handed over to the police by Mapatizya UPND member of parliament Clive Miyanda, Tuesday.

“Police in Southern Province are holding a suspect identified as Lucky Kaluwe, aged 19 years, commonly known as Chilombwana alleged to be behind a spate of crimes such as rape, unlawful wounding, arson, and assault experienced in Zimba and Kalomo Districts of Southern Province. The suspect was apprehended by members

of the public in Chilobe area of chief Sipatunyana in Zimba District. The suspect, who had been on the police wanted list, is alleged to have been armed with a machete each time he committed offences and was relocating to other places after committing offences. The suspect was handed over to police on 4th August, 2020, at about 05:30 hours by the member of parliament for Mapatizya, Hon. Clive Miyanda,” read the statement.

“The suspect is charged with one count of arson, five counts of unlawful wounding and three counts of rape. He is detained in custody and will appear in court soon. We wish to commend members of the public in the Chilobe area for acting swiftly in apprehending the suspect and we call on all those who could have been victims of attacks by the suspect to report to police.”



# Lungu making COVID-19 fight difficult – Lubezhi



People crowd on kafue road to witness President Edgar Lungu's commissioning of the new Makeni flyover bridge in Lusaka on Monday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
NAMWALA UPND member of parliament Moono Lubezhi says President Edgar Lungu's continued flouting of health regulations is giving members of parliament a tough time to convince their electorate about the dangers of COVID-19.

And Lubezhi says after seeing President Lungu surrounded by large crowds in Makeni when he went to commission the flyover bridge, her constituents have started doubting the existence of the pandemic.

In an interview, Lubezhi appealed to President Lungu to help parliamentarians curb the pandemic by avoiding moving with unnecessary crowds.

"Look at the crowd which he has taken to Makeni today (Monday), which are not masked. There is no social distance! As if that is not enough, what is wrong with Lungu just going with a few officials from the Ministry of Housing and Infrastructure Development if he really wanted that facility to be flagged off? And in my own understanding, that is not

an infrastructure worthy to be commissioned by a Head of State. I am not really shocked because this is the same Lungu who went to Namwala with a huge crowd, wasting taxpayers' money to go open a mother's shelter, which was built using CDF (Constituency Development Fund). I didn't see it prudent for the Head of State to travel all the way to Namwala just to commission a CDF project worth K238,000," Lubezhi said.

She feared that the crowds that surrounded President Lungu in Makeni would infect their communities after dispersing to their various areas of residency.

"What has shocked me today (Monday) is because that hired crowd, which they have taken there is as good as they have killed them because those people will be infecting and re-infecting each other! And as if that is not enough, they will go back and retreat to their compound where they are going to infect people who have remained home innocently. These are the times I wish was a behavioural scientist because at least I would have comforted myself if I understood their behaviour. This pandemic is real and we have seen people dying! We can't afford to have a Head of State to be this careless! His level of carelessness is giving us MPs a tough time to convince our electorate to stop moving

about," she complained.

And Lubezhi revealed that her constituents had even started doubting the existence of COVID-19 after seeing President Lungu with a crowd in Makeni.

"For example, in Namwala, I had managed to stop the livestock farmers from travelling to Lusaka to sell their animals. When COVID-19 started, I had pleaded with the people of Namwala to try to trade locally until this disease was normalised. We had managed to control them. But now when they saw the Head of State all over, they started calling me saying, 'ba MP, mulatubeja kunyina Coronavirus nkaambo kunyina mbokunga ba President kabayakweenda!' (MP, you have been lying to us about this Coronavirus. There is no Coronavirus because if it was there, there is no way the President would be moving about like that). The President has made this fight for us very difficult," Lubezhi lamented.

She appealed to President Lungu to help all parliamentarians curb the pandemic by leading by example.

"It's high time the PF, through their party president Edgar Lungu, who happens to be the Head of State, realised that this COVID-19 is real and let Edgar himself help us the people of Zambia to curb this pandemic. At the rate he is moving, that man will wipe off Zambia," cautioned Lubezhi.

**By Julia Malunga**  
THE Auditor General's Report has revealed that the Zambia Forestry and Forest Industries Corporation Limited (ZAFFICO) did not submit expenditure returns to the Office of the Accountant General in amounts totalling US\$1,200,000 from the sale of Mukula logs.

And the Report disclosed that the corporation paid K 4,560,947 towards electricity bills for former institutional houses.

According to the Auditor General's Report on the Accounts of Parastatal Bodies and other statutory institutions for the financial year ended December 31, 2018, US\$5,474,914 was realized from the sale of Mukula logs.

"On 17th August 2015, ZAFFICO Limited was granted authority by Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection to export the already harvested Mukula logs. On 30th May 2017, ZAFFICO Limited received further directives to collect all the logs countrywide and export them. The proceeds from the exports were to be invested in ZAFFICO Limited and ZAFFICO Tea Company. Further, on 13th December 2017, ZAFFICO Limited was granted authority to retain US\$1,200,000 realized from the disposal of the confiscated Mukula logs with the following conditions among others: utilise funds on programmes for which funds have been requested, and submit expenditure returns to the Office of the Accountant General – Ministry of Finance on utilisation of the above stated funds in accordance with regulation no. 8 of Financial Regulations of 2006," The Report read.

"During the period from 8th September 2016 to 7th December 2018, amounts totaling US\$5,474,914 were realized from the sale of Mukula logs. However, the following were observed; contrary to the outlined conditions, as at 31st December 2019, ZAFFICO Limited had not submitted expenditure returns to the Office of the Accountant General, in amounts totalling US\$1,200,000. In the absence of expenditure returns there is a possibility of funds being applied on other unrelated activities. A scrutiny of the bank statement as at 31st December 2018 revealed that the Mukula bank account had a balance of US\$4,361,882.71 (fixed deposit account US\$4,207,982.34 and bank balance US\$153,900.37) However, the investment plan and budget on the utilisation of the funds was not availed for audit as at 31st December 2019."

The Report revealed that the corporation did not have a receivable management policy.

"During the period under review, the Corporation did not have a receivable management policy. In this regard, it was not clear as to what guided the Corporation in the management of receivables. Consequently, it was observed that during the period under review the trade receivables increased from K2,601,483 in 2016 to K15,333,197 in 2018. The debtors' age ranged from 60 to above 180 days. The failure to collect debts on time may lead to cash flow constraints," the report read.

And according to the report, the Corporation continued paying electricity bills for former institutional

# ZAFFICO didn't submit expenditure returns worth \$1.2m from sale of Mukula logs – AG

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And according to the report, the Corporation continued paying electricity bills for former institutional

houses.

"A review of ZAFFICO's electricity bills for the period under review revealed that, included in the bills were bills for former institutional houses. However, the Corporation continued paying electricity bills for the institutional houses as they were not delinked from the office lines. In this regard, the Corporation paid K1,036,406 in 2016; K2,431,276 in 2017; and K1,093,265 in 2018 towards electricity bills. In a meeting held on 29th September 2016, the Board directed management to constitute a Committee to follow up on the de-linkage and subsequent recoveries from the occupants of the houses. As at 31st December 2019, management had not implemented the Board's directive," the Report disclosed.

Meanwhile, the Report revealed that the corporation did not have a long term strategic guidance on the management of the forest plantations.

"A review of the Forest Inventory Report of 2016 revealed that the Corporation had planned to develop a five (5) year Forest Plantations Management Plan for the period 2018 to 2023 as a deliverable which was supposed to be approved by the Board by 20th March 2017. However, as at 31st December 2019, the Forest Plantation Management Plan had not been developed. In the absence of a plan, the Corporation did not have long term strategic guidance on the management of the forest plantations," read the Report.

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# Let’s appreciate the little, if a little is all we can get from PF

“Today, we are commissioning the completion of Makeni flyover, which is part of the four fly-over bridges to be constructed under this project... Infrastructure development is a critical catalyst to enhanced economic growth, and, therefore, my government will continue to invest in infrastructure, such as roads, schools, hospitals and many other such infrastructure. I have heard some sections of our people arguing that they cannot eat roads and as such, the government should not invest so much in infrastructure... To the contrary, provision of essential infrastructure is key to unlocking the economic potential of our country resulting in many benefits for our people,” said President Edgar Lungu, Monday, adding that: “Apart from infrastructure development, my government is determined to create various jobs, especially for the growing youth population.”

We agree with President Lungu

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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on infrastructure, but we disagree on job-creation. “Job creation” is the polite expression for “lies” in the PF government, but that is a story for another day, along with defined COVID-19 rules on that note. Today, we would like to talk about infrastructure development under the PF government. Despite the many problems that Zambia currently faces as a consequence of poor leadership, it is important to give credit where it is due. On infrastructure, particularly road development, our opinion is that the Patriotic Front government leaders should be allowed to walk with their heads high. Some of our readers, especially the critics of this government, will disagree with our view, arguing about “the

cost at which this so-called development is coming.”

Others will disagree saying the overpass highways that President Lungu is bragging about are outdated or poor quality, compared to what other countries in the region are building. But Bembas say: “ushitasha patunono, napafingi takatashe” (meaning he who doesn’t show gratitude on small things will never appreciate big things). We are here to appreciate the little, if a little is all we can get from this government.

In October, 2018, we wrote an editorial opinion where we stated that every now and then, we find ourselves faced with the responsibility of looking around to identify at least something that the Patriotic Front

government is doing well; something that deserves recognition. This, we said, is not an easy job because almost every positive development coming out of our government is a by-product of corruption. One such area where we have seen tremendous development is the road infrastructure. Like we stated in 2018, we are fully aware of the fact that this is the sector where corruption is manufactured, and so we are here to only talk about the resulting by-product of that corruption.

In Lusaka, the urban roads development programme has actually brought about a new face of the city. There is a valid question about how the designs for these overpass roads on the major roundabouts

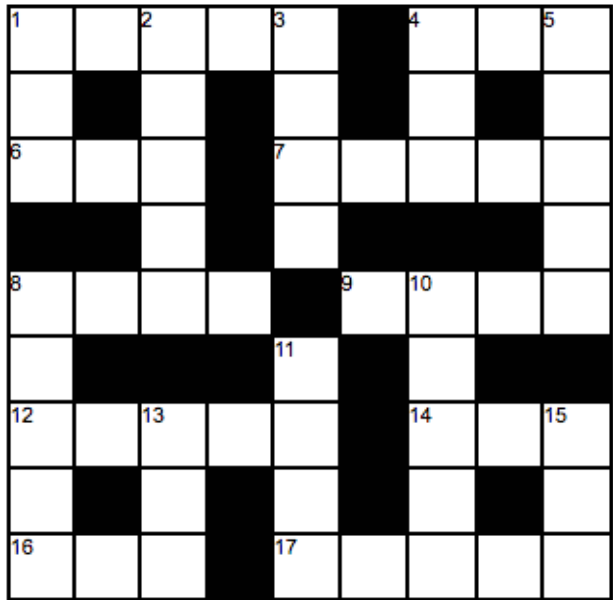
will significantly decrease traffic, but that is an issue for civil engineers to debate. Like Malawian singer, Namadingo, said in his song (Ma plan), “Otsusa boma samalephela ma damage” loosely translated as opposition will oppose everything. The truth is that the work has been seen by everyone and when we walk or drive on these roads in Lusaka, most of which have been upgraded to dual-carriageway, we know it in our hearts, all of us who are disgusted by the Patriotic Front’s criminality, that while they are stealing, at least they are leaving a few good remarkable projects. Therefore, it is only in order to thank both the Zambian government and the people of India on the Lusaka City Decongestion Project that President Lungu is

commissioning.

On roads, the PF has delivered. Despite some of them being weak and vulnerable to heavy rains, roads have been built by this regime more than under Frederick Chiluba, Levy Mwanawasa and even Rupiah Banda’s governments combined. The downside is that Zambians will have to pay through the nose to settle the debt accrued for the construction of these roads we are seeing because almost all of them are overpriced, while the rest have little or no economic benefit. In other words, what we are saying is that, because of this ‘unprioritised’ infrastructure development agenda under the road sector, Zambia is in bigger problems than it was during the Chiluba, Mwanawasa and Rupiah Banda administrations combined.

However, we are still grateful because even a judge rewards a convicted criminal with leniency in mitigation. We are happily sad for the good roads you are making ba Pompwe!

## Crossword puzzle No 661



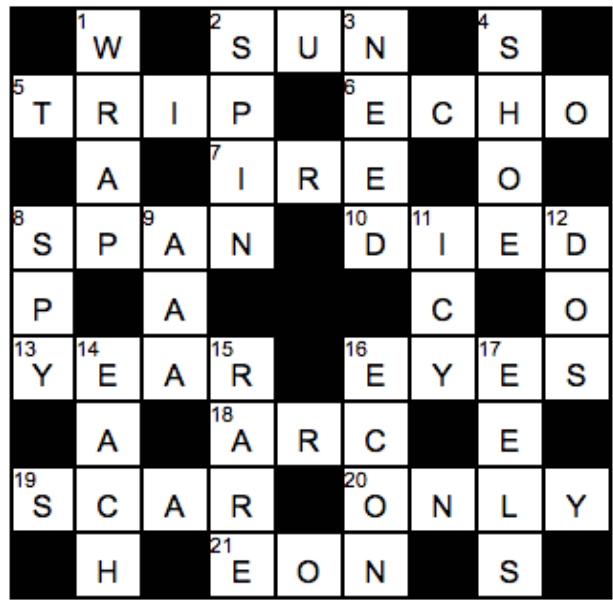
“Maturity, one discovers, has everything to do with the acceptance of ‘not knowing.’”  
- Mark Z. Danielewski

- Across

1. Boy Wonder  
4. Positioned  
6. Spell-off  
7. Street direction symbol  
8. Not narrow  
9. Burn on the outside  
12. Sum  
14. Move head affirmatively  
16. Snitch  
17. Wagon part
- Down

1. Stroke  
2. Mix well  
3. Tidy  
4. Better than a bogey  
5. Tall building  
8. H<sub>2</sub>O  
10. Thus  
11. Squander  
13. Ancient mummy king  
15. Erase key

## Crossword puzzle No 660





# Readers' Feedback

## ND! OPINION: Kaziya is right, but PF will fight him for confronting the truth

Dear editor,

- "We all know they are corrupt. And we all know cadres are more powerful than MPs, ministers or even the Police. We know that when they are caught they can be defended. They can NEVER be suspended or fired. Mr Mazia is not giving us anything new evidence here. We know about those ridiculous fire tenders, the over-priced ambulances and the inflated road contacts. We know about their insatiable appetite for borrowing. And we know that most of our revenue goes towards debt servicing. That is why I keep on checking where I have deposited my NRC and Voters cards. Nalema nao ine mwe!" - Lastone Richard Tembo

"In fact, there is need for land allocation audit in all councils. Am sure shocking results will be revealed". - Kachinga Miyoba

"What do you expect in a country where pornographic materials are treated as a high level criminal activity and corruption isn't? The firing of high education minister leaving hardcore corrupt ministers leaves much to be desired!" - Sikalele M. Xuluv

"The word cadre should be replaced with criminal in the Zambian dictionary". - Nasho Sombe

## MoH's statistics on 60% of those who've succumbed to COVID-19 being diabetic

Editor,

"It's no surprise that diabetics are dying in large numbers. Infact Covid 19 is not even the major cause of that. The main reason is that there are no medicines for diabetics in hospitals. No insulin and no medication. There is also no reagents for A1c tests, no strips for daily tests. There is nothing really. It's sad. Very sad!" i Kabaso Mulenga

"With no social distancing during the

commissioning of that Makeni bridge, can COVID not continue killing people?!" - Peter Mmembe

"There is no insulin in hospitals and you expect people to survive... No way... Soon it will that all the babies who died with covid-19 didn't get BCG but we know very well that we don't have BCG in hospitals and

mothers are sent back. Just like people are dying without knowing the results because of lack of test kits.. We need to ask the minister what he means by saying in the last 24hrs". - Jerome Ivungo Kanyika

"There is no insulin, what do you expect, it's not even corona, just say the true MOH". - Jerome Ivungo Kanyika



## 'Lungu ought to have been angry with PF cadres' defiance at COVID-19 guidelines in Kafue'

Editor,

- "I believe COVID deaths can also decongest Lusaka. The crowds were saving the same purpose as the project they were commissioning. They didn't see that irony". - Michelo Mweetwa

"Zambian corona is for the opposition especially HH..... Unfortunately the opposition hasn't realised that PF is playing politics when it comes to corona! It's high time the opposition started speaking or else I see a situation where this corona health guidelines will be only relaxed two days before the elections! Since Bill 10 is almost dead PF is looking for other alternatives.... Biliweya(beware)". - Ian Malekhanie

"So if Scores can defy the President who will they listen to?This Stupidity exhibited by the PF leaders must Stop poor people's lives are at stake here". - David Busiku II

"This man is a bad example. Mr. Lungu has shown us "how not to rule a country"" - Bill Bantu Ntanda

"He should have gotten angry and disappointed after seeing that people are willing to disobey his Covid19 guidelines". - Chola Mwale

"There are mixed messages on the covid 19 fight but its effects cannot be ignored. Just do it for your family and loved ones. Dont expect much from our leaders". - Bashi Mwana

## Telesphore on PF's Bill 10, aka: 'Bill Third Term'

Editor,

- "Well done Bishop for speaking for the voiceless and the poor citizens in our great nation". - Jabulani Phiri Jr.

"Well spoken our Bishop. Things must be called by their correct names". - Wanosha Wanosha

"Well spoken bishop. "Bill Third Term" is dead". - Bill Bantu
- Ntanda

"I strongly support you sir, you're absolute right". - Ganizani Kwenda

"Nothing but the truth". - Gershom Habile

"I also wonder why PF should engage a group of Bill 10 Advocates to go around our rural areas to
- meet our gullible chiefs to explain to them of how "progressive" Bill 10 is. Who is sponsoring them if not President Lungu with part of the Covid-19 Bonds Slash Fund?" - Christopher Kalima

"Fearless Bishop, thanks...." - Richard Mhango

#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.



By Zondiwe Mbewe  
LAWYERS representing Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya in a case where he is charged with being in possession of property suspected to be proceeds of crime yesterday asked the Lusaka Magistrates’ Court to discharge the accused if the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) is not ready to prosecute him.

But Lusaka Chief Resident Magistrate Lameck Mwale has ordered that trial in the matter starts today.

This was after a prosecutor from the ACC, Daniel Ngwirwa, asked for an adjournment when the case came up for commencement of trial, Tuesday, saying the prosecution team was not ready to proceed as operations at their office had been grounded due to the fact that two employees had tested positive to COVID-19.

He said one of the positive employees was a prosecutor, who was also on record in the matter.

“The prosecution is not ready to proceed with trial. We did file a notice of motion to adjourn, which was served on the advocates of the accused. The affidavit accompanying the notice of motion to adjourn sets out the grounds upon which the adjournment is sought. We shall not repeat all the

# Court orders trial in Chilufya’s corruption case to commence today



Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya

reasons, but it suffices to state that operations at ACC have been grounded due to the fact that two employees tested positive for COVID-19, one of them being an advocate on record in this case,” Ngwirwa said.

“Therefore, it became necessary that the entire building be fumigated and in order to pave way for the said exercise, all members of staff were advised not to report for work up until August 5, 2020.”

Ngwirwa said in any case, prosecutors and investigators at ACC will still not report for work on August 5, 2020, until further notice.

But the defence objected to the said application for an adjournment.

Tutwa Ngulube, who was the first defence lawyer to object, asked the Court to stand down the matter in the afternoon or discharge the accused and let the prosecutors take him back to court when they were ready

to prosecute their case.

Another defence lawyer Jonas Zimba adopted Ngulube’s objection and submissions.

He proceeded to indicate that the ACC effected an arrest on his client at their Kabulonga office, adding that it would, therefore, follow that ACC had more than one office.

Zimba also urged the Court not to entertain the State’s argument that one of the prosecutors tested positive

for COVID-19, saying the remaining three prosecutors could have handled the trial.

“If the office in town is closed due to a fumigation exercise, which in my considered view would have been done over the long-weekend, ACC would have done their preparations at the Kabulonga office where they effected an arrest on my client. They have also indicated before this court that one of the advocates on record before this court is affected by the pandemic. I urge this court not to entertain such an argument for the reason that there are four prosecutors on record. Three prosecutors would have carried on these proceedings,” he said.

Zimba said there was also no evidence on record that one of the 20 witnesses the prosecution intends to call had COVID-19.

“We have to make prudent use of judicial time and this matter was given the whole week. If the adjournment sought is granted, not only will the State inconvenience the State, but the Court as well whose time is so precious. Having said that, may the Court proceed to order the State to proceed with this matter as agreed and if they are not ready now, this matter be stood down for them to get ready and proceed with this

matter,” he said.

“I say so because when a person is arrested by the State, it is presumed that they have more than enough evidence for them to carry out with their prosecution. That evidence cannot disappear because of COVID-19.”

In reply, Ngwirwa insisted that the State had met the conditions to make the adjournment.

But ruling on the application for an adjournment later on, Magistrate Mwale ordered for trial to proceed today.

He said after going through the internal memorandum (MEMO) issued by the ACC acting director, all those working in their investigations department were supposed to remain on duty.

Magistrate Mwale said according to the memo, staff based at Kabulonga and others, under the department of legal and investigations were supposed to also remain working.

He added that, therefore, prosecutors; Clifford Moonga, Muchula Silumesi and Borniface Chiwala fall under those staff who were supposed to work normally.

He adjourned the matter to today.

In this matter, Dr Chilufya has been charged with four charges of possession of property suspected to be proceeds of crime contrary to section 71 (1) of the Forfeiture of Proceeds of Crime Act No. 19 of the 2010 of the laws of Zambia.



South Africa has seen a surge in funerals as it struggles to contain coronavirus, So much so that cemeteries see several funerals taking place at the same time.

## Millions offered for nature conservation amid Covid-19

INTERNATIONAL bodies are to offer €6m (£5.3m, \$6.9m) in emergency funding to help deal with the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on conservation.

The money will be used to fund a number of projects,

including helping local communities which depended on wildlife tourism before the pandemic and addressing the difficulties in accessing and managing protected sites during local lockdowns.

“The Covid-19 pandemic has shown us just how vulnerable conservation initiatives are to major disruptions,” said Dr Bruno Oberle, head of the International Union for Conservation of Nature, which is based in Switzerland.

“The pandemic has left local communities who protect wildlife struggling to make a living, and many threatened species increasingly exposed.”

The funds are being made available by the IUCN, the European Commission and the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States.**BBC**

## WHO urges caution over Russia vaccine

THE World Health Organization has urged Russia to follow international guidelines for producing a vaccine against Covid-19 after the country said it would begin vaccinations in October.

“Sometimes individual researchers claim they have found something, which is of course, as such, great news,” WHO spokesman Christian Lindmeier told reporters on Tuesday.

“But between finding or having a clue of maybe having a vaccine that works, and having gone through all the stages, is a big

difference.”

Last week, the Russian government announced it was preparing to begin mass vaccinations.

However, the Russian vaccine is not among the WHO’s list of six vaccines that have reached phase three clinical trials, which involve more widespread testing in humans.

Meanwhile, Russia is planning to go ahead with mass vaccinations in October - something the World Health Organization (WHO) has raised concerns about.

But what is happening with the

race to create vaccines across the world?

About 140 are in early development, and around two dozen are now being tested on people in clinical trials, including the Russian vaccine.

There are generally three main phases of human testing before a vaccine can be approved for general use. The final stage, phase 3, involves trials among a much larger group of volunteers.

Six potential vaccines have reached this third stage. One, developed by the University of Oxford, appears safe and triggers

an immune response in humans.

Early results from two trials in the US, run by the pharmaceutical giant Pfizer and biotech company Moderna, also appear to produce a good immune response in volunteers.

However, they are all still under testing and none have received approval.

So where does this leave the Russian vaccine? According to a document release by the WHO last week, the jab, which has been developed by the Gamaleya Research Institute, remains far behind and is still in phase 1.**BBC**



# Barcelona's new away jersey took Kaizer Chiefs by surprise - Jessica Motaung

THE Barca shirt is similar to the one Amakhosi use for their 50th-anniversary and this hasn't sat well with the club bosses at Naturena

Kaizer Chiefs were very surprised and disappointed when they saw Barcelona's new away jersey for the 2020-21 season, according to marketing director Jessica Motaung.

The Barca shirt is similar to the black and gold design Amakhosi used for their 50th-anniversary celebrations, and Motaung said she has already had discussions with Nike about the decision.

According to Motaung, the design was inspired from within the club, recalling how Kaizer Motaung used to wear a similar black jersey with gold numbers at the back.

She added that Amakhosi were very specific on what they wanted when they asked Nike to make the jersey for them earlier this year, hinting that the manufacturer may have used their idea when designing the new Barcelona jersey.

"I've had several discussions with Nike about it," Motaung told TimesLIVE. "Look, we were actually very instrumental in the design of our 50th-anniversary jersey.

"The chairman [Kaizer Motaung] was very clear about the colours because if you remember, the chairman had a black jersey with gold that he

wore many years ago."

"They had the gold numbers and things like that," continued Motaung, "and that design was extremely club-inspired, and we were very specific.

"Some of the designs that we received were not quite there, and we were clear on the heritage and what we wanted," she explained. "We were very clear about the importance and magnitude of it, and that it wasn't a small milestone for us, and we loved what we arrived at, and I appreciate the work that Nike has done.

"I was made aware of the new Barcelona design before it hit the market, and I have to be honest we were surprised. Also because of the major outcry for stock that we had [for the 50th jersey]. It should have been produced for a market that was very excited for a 50th [anniversary] jersey."

Motaung understands the dynamics of the business as well as the things Nike look at when coming up with ideas to make new shirts for the clubs they sponsor.

However, she insists that Chiefs were left surprised, more so because the club didn't have the chance to maximise their revenue as Nike said they didn't have enough material to make more shirts for their 50th-anniversary celebrations but still managed to produce something similar for the La Liga giants.

**GOAL.COM**



## Eden looks to next sponsorship deal

*By Tim Zulu*

EDEN University Chief Executive Officer Kelvin Kaunda says the high levels of competition exhibited in the first ever National Division One League was healthy and highly encouraging not only to the participants but also to soccer enthusiasts and League Sponsors.

And Kaunda has revealed

that Eden will consider extending the sponsorship package to the next soccer season.

Reviewing the league, Kaunda commended league participants for their resilience amid the ravaging COVID-19.

"For us as Eden University, when we embarked on this sports journey to sponsor this league as a pilot project, little did we know there was this top class desire, commitment and huge appetite of competition among the teams and players in this football basket. Understandably, we know that it has not been easy for most teams financially but even then, nothing stopped them from fulfilling their obligation to travel far and wide to play their beautiful game amid difficulties and that helped to enhance the competition among themselves. For that, we applaud such selfless commitment shown by our football stakeholders," Kaunda said.

He said even with little resources, teams weathered the storm and gave out their level best to the soccer fans irrespective of their challenges.

"Because we understand such challenges at this level of football, that is why we came in

to meet each other half way and share the little that we have and for us as Eden University, what these teams have done is to give us another breath of encouragement to stick with them for yet another coming season," Kaunda said.

"This season is almost done amidst difficulties of the ravaging Coronavirus Pandemic which affected a lot of economic activities... otherwise, even our originally set out plans for this league were somewhat compromised but despite all that, we hope and trust that the little we had put in as the first ever private University to sponsor the league, helped in one way or the other."

He said Eden will review the next sponsorship package before an announcement could be made on full details.

"With things being equal as we wait to see things return to normal, we are taking a good review of our next sponsorship package based on the encouraging experience we have had from this 2020/21 soccer season and hopefully see to it that the good plans we had for our football teams will be met successfully in our next soccer

calendar," Kaunda said.


Kaunda, who is also Mwembeshi Ward 27 councillor in Matero Constituency, has equally congratulated in advance teams that would sail through to the top flight of Zambian football.

"Let me conclude by congratulating the would be champions on Thursday and those who earned the super league ticket, yes we shall certainly miss their skills, talent and resilience in our second tier league but I urge them not to come back soon but let them go there ( Super League), stay and compete favourably as per the asking demands of the elite league," said Kaunda.

"Let them represent us well and for those going down to provincial Division One, you played your part under difficulties, we look forward to seeing you bounce back to the Eden family soon as we look forward with open arms to welcome those coming from the Super League."

Eden University Pumped in K1.1 million sponsorship deal for the 2020/2021 Soccer league and looks set to sign a new deal for the 2021/2022 season.

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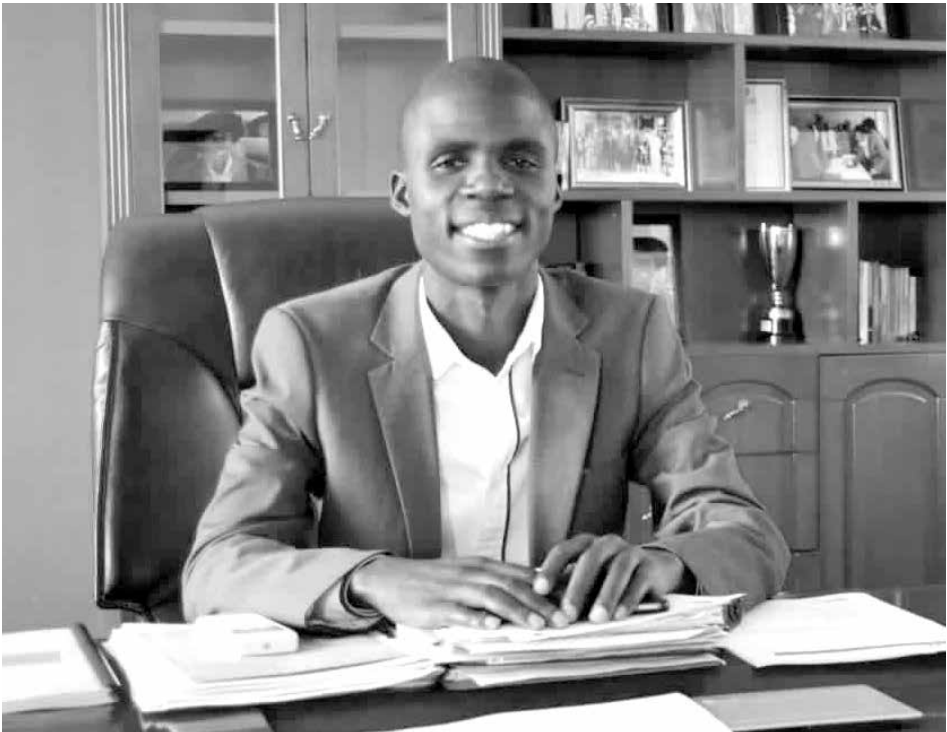
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