



Investigations that angered Lungu...

Things aren't so well, but it's because of climate change – Kafwaya

By Mirriam Chabala
TRANSPORT and Communications Minister Mutotwe Kafwaya says things are not well in the country but has blamed the problems on climate change which has seen increased load shedding of electricity by Zesco Limited.
And Kafwaya has asked the UPND leadership to be serious and come up with a manifesto that explains what the party intends to do for Zambians if given an opportunity to govern.

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Zambia records 154 new COVID-19 cases, 5 deaths

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Arrest of Paul Moonga, more Cabinet Ministers, Savenda boss revealed

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
STATE House sources have revealed that President Edgar Lungu is angry with the Anti-Corruption Commission because it is investigating politically exposed persons who are close to his inner circle, among them Savenda proprietor Clever Mhpoa, PF Lusaka Province chairperson Paul Moonga, and former Ministry of Defence permanent secretary Stardy Mwale.
And Moonga has confirmed being summoned by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) for investigations in a matter where he is accused of being a beneficiary of ZRA smuggling activities linked to his son, who has since been suspended by the Revenue Authority.

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UPND president Hakainde Hichilema (c) poses for a photo with Copperbelt party youths yesterday

It's sad that govt defends the corrupt - Musa

By Ulande Nkomesha
FORMER attorney general Musa Mwenye says it is sad that government officials have a tendency of defending the corrupt.
Commenting on President Edgar Lungu's recent remarks that the corruption fight was political and that investigative wings were targeting to remove him from office, Mwenye said there was no need to fear the ACC if one had not stolen.

"It is very sad that every time we hear our government leaders talk about corruption, they are defending the corrupt and attacking those who are fighting corruption..."
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There is something wrong with HH's head - Mwila

By Ulande Nkomesha
PF SECRETARY General Davies Mwila says there is something wrong with UPND president Hakainde Hichilema's head if he does not count how many times he has lost elections.
Commenting on Hichilema's remarks that he does not count how many times he had lost elections because fighting for freedom was not an easy undertaking, Mwila said any normal person should be worried after five election losses.

"A normal person must get worried if he is losing elections every time. You can't lose elections five times and you start saying that you can't count even when you lose one..."
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People trying to tarnish my image because I defend Lungu - Jay Jay

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Keep Listening to Byta FM
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By Sipilisiwe Ncube

STATE House sources have revealed that President Edgar Lungu is angry with the Anti-Corruption Commission because it is investigating politically exposed persons who are close to his inner circle, among them Savenda proprietor Clever Mphoa, PF Lusaka Province chairperson Paul Moonga, and former Ministry of Defence permanent secretary Sturdy Mwale.

And Moonga has confirmed being summoned by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) for investigations in a matter where he is accused of being a beneficiary of ZRA smuggling activities linked to his son, who has since been suspended by the Revenue Authority.

But ACC has asked for more time to study three of the four questions contained in a press query from News Diggers, in which the newspaper sought confirmation of the high profile cases that were under

Details of ACC investigations that angered Lungu: Arrest of Paul Moonga, more Cabinet Ministers, Savenda boss revealed

investigation.

News Diggers also asked ACC to confirm if it was true that the Commission had dropped the nine charges of corruption that were slapped on Tourism Minister Ronald Chitotela, due to political interference, but the Commission only confirmed investigating Sturdy Mwale, saying they were not in a position to give responses on the other queries submitted.

Last Sunday, President Lungu lashed out at the Commission, accusing it of scheming to remove him from power.

"So those who are fighting corruption, where are they? ... I have always said that the fight against corruption is anchored on politics trying to get rid of government and those who are

doing well. They know where corruption is happening but they don't even dare to go there because all they want is to get Edgar Lungu out of power," said President Lungu during a tour of Chifubu market.

Sources revealed that around July this year, ACC summoned Lusaka businessman, Mphoa, for interrogations and confiscated his cell phone which is allegedly believed to contain evidence of corruption, a development which did not please President Lungu.

"Basically, the President is concerned because in the recent past, ACC has been writing to people who are close to the President. One of the high profile cases that ACC is pursuing apparently is for

Savenda [proprietor] Mphoa. From what we know, he was summoned around July, there about. This was in connection with Money laundering issues and some contracts. You can imagine, ACC went to the extent of confiscating his cell phone and they have been refusing to release it. So basically, that has not sat well with the boss," the source revealed.

Sources revealed that Moonga benefitted from ZRA smuggling activities linked to his son, Paul Moonga Junior who is based in Ndola.

"What usually happens with ZRA smuggling activities is that PF cadres always work with some clearing agents and their clients who pay a lot of money to them so that they can facilitate the release of impounded or confiscated goods. Sometimes they use ZRA employees and this has been going on for a long time. In the Paul Moonga case, what happened is that some importer, I think he is Rwandese had his goods impounded by ZRA, so this person was introduced to Moonga who then referred this client to his

son. His son who works for the Ndola ZRA office took up the matter to help facilitate the clearing of smuggled goods. But the problem that happened is that apparently, Moonga [senior] used the name of the ZRA Commissioner General, Kingsley Chanda, to get money from this client. He made the client believe that the Commissioner was the beneficiary of the deal, and that's how that client started paying money through the son," the source narrated. **Story continues on P4**

There's something wrong with HH's head – Mwila

By Ulande Nkomesha

PF Secretary General Davies Mwila says there is something wrong with UPND president Hakainde Hichilema's head if he does not count how many times he has lost elections.

Commenting on Hichilema's remarks that he does not count how many times he had lost elections because fighting for freedom was not an easy undertaking, Mwila said any normal person should be worried after five election loses.

"A normal person must get worried if he is losing elections every time. You can't lose elections every time. You can't lose elections every time. I will give you one specific example; I was MP for Chipili for 10 years I lost once and you don't expect me to go back because they rejected [me]. So, he has been rejected by the Zambian people five times. He lost in 2006,

he lost in 2008, he lost in 2011, he lost in 2015, he lost in 2016," Mwila said.

"So he must get concerned as a human being, as a normal person, he must get concerned that if he is losing, he has lost five times, you just get concerned. If he does not get concerned there must be something wrong in his head. Yes there must be something wrong in his head. You can't lose an election every time."

He said Hichilema was a dictator who had failed to lead the party into holding a general conference.

"The problem that he has, he is a dictator! Look, you can't be a president in a political party for more than 10 years, he has been a president and he has never gone to the general conference. The Zambian people must see if this guy is given power what is going to happen to the Zambian people? Because he must lead by

example in his own political party to ensure that there is democracy in the party but if he has just been alone, no convention, no election and you expect him to come and lead Zambia in a better way? No! Zambians must reject him completely! And he has nothing to offer. Anyway, us we are ready for him, come 2021 he will see what will happen," Mwila said.

He said Hichilema could never be President of Zambia because he was only popular in Southern Province.

"So how is he going to win with only one province? You can't govern this country if you only have support with one province, that is the challenge that he has. They cannot win, they can't win! UPND can't win elections. I have told you, you can't win an election with one province, Southern Province, how? It is not possible! They can't win, they will never win! As long as they are with HH, they will never win!" Mwila exclaimed.

Meanwhile, Mwila said the fact that NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili and his Democratic Party counterpart Harry Kalaba wanted to form alliances with other political parties was a sign that their formations were no longer factors.

"Chishimba Kambwili and Kalaba were saying that they will form government, what has come in their head that they will go in an alliance? It means that they have no support. We have been telling them that you are not on the ground. That is why now they want to partner with HH because where is Kambwili? The political party is finished, DP is finished. That is why they want to be swallowed by HH," Mwila said.

"Even the winning of Roan, we told him that 'you cannot win, NDC cannot win elections alone', they won Roan because they were helped by UPND. Now they have proved themselves that they are nothing, they have no popularity. That is why they will be swallowed."

Mwila said it was not possible for UPND and NDC to field one candidate for the Lukashya and Mwanabombwe by elections as the two parties were selfish.

"All of them are selfish, when did they start that? it has never happened and it will not happen. Come the 27th, we will have nominations, you will come and tell me if they will field one candidate. They are too selfish! They can't do that, it is not possible. Each one of them doesn't want to be led, they want to lead," said Mwila.



Pallbearers carry Grey Zulu's casket at Anglican Cathedral during his funeral church service yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

Things aren't so well in our country – Kafwaya

By Mirriam Chabala

TRANSPORT and Communications Minister Mutotwe Kafwaya says things are not well in the country but has blamed the problems on climate change which has seen increased load shedding of electricity by Zesco Limited.

And Kafwaya has asked the UPND leadership to be serious and come up with a manifesto that explains what the party intends to do for Zambians if given an opportunity to govern.

Speaking when he featured on Kitwe's Radio Ichengelo, Tuesday evening, Kafwaya said Zambians trusted the PF because it was fulfilling the promises made to them, despite things not being well in the country.

"I can confidently tell you this; PF can be trusted because we have proved that when we promise things, we deliver. Yes, things are not so well at the moment in our country but what has caused this is the issue of climate change which has brought about load-shedding. This is why we are investing in alternative sources of energy so that we can never be affected by load shedding again," Kafwaya said.

He also said Zambians trusted the ruling party because it had a national character.

"The other reason why people should trust PF is because our party has a national character and by this I mean, look at our government and party structure! The President of the country and our party is Edgar Chagwa Lungu, he's from Eastern Province; the Vice-President is from Western Province; the secretary general of the

party is from Luapula. But UPND had two positions in Parliament, leader of opposition and opposition whip. Their President Hakainde Hichilema is from Bweengwa in Monze, leader of opposition Jack Mwiimbu is from Monze, chief whip Gary Nkombo then from Mazabuka which is just neighbours with Monze. It took people like myself to complain about this tribalism and that was when they replaced Nkombo with Musokotwane. So PF can be trusted because we are inclusive. But UPND have now started accusing us of being tribal when they openly told Sakwiba Sikota that only a Tonga can be President of UPND. So UPND should stop this rubbish of accusing us of tribalism," Kafwaya said.

And Kafwaya said he felt sorry for UPND supporters every time he thought of them, alleging that they were just following the party and its leader blindly.

He said the current UPND manifesto was only about the wrong things they had noticed going on in the country, but advised the opposition party to form a political ideology out of which a manifesto could be born.

"We in PF are not like the UPND whose manifesto is about the things they think are not going right in the country. The UPND could be there saying the economy is bad and our currency has depreciated way too much at the moment but just a while from now, they would find that these problems they've been complaining about are addressed, what will they say then, what will be their manifesto then? So I think the UPND should be

able to tell the people of Zambia what they are going to do for them according to what they have written down in their manifesto. But again, this why I always laugh at the UPND, they have this one little paper they call 'ten-point plan' and I have even challenged them to say we have 30 ministries in government, so if your ideas are only 10, which ones of the 30 ministries are they addressing? Are you telling us that you will only have 10 ministries in your government?" Kafwaya asked.

"That's being dramatic; you need to be serious when aspiring to run a country. UPND needs to be serious with what they do. But again, if you have a leader who has failed five times and he still wants to be the one to stand, it simply shows that that person thinks he's the only one with the monopoly of knowledge. But that is not how it should be; it is people who notice that this one is wise and is fit to be a leader. I have always urged UPND to come up with a manifesto until they finally came up with something that looked like a manifesto not so long ago; but that also was a manifesto for 2016 to 2021, but I wondered how these guys think. How can you make a manifesto for 2016 to 2021 now when the election has already been won by PF? I wonder if UPND has any shame in them."

He added that he felt sorry for UPND supporters who were following party leader Hakainde Hichilema blindly.

"I feel sorry for supporters of UPND; every time I think about them, because they just follow blindly,

UPND supporters are just following a grouping that has no sense at all. How can a party fail to come up with a manifesto honestly? Late President [Frederick] Chiluba was always here to launch a manifesto just there at the Freedom Park every other time. President [Michael] Sata left MMD and created a manifesto, Elias Chipimo had a manifesto, even Sean Tembo had a manifesto, so how has UPND failed to make a manifesto surely? It's just unfortunate and that's why UPND members always want to talk about President [Edgar] Lungu every time they feature on radio because they have nothing else to talk about," Kafwaya said.

"But let me advise UPND; form a manifesto, form what we call political ideology. Once you have a political ideology, that is where you are going to center your manifesto. We in PF, our political ideology is that we are pro-poor as a party. When we construct roads, we are providing solutions for poor people. When we take hospitals to rural areas, we are saving our people from traveling long distances to access health care. So all these are pro-poor policies and this is why it is so easy for us to tell the people what we are doing. So it's truly unfortunate that our politics have been infiltrated by people who don't have political sense to help the people."

And Kafwaya also announced that the air operation certificate for Zambia Airways would be issued soon by the Department of Civil Aviation in Zambia and the company would then decide when to start operating.



Copperbelt Energy Corporation Plc

[Incorporated in the Republic of Zambia]
Company registration number: 39070
Share Code: CEC
ISIN: ZM000000136
["CEC"]

SUMMARY HALF YEAR UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

In compliance with the requirements of the Securities Act and the Listings Rules of the Lusaka Securities Exchange, the Copperbelt Energy Corporation Plc (CEC) announces its unaudited results for the period ended 30 June 2020.

Summary statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the period ended 30 June 2020

	Unaudited six months to 30 June 2020	Unaudited six months to 30 June 2019	Audited year ended 31 December 2019
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
Revenue	201,857	206,437	408,272
Gross profit	66,915	64,023	101,960
Other income	3,130	3,601	7,414
Operating expenses	(30,110)	(26,213)	(36,667)
Impairment of receivables	(89,663)	(28,829)	(55,335)
Profit before interest and tax	(49,728)	12,583	17,372
Net finance costs	(207)	(534)	(4,850)
Income tax expense	17,477	(4,217)	(276)
Profit after tax	(32,458)	7,832	12,246
Other comprehensive income	-	-	1,242
Total comprehensive income	(32,458)	7,832	13,488
(Loss)/ Earnings per share	(0.020)	0.005	0.008

Summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020

	Unaudited six months ended 30 June 2020	Unaudited six months ended 30 June 2019	Audited year ended 31 Dec 2019
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
Total non-current assets	451,716	438,053	457,557
Total current assets	198,109	178,105	182,862
Total assets	649,825	616,158	640,419
Total equity	321,171	350,311	353,629
Total non-current liabilities	158,587	159,982	161,378
Total current liabilities	170,067	105,865	125,412
Total Equity and Liabilities	649,825	616,158	640,419

Summary consolidated statement of cash flows for the period ended 30 June 2020

	Unaudited six months ended 30 June 2020	Unaudited six months ended 30 June 2019	Audited year ended 31 Dec 2019
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
Net cash flows from operating activities	19,234	(2,737)	49,777
Net cash flows used in investing activities	(5,238)	25,232	(20,631)
Net cash flows from financing activities	(2,800)	(35,285)	(37,035)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	11,196	(12,790)	(7,889)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	77,902	86,690	85,791
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June/31 December	89,098	73,900	77,902
Restricted Cash. 1	50,400	50,400	50,400

1. Restricted cash represents mostly security deposits from customers, which is used as credit enhancement to back stop payment obligations. For 30 June 2019, it also includes proceeds from the sale of equity interest in CEC Liquid Telecom, which funds are restricted by the Common Terms Agreement lenders.

Summary statement of changes in Equity for the period ended 30 June 2020

	Share capital	Share premium	Revaluation reserve	Retained earnings	Total
Balance at 1 January 2019	2,849	60,078	151,078	157,011	371,016
Revaluation surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Amortization of revaluation reserve	-	-	(11,615)	11,615	-
Profit for the year	-	-	-	12,246	12,246
Defined benefit plan actuarial loss	-	-	-	1,911	1,911
Related tax	-	-	-	(669)	(669)
Total comprehensive income	-	-	(11,615)	25,103	13,488
Transactions with owners of the Company					
Dividend	-	-	-	(30,875)	(30,875)
Balance at 31 December 2019	2,849	60,078	139,463	151,239	353,629
Balance at 1 January 2020	2,849	60,078	139,463	151,239	353,629
Revaluation Reserve Adjustment	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Deferred tax on revaluation surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Amortization of revaluation reserve	-	-	-	-	-
Profit for the year	-	-	-	(32,458)	(32,458)
Defined benefit plan actuarial gain	-	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners of the Company					
Dividends paid	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2020	2,849	60,078	139,463	118,781	321,171

I. Introduction

CEC's core business is the supply of power to the mines in the Copperbelt Province in Zambia, and Haut-Katanga and Lualaba Provinces in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), where we work with SNEL (DRC's state-owned power utility). CEC also provides wheeling services to third parties, including ZESCO Ltd (ZESCO), and operates the Zambian section of the interconnector into the DRC.

II. Key developments during the period

On 31 March 2020, following failed negotiations between ZESCO and the Company, the bulk supply agreement (BSA) terminated by effluxion of time. The BSA between ZESCO and the Company was entered into on 21 November 1997 and it (i) underpinned the provision of wheeling services on behalf of ZESCO for its non-mining customers in the Copperbelt, and (ii) anchored the power sourced from ZESCO for onward selling to the mining companies in the Copperbelt. Despite the BSA having terminated, the parties – GRZ, ZESCO and CEC – have agreed to continue facilitating an efficient and economic supply of power to the consumers in the Copperbelt.

On 31 May 2020, the Company's power supply agreement (PSA) with Konkola Copper Mines Plc (KCM), with an outstanding debt of USD144.7 million at that date, came to an end by effluxion of time. Two days before the expiry of the PSA, the Minister of Energy declared as common carrier all the Company's transmission and distribution assets through the issuance of Statutory Instrument No. 57 of 2020 (SI 57). The same day that the PSA terminated, the Energy Regulation Board prescribed an interim tariff for third party use of CEC's network at 5.84 US\$ cents per kWh, equivalent to about 30% of the Company's current network tariff.

The commercial implication of the above actions are: (i) a shift of the KCM load from the supply segment to the Use of System segment which has in some respects partially mitigated the on-going KCM credit risk, recognizing, however, that the debt of USD144.7 million as at 30 June 2020 remains unpaid; (ii) despite the expiry of the BSA, supply to CEC customers will continue and CEC has continued to provide wheeling services on behalf of ZESCO for their customers in the Copperbelt. The risk attendant to operating without key contracts cannot be over emphasized as it has the potential to trigger prolonged litigation.

III. Financial Highlights

- Revenue decreased by 2% from USD206.437 million in 2019 to USD201.857 million in 2020 mainly on account of a reduction in power demand by our mine customers in Zambia. When segmented, the revenue from local supply reduced by 2% on account of demand reduction following operational challenges by a number of mining companies as well as the effect of the KCM load transfer. On a positive note, revenue from wheeling services increased by 25% on the back of ZESCO's reduced load shedding to non-mining customers relative to the comparable prior period. Regional power supply increased by 3% following an increase in the customer base. Finally, a new segment of use of transmission system was introduced following the transfer of the KCM load from local supply.
- The continued KCM payment default has resulted in an increase in reported expected credit loss impairment of USD60.834 million from USD28.829 million in 2019 to USD89.663 million. As a result, the Company reported a loss of USD32.458 million for period, compared to a profit of USD7.832 million the prior year.
- The challenges in collecting value added tax refunds continued during the period and as at the reporting date, about USD17 million remained uncollected.
- Despite the aforementioned challenges with respect to cash collections, a combination of factors including our prudent working capital management, the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and cancellation or delayed implementation of projects or maintenance programs as well as cost containment measures, have resulted in cash flow from operations of USD19.235 million (2019: USD2.732 million) and a cash balance of USD89.098 million (2019: USD73.900 million). The cash balance is partly boosted by the restricted cash. Refer to note 1 above.

IV. Dividends Proposed and Paid

CEC is committed to providing sustainable shareholder returns through distribution of dividends and share price appreciation, driven by financial and operational performance. The materialization of the various risks alluded to above led to the Board not declaring a dividend during the period under review. The Board continues to assess and review the financial position of the Company and its ability and timing of any dividend declaration and payment. Prior year dividend declared and paid was USD30.875 million, which translated to US Cents 1.9 per share.

V. Operational Performance Update

Our customers consumed about 1% less energy at 1,636GWh compared to 1,638GWh during the same period in 2019. Fundamentally, prospects for demand recovery and growth, in the medium term, remain very good as some customer expansion projects are nearing completion while others are in ramp up phase.

Positively, in the DRC market, the power trading segment improved on the back of growth in the customer base and attendant upturn in power demand, resulting in an increase in traded volumes from 328.199GWh to 333.421GWh. The Company, having extended the tenure of all its main PPAs and signed a number of new customers, remains positive that this upward trend in demand in the DRC market will continue during the second half of the year.

Zambia received average to normal rainfall in the 2019/20 rainy season, leading to major reservoirs at the country's hydro power generating facilities receiving strong water inflows. However, this did not result in greatly improved reservoir levels. This is as a result of the nation having received below average rainfall in the 2018/19 rainy season that led to the country's major reservoirs receiving less than normal water inflows. Consequently, load management initiatives have continued to be rolled out across the country to help manage the power shortfall. The reduced power consumption by our customers, while impacting our revenues, has so far been helpful in mitigating the supply gap.

Performance of our power network was satisfactory as we continue to meet our set technical benchmarks relating to availability and quality of supply. At national level, concerns for availability of adequate power have continued as water levels in the Kariba reservoir, though improving, remain relatively low.

VI. Health, Safety, Environment and Social (HSES)

The HSES performance continues to impress as no fatality or environmental regulatory breach was recorded during the period. Further, we extended man-hours without a system based lost time accident from 5.540 million at the end of June 2019 to 7.332 million. There was a reduction in road traffic accidents which, to an extent, could be attributed to the reduction in the number of trips relating to system work during this period of the COVID-19 pandemic as some of the maintenance work on the system and some projects have been postponed to foster adherence to health protocols aimed at controlling and containing the spread of the disease. Though we continue with our standard proactive measures to enhance high levels of occupational HSE stewardship, quite clearly, the statistics in this area are on a downward trend as some of the things we would normally do are being put off in an effort to adhere to COVID-19 protocols. In this regard, the statistics reflect the reduced level of activity on the network, including the number of projects being implemented.

VII. Outlook

Looking forward, the macroeconomic outlook in the markets in which we operate is uncertain while the operating environment is expected to remain challenging. Specifically, the uncertainty pertains to the key risks highlighted below, which will form our focus.

- Continued challenges at KCM which, in part, resulted in their payment default and more fundamentally, there being no immediate solution to those challenges nor to address their payment default of USD144.7 million. We are continuing with various efforts on different fronts, including engagements and legal intervention, to find effective ways of recovering this debt. The KCM debt remaining outstanding is a high risk to the financial performance and viability of the business.
- Resolution of the key agreements underpinning power supply, wheeling by ZESCO through our network to the non-mining customers in the Copperbelt and transmission use of system arrangements, between CEC and ZESCO on one part and CEC and KCM on the other, business with both ZESCO and KCM has continued without firm contracts in place. This exposes the Company to continuing disputes as to what the applicable commercial terms are in its business dealings with these parties. We continue with our efforts to find solutions through seeking that all parties engage in good faith to achieve mutually beneficial commercial arrangements between them.
- While the pending financial implications of the COVID-19 pandemic are still to evolve and the economic impact of the disease on our business still indeterminate, it is unlikely to be significantly different from the trend experienced in the first few months of 2020 across the world. Suffice to say that experts project new coronavirus waves to continue erupting until a vaccine is developed. Our business model and sector, while seen as being more resilient than many other sectors, are not immune to the challenges emanating from this pandemic especially that its duration and impact cannot be accurately forecast. The Company is experiencing a reduction in mine load partly induced by changes in our customers' operating arrangements driven by the need to adapt to the new ways of doing things such as remote working, the need to support and implement social distancing as well as the overall impact of reduced travel and its impact on the supply chain for goods and services relevant for the implementation of projects and operations. In the midst of all these challenges, our number one focus is on the health and safety of our staff. As our contribution to slowing the spread of the virus and keeping our people safe, we have improved our hygiene practices, split our core teams into separate locations, required everyone who can, to work from home and increased distance from and between colleagues who have to work together. We have implemented appropriate responses from time to time in line with our crisis management plans as we continue to serve our customers; given that power supply is an essential service in the economy.

By Order of the Board
Julia C Z Chaila (Mrs.)
Company Secretary

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By Natasha Sakala

MINISTER of Health Dr CHILUFA Chilufya has announced that the country has recorded 154 new COVID-19 cases with five deaths in the last 24 hours.

And Dr Chilufya says 63 districts have so far reported COVID-19 cases, advising covid-free districts to strengthen prevention measures.

Speaking during the daily COVID-19 briefing, Thursday, Dr Chilufya said of the five deaths, three were facility deaths and two brought in dead.

"Zambia recorded 154 new cases of COVID-19 out of 1,155 tests conducted. This brings the cumulative number of COVID-19 cases in the country to 10,372. Let us take note that these individuals are coming from routine screening, 61 are coming from Lusaka, Chikankata, seven and two from Monze that means 70 of 154 cases are from routine screening. 59 are contacts to known positives and these are coming from Mazabuka, seven and 52 from Lusaka. 22 of these individuals who tested positive were picked through hospital surveillance, screening through our hospitals; 20 in Lusaka and Monze two. Further, through mortuary surveillance, two BIDs were picked as positive. Currently, Levy Mwanawasa has in admission 52 patients and of these patients, two are in very critical condition. In addition to the two BIDs, we recorded three facility deaths, two from Levy and one involving an expatriate from Mary berg hospital in Solwezi. The cumulative number of deaths linked with COVID-19 now stands at 274 of which 270 have so far been classified as follows; 82 as COVID-19 deaths and 188 as COVID-19 associated deaths. We await classification of four deaths. Today, we discharge 114 patients from our various facilities bringing the number of

Zambia records 154 new COVID-19 cases, 5 deaths

COVID-19 recoveries to 9,140," he said.

And Dr Chilufya said 63 districts had COVID-19.

"Yesterday, we crossed the 10,000 cases threshold and the pandemic continues to evolve both locally and globally. Once we have made significant progress in the fight against COVID-19, there is need to modify, there is need for us to review our performance and modify our strategies based on the evidence that we have gathered on the ground. We have reached an advanced stage of the COVID-19 outbreak with 63 of our districts now having reported cases. Now, this reflects significant and sustained transmission within our communities and we are beginning to feel the impact of the

increased number of cases on our health care system, particularly in the epicentres of the Copperbelt and Lusaka. There is therefore need for us to strengthen our interventions so that we can reverse this trend, reduce the numbers of cases requiring hospital management and minimize mortalities. Further, we still have districts that have reported few or no cases, there is therefore need for us to protect those districts by containing and slowing the transmission of COVID-19," he said.

"We cannot continue watching the economy contract due to COVID-19, it is time for us to act and abandon business as usual."

During the same event, Dr Chilufya launched a

comprehensive strategy outlining the role of the community in COVID-19 prevention and control and the revised COVID-19 surveillance and infection and prevention control integrated guidelines and standard operating procedures.

He said this had been necessitated by some emerging scientific evidence and best practices as well as recommendations by the World Health Organisation.

Meanwhile, Ministry of Health permanent secretary Dr Kennedy Malama disclosed that cooperating had been coming on board to fulfill their pledges.

He said some of them had some challenges due to a disrupted supply chain being experienced due to the pandemic.

He was responding to a question on what progress had been made since the ministry

asked institutions to make good on their pledges.

"Indeed, this response has been well supported by a number of stakeholders, cooperating partners, the corporate world, the United Nations system and government to government support and we remain indebted to all those who have continued supporting the response. As it has been alluded to, we are seeing an escalation in the number of cases and also sicker patients presenting to our facilities so what that means is that more resources are required. Since the honourable minister made the call last time that those who had made pledges we encourage them to come forward and fulfill them, we are delighted that quite

a number have come forward and fulfilled their pledges," said Dr Malama.

"Some of them have indicated to us that the slow nature of fulfilling the pledges was as a result of the global supply challenges which has not spared all of us. Some of them had placed orders to procure certain commodities to support the response and indeed we have seen some of those commodities arriving. So this is work in progress as much as we talk of accountability on the side of government, even those partners who have pledged the support, we encourage them to ensure that they are accountable and continuously fulfill those pledges."



Electoral Commission of Zambia Chief Executive Officer Patrick Nshindano (l) and Electoral Process Director Royd Katongo address journalists during a press briefing in Lusaka on Wednesday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

Details of ACC investigations that angered Lungu: Arrest of Paul Moonga, more Cabinet Ministers, Savenda boss revealed

From P2

"But it's like along the way, some of the money they were getting was deposited in their accounts, and this is what raised a red flag. So at some point, this client could not manage to get his goods cleared and out of desperation, he went to confront the Commissioner General to say, 'why are my goods still being held while you have been eating my money', so the Commissioner General was shocked and that's how he suspended Moonga's son and referred the matter to ACC through a unit called Internal Affairs."

The source said ACC then summoned Moonga [senior] who has not been cooperating.

But in an interview, Moonga claimed he has not been refusing to go to ACC, but described the institution as moribund and an agent of the opposition which was hell bent at breaking the ruling Patriotic Front.

He narrated the ordeal that led to his "innocent" son's suspension from ZRA, saying his provincial youth secretary Ruth Kawana had approached him asking him to help an importer who wanted his goods admitted into the country.

"[That I have been refusing to appear at ACC] It is not correct. Just because Paul Moonga Junior is a son to Mr Paul Moonga, the boy is so innocent. My son Paul Moonga Junior was arrested in February. Ruth Kawana, Provincial women secretary came to my office with a person whom I don't know. She said to me that 'this man has goods that he wants to import in the country, how best can we link him to people who know how to clear goods?' I said I have no idea. Then I said let me see if I can talk to my son who works for ZRA, maybe he would know somebody who can assist this layman. All I did was to link them to the phone number of my son Paul Moonga junior," Moonga said.

"Later on, I was at a car wash in Matero and I was called by Ruth Kawana that 'Paul junior has found us a clearing agent who would clear the goods.' Little did I know that people were trying to use Ruth Kawana. I don't know that person, I only met him once in my office. And even if you were to do a parade today, I can't even recognize him. Remember, I am the chief executive officer for Lusaka Province for the PF. I told him I don't know anything about clearing goods, however, let me see if my son can assist him and I gave them my son's number."

He narrated that the goods in question came in through Nakonde, but were impounded in Chisamba.

"My son after linking them to a clearing agent, they paid the money to the clearing agent in Nakonde there. I have never been to Nakonde in my life. Later, the goods came through Nakonde and were impounded when they reached Chisamba. That importer called me saying 'boss, my goods have been impounded in Chisamba.' I told him what am I supposed to do? I have got nothing to do myself. I asked him about how the goods left Nakonde to reach Chisamba? So, where does Paul Moonga get involved when Paul Moonga has never been to Nakonde?" Moonga asked.

He wondered why his son, whom he said was on police bond had not been taken to court.

"Now, my son was arrested and has been on police bond from around February. Just two days ago, they extended the police bond. I asked them to say 'how do you extend a police bond for six months instead of going to court?' I was called by ACC and I gave them one statement of my side of the story. The ACC officer had a 24 paged document of my statement, and the officer from ZRA had a four paged document about my statement. One statement from one person you write a 24 paged document? Is that normal?" Moonga asked.

"Just two days ago, my son's bond has again been extended to 17th September. How do you keep on extending police bonds from February? This is the case. Is there any confidence? Traumatizing a small boy, the top most highly qualified CIMA holder in Zambia. That is your ACC." **Story continues on P7**

BoZ disburses only K1bn of K10bn refinancing facility

By Natasha Sakala

BANK of Zambia Governor Dr Denny Kalyalya says uptake of the K10 billion medium term refinancing facility has been slow with only about K1 billion disbursed so far.

And Dr Kalyalya says the country's international reserves have increased to K1.43 billion, representing 2.3 months of import cover.

Meanwhile, Dr Kalyalya has announced a reduction in the Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) by 125 basis points to 8 per cent to mitigate the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to help stabilize the financial sector, among others.

Speaking during the monetary policy announcement briefing, Wednesday, Dr Kalyalya said about K5 billion had been approved but added that changes would be announced as and when they were made.

"You know, this facility, I think we have explained very well that this is an initiative that the Central Bank took which is on the balance sheet of the Central Bank, so indeed we received suggestions on how to look at that but we are looking at how we can make it go far. So far, I think we have approved close to about K5 billion in terms of applications but disbursements haven't matched that approval rate. We have disbursed over K1 billion in terms of disbursements. Now,

the others have suggested, 'why don't you give the money and then monitor afterwards?' But our experience has been that if you do that, by the time you come to take account, the money would have been used in a different way. So we are continuing to engage and this problem hasn't gone away so we have to find ways... the other way is measures that the government has taken which can address certain things. The K10 billion is just but one of the tools that we have so we can't overload it with all the demands that we need to make, so we'll sensitively and prudently look at how this can be rolled out," Dr Kalyalya said.

"Remember, it's not free money, otherwise if it was free, by now we would have disbursed it already but we are also alive to the challenges that had emerged in previous facilities where the intended objectives were not met. So it's an ongoing thing, we will let you know when we have made those changes which we deem will be appropriate...Of course, the K10 billion facility is not moving at the pace we had anticipated and we will be looking into this as we go forward."

He added that high fiscal deficits were among the factors keeping inflation on the high side.

"Factors that are keeping inflation above the upper bound of the target range in the earlier part of our forecast horizon

include higher fiscal deficits and the weakening of the global economy. There are indeed some still risks to this inflation outlook that we are projecting; one is that there could be further deterioration in the fiscal deficit, there could be some adverse impact coming out the monetary expansion arising from the reduction in the policy rate that we are announcing today and that we announced previously as well as some other measures we are taking in the financial sector," Dr Kalyalya said.

And the governor said the rise in import cover was technical as it had been caused by low import demand as opposed to increased reserves.

"In the external sector, we see that there is a surplus though it narrowed in the quarter under review. We see that we have US\$210 million but when we look at this, it is worrying in the sense that it is arising from deficits on the primary income which means that the loss making is hidden as surplus so you cannot rely on that as being sustainable but for accounting purposes, there is a surplus but its technical surplus... Now, what you want to see here is that if you look at the goods export, they have come down and if you look at the imports, they have gone down significantly. So because of this rise...import cover from the reserve that we have has gone up so we can't really

say we are comfortable with that situation because it's arising out of constrained demand which shouldn't be the case. As at end June, gross international reserves increased to K1.43 billion which is equivalent to 2.3 months of import cover," he added.

He further announced a reduction in the monetary policy rate, bringing it to eight per cent.

"If you recall, the last time we met over this matter, we reduced the policy rate by 225 basis points, so we have decided to reduce it by a further 125 basis points, bringing it to eight percent. There are a number of factors that the committee took into account, notable among these were the following; we thought we needed to safeguard financial stability, people's lives and livelihoods in the wake of this COVID-19 pandemic. Secondly, we looked at the projection and we observed that over the forecast horizon which is eight quarters going forward, which is up to second quarter 2022, inflation was projected to steadily decline and to move towards the medium term target range, in fact, towards the very end, we see it touching the upper bound of that target range. Thirdly, we noted with concern that the economic conditions during the second quarter have actually worsened, we see that the prospects for growth, even for the rest of the year, are quite weak," said Dr Kalyalya.

By Julia Malunga
PATRIOTIC Front Eastern Province Youth Chairperson Emmanuel J Banda commonly known as Jay Jay says people are trying to tarnish his image because he is President Edgar Lungu's defender.

And Banda says he was not hiding but he was in Eastern Province performing some traditional rituals after the death of his grandfather.

Meanwhile, Banda says he can't steal money from a police officer when he loads his cars with 100 liters worth of diesel for community work in the province.

In July, Banda mobilised 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.

Banda had been on the run until Wednesday morning when he handed himself over to the police. He was arrested and charged for aggravated assault before being granted bond.

And speaking when he appeared on a MUVI TV special programme, Wednesday evening, Banda said there were some people who were fighting him because he was President Lungu's defender.

"These issues...it is just people who can't understand to say now we are fatigued. Let other people also play a certain number. They don't want to understand. Politics is like football when you are at peak, you play well and if there is someone who is at peak, it is better you are on the bench but on the same team. Let that boy who is doing fine, let him be on that number so that when you score, you celebrate together. But I can tell that there are some people who [don't] understand that. And I am sure they have seen that I am the number five if we come into politics. I am the number five defender for our President Dr Edgar Chagwa Lungu. And I can assure you that kwasu tikuti ukashanga bwino mbeu, chaka cho kolola, ukolola bwino. So a Edgar Chagwa Lungu a President achipani cha Patriotic Front ashanga bwino and chaka cha mawa tifunika ku kolola. Koma chila kuli seo ma defender tifunika kubalabilila. (Where I come from we say 'when you sow a good seed, you will harvest good crops. So President Lungu has sowed good works and this coming year, it will show. So it is up to us the defenders to speak on his behalf the works he has done)," Banda said.

"Monga kwasu kweti chokela ku Petauke, onani chipatala Kalindawalo General Hospital ni chipatala chikulu chopulumusha banthu

opezeka na matenda ya cancer. Kuli Edgar Chagwa Technical School. Ni skulu ikulu ngako. Kwenzeve skulu monga iyi. So zonse zija ni mbeu ze shanga a Lungu. So ne nimuuzhyeni a Edgar Chagwa Lungu chaka chikuza tikakolole chifukwa chitukuko chili pali ponse. Olo muno mu Lusaka muntu kuti alute kunchito akanyamuka kapena ni six afika ku ma ten to 11 achelwa muntu kunchito chifukwa cha misebo, congestion. Koma lomba muntu akanyamuka kuma six, six hours yamene afunika afike panchito. Koma lomba kuli ayakine bepasiwa nchito yamene iyi yakuti ofunika ankhale ma defender ya president noba pasa ndrama, na nchito bofola bwino bwino koma kuti ankale defender ofuna lini. So amene abo bayakine ndiye bomukamba ati afuna lomba ku faining'a (Look at the hospitals he has constructed in Petauke, Kalindawalo General Hospital is a big hospital that can treat patients with different diseases such as cancer. There is a school called Edgar Chagwa Technical School, it is a big school. I can tell you that President Lungu will win the elections because of the works he has done. Look at the roads in Lusaka, way back, a person would report late for work because of the bad roads and congestion but now that is not the case. So there are some people who have been given the mandate to be defenders for the President, they are given money but they don't want to do their job. So these are people who are bringing this infighting)."

He said people that tried to mud sling him would not manage.

"Like last month I was accused of swindling people and masquerading as Bowman Lusambo. So when the person was caught, they probed him and he said he was working with me and that we shared K1,500 they questioned him further, they found out he was lying. So bala ndiye ma politician basaziba ku

People trying to tarnish my image because I defend Lungu – Jay Jay

sebenza bafuno pisha ayao, kuti beve basebenze. Koma neo mweningalabilile, ndise okosa, otang'a, ansenga ngao ngao that's why nu kwanisha kukamba kuti ndine number five. Bani kwanishe lini bayese kuniika matika yali yonse koma chili kuli beve bakapokola bopitamo. That's why Zambia ili namalamulo. So abo bantu batichose lini, batichose mphavu kuti tileke kusapota a president basu. So imwe ba media mulute mokopa vamene ve tichita kuti bantu abeviona. Nukamba lini kuti imwe ba media muyambe kutichitila campaign ah ah (So there are politicians who don't

know how to work, they want to chase others so that they can be the only ones left to work. What I can say is that I am very resilient that's why I am a defender. They will not handle me even if they try to mudsling me. This country has laws. People will not manage to take away the fact that I am President Lungu's defender. Even you the media, help us to show the citizens the good works the President has done. But I am not saying that you should campaign for us, no)," he said.

And Banda said he was never in hiding.

"I have never been in

hiding. I have been very much around because I am sure everyone knows I am public figure and even you the media you always follow me. Why didn't you follow me to the funeral of my grandfather where I was? Let me tell you briefly, when I got home on Saturday, I was told by my wife to say 'they are looking for you, they came here looking for you.' I said 'you didn't tell them where I was?' Then my wife said 'we told them we left you at the funeral after burying the grandfather'. So I'm surprised no one came, I thought that it was just one of those things in politics where by they want

to drag my private life into politics. You can go and the headman from our village in Sinda, everyone knows I was there even the same day on the 10th, I am surprised it's a shock. Even coming here to Lusaka, I wasn't supposed to be here. Tifunika ku masuliwa tonse azukulu pachibelu pa 21 according to our culture my hands are still tied up because ambuya tikaliye kuba suzula kuti tika nkale free (we are supposed to perform some traditional rituals with my grand mother so that we can be free," Banda said.

He denied allegations that he beat up a police officer.

"It's not true. But I can't talk much on that because when I reached home from the farm and I was told the police are looking for you, today I went there to find out why they were looking for me so they have told me why they are looking for me. And I have been charged with assault so I can't say anything since it's in the hand of the police and the laws," he said.

When asked if some people were trying to tarnish his political carrier, Banda responded in the affirmative.

He said he can't steal because he had vehicles that were filled with 100 liters of fuel on a daily basis.

"Yes I am sure. I don't even know what aggravated means. You know me. If I tell you where I come from, Petauke Central, the whole province I am in charge and Petauke district in particular, I have vehicles doing community work. Every day I am [parting away] with 100 liters diesel every day from 2016 until [this] date. I am surprised you tell me I can be stealing. That one I am sure even if you ask a baby from Petauke, they will tell you that you are lying. What is aggravated? Me as far as I know, I am from the police they never mentioned anything about aggravated robbery so those are just malicious things on me," Banda said.

He insisted that he didn't know the police were looking for him.

"I don't know the police were looking for me. I got permission from the party that I had gone to the funeral of my grandfather. Even the provincial team they were there at the funeral on the 10th. I just heard when I reached home they were looking for you. I started checking on the media so those who were doing that who were malicious on me. We will see each other. On the 10th I wasn't in Lusaka, I was in Sinda in Chabala village. That's where we buried our grandfather. In the same week, we had two funerals, the other one I lost my nephew here in Lusaka and we buried on the 6th. And on the 10th there was no commotion when we were burying my grandfather. All the party officials they were there. I am surprised the media didn't come to cover me," said Banda.

If you've not stolen, there's no reason to fear ACC – Musa

By Ulande Nkomesha

FORMER attorney general Musa Mwenye says it is sad that government officials have a tendency of defending the corrupt.

Commenting on President Edgar Lungu's recent remarks that the corruption fight was political and that investigative wings were targeting to remove him from office, Mwenye said there was no need to fear the ACC if one had not stolen.

"It is very sad that every time we hear our government leaders talk about corruption, they are defending the corrupt and attacking those who are fighting corruption. Instead of protecting our money and protecting the little resources that this country has, those who are supposed to discourage stealing are in the forefront encouraging the corrupt to continue looting the few resources we have," Mwenye said.

"The comments being made have the effect of impeding the fight against corruption and discouraging law enforcement officers against genuinely fighting corruption. Any person who has not stolen from the Zambian people has no reason to fear the Anti Corruption Commission, the FIC and other law enforcement organs and it is the first time I have heard a sitting government

complain that it is being targeted in the fight against corruption. Why these complaints? How is that possible? From my experience in government, no minister in government is investigated without the knowledge of the Head of State! Why is His Excellency the President surprised about these investigations? Is there something we are missing somewhere?"

Mwenye said there was substantial evidence indicating that grand corruption had reached alarming levels in Zambia.

"The fact is that grand corruption in this country has reached alarming levels! We have procurement contracts which are severely inflated. We have purchased ambulances which could have been purchased at US\$50,000 at over US\$200,000. Fire trucks which should have cost not more than US\$150,000 at US\$1,000,000 and we even allow some of these things we are buying at ridiculous prices to come into the country tax free. The FIC reported that one government official was given 49 houses as payment! As if this was not enough, the ACC told us that they had forfeited 48 houses and mysteriously, the owner of these houses has just vanished in thin air," Mwenye said.

Continues on P10

Kanganja, Kapeso have failed to run police – Mucheleka

By Julia Malunga

UPND deputy secretary general Patrick Mucheleka says Inspector General of Police Kakoma Kanganja and his deputy Bonny Kapeso have failed to run the command as evidenced by their failure to detain Eastern Province PF youth Emmanuel J Banda alias Jay Jay.

And Police spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo says officers saw it appropriate to charge Jay Jay with aggravated assault rather than aggravated robbery.

In an interview, Mucheleka wondered what was so special about Jay Jay that even police officers feared him.

"This is getting too much. We can't continue with such stupidity and mediocrity by the police starting with Kanganja himself and Kapeso together with whoever is in the police service. These are all useless people, good for nothing. You are aware that if anyone is accused of aggravated robbery, there is no police bond. What message is Kanganja and Kapeso sending to the rest of us? Just a week ago, Kapeso was all over the headlines trying to behave as if he can be trusted, but there he is wasting our time. What is so special about this Jay Jay? Being feared by the police themselves?

Now people want to say' the problem is with (Stephen) Kampyongo, Home Affairs Minister, the problem is with President Lungu, no the problem is with the command itself! At what point will our women and men in uniform take responsibility? How can they drive us to such levels? How can we denigrate to such levels? It is a clear case of animal farm! Broken down rule of law. It makes me feel sad," said Mucheleka.

"Surely, what nonsense is this? And somebody wants to go on the radio to talk about the police and the community and how we can trust them? Even if they say 'there is interference by Kampyongo and Lungu', why not resign? Why can't they take a leaf from that junior officer who resigned? They have procured weapons to attack innocent people and they are failing to deal with that criminal because he is a PF cadre. They only come to show that they have muscle when they are dealing with the opposition, it is very silly, and it's annoying! This is why I have singled out Kapeso and Kanganja who are trying to give an impression that there is something he can do within the police service when they know very well that they are just lame ducks!"

And when asked why Jay Jay was

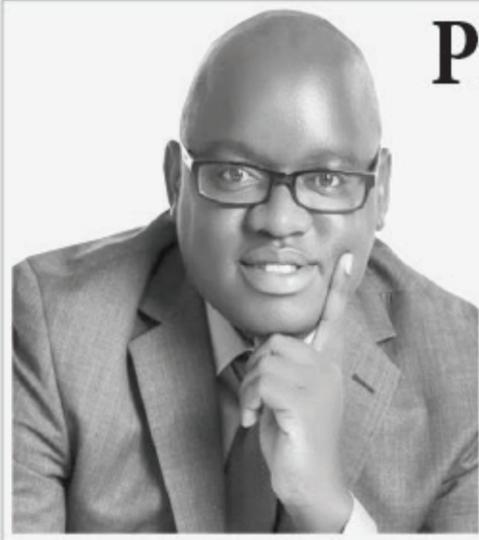
charged with aggravated assault, police spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo said, "You will follow the matter in court. Officers saw it appropriate that they charge him like wise."

In July, Banda mobilised 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.

Banda had been on the run until Wednesday morning when he handed himself over to the police. He was arrested and charged for aggravated assault before being granted bond.



PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE FOR CHANGE

(PAC)
Viva New Zambia!!!

Why we deserve your vote



LEVY PATRICK MWANAWASA

By Andyford Mayele Banda

THIS week marked 12 years since the passing of His Excellency Levy Patrick Mwanawasa, may his soul continue to rest in peace. What a loss it was to this country, what an inspiration he was to this country. A man who lived by principles and understood that leadership was a privilege to serve your country as opposed to an opportunity to amass wealth and stamp on those you don't agree with. It is indeed a stark contrast with the current leadership that has embraced everything that he detested. Below is an excerpt of his will to this country which was broadcasted after his passing on and this is a clear demonstration of his feelings and thoughts about what kind of leadership we need for this country.

"I now want to address the nation and I desire that this part of my will shall be broadcasted on Radio and Television. I want to say farewell to all the people of Zambia and I am grateful to all of you for giving me the opportunity during part of my life to serve you as President. It was a privilege which I cherished up to my death. I did all my best to improve the standard of living of you my people. I strove to attend to the production of sufficient food for local consumption and for export and worked hard to encourage investment both local and foreign so as to create jobs and so as to enhance the growth of our economy.

I believed that national development could only be sustained if good governance, respect for the rule of law and democracy were encouraged and not taken for granted. To inspire the virtual, the fight against corruption had to be weighed relentlessly and without treating anybody as a sacred cow. I regret that in my zeal to facilitate this fight I lost friendship with a member of some of my best friends and at many times my whole life and those of my family members were threatened.

I want to assure the nation that, no malice or ill will was intended in these initiatives, I was driven purely by the love for my country and the urgent need to transform it from poverty to prosperity. I have always been at grief to see so much poverty, helplessness and languish in the faces of our children the leaders of tomorrow.

It has only been my belief that nobody has the right to take away what we should be giving these children and keep them in their selfish pockets. I do hope that my party, the Movement for Multiparty Democracy can continue with this vision for our nation pursuing the culture of zero tolerance to corruption. I was sad when some of you our members appeared to embrace corruption and actually criticized me for fighting the scourge. This vice will not develop our country. It is my desire that all future governments will continue to wage this fight. If in my endeavours

to provide only the best for my country, I offended some of my compatriots all I can ask is they should a place in their heart to forgive me I had no deliberate intention to harm their feelings..."

Those were the words contained in the will of the late President Levy Mwanawasa. Evidently, we saw that President Levy Mwanawasa endeavoured to lead this country on principles and indeed tried his level best to improve people's lives. He tried his level best to manage the resources of this country prudently. He fought corruption to the core.

We shall pick two things that we as PAC have been consistent about that will help develop this country. The fight against corruption and the agriculture sector.

We have said it before, and we shall say it again that as PAC we believe that a very significant portion of the problems we face today could be eliminated once we clamp down on corruption. The fight against corruption is PAC's priority number one. Corruption has been a cancer in so many ways. Services are either delayed or not delivered at all due to corruption. Government's supply chain has had to purchase goods and services at overly inflated prices due to corruption. The wrong people have been awarded tenders even when they don't deliver or deliver poor quality goods and services. All this is the fruit of corruption. A lot of bad elements have been employed and they have contributed to the inefficiency of government operations. Health care services, Education facilities and empowerment programs have been affected due to corruption in the system.

Corruption has made service delivery a nightmare. People that have related to successive governments have been awarded dubious deals due to corruption at the expense of the majority Zambians. People have died in hospitals because they have been denied basic care due to corruption. Children have been subjected to poor learning facilities.

Corruption is a cancer. It's clear if we fight it, we can win half the battle of the challenges we are facing as a country. Our politics have affected the fight to stamp out corruption. Successive governments have embraced the old rotten systems because it aids them to hold on to power and because they want to continue looting. The system which has long supported people that are friendly to the system, the so-called big donors who get money from the government to fund the political party in government has to be stamped out.

The other issue that President Mwanawasa brought out in his will was the Agriculture sector. The Mining sector has been the bread and butter of the Zambian economy despite the immense potential that is presented by the

Agriculture sector to create more jobs than the Mining industry, the Agriculture sector has not been given the attention that it deserves. Diversification into the Agriculture sector has just been a matter of lip service by successive governments. They have clearly lacked direction and political will to diversify and make Agriculture the backbone of our economy.

The PAC will ensure that as many farmers as possible access equipment loans to boost production. This will help in having mass production and reduce the cost of food in the country. The PAC government will also work with Zambians to change our attitude towards farming, because we must get as many Zambians as possible to get into farming. Farming is not just having a big land or commercial land. You can have a little land somewhere and still do farming. The PAC government will promote the farming sector by using slogans such as "farming is our culture".

Without focusing our energies on mass production and looking for export markets we are doomed. And our focus has been exporting to Europe, America and other countries outside Africa where the market is not even readily available and yet our brothers and sisters in Africa are struggling to get cheap food. Therefore, our energies must focus on Africa. The question we need to start asking ourselves is that, which countries can we export to and what can we export. Can we export vegetables to Congo, what vegetables, can we empower some youths to focus on that line, give them land, equipment and focus on Agriculture for export? Can we export maize to our neighbours Angola, Zimbabwe, and Malawi etc.? When these answers are identified, we need to expend our energies to farm products for export to those countries.

Many African countries lag behind in terms of Agriculture development; some have poorly managed agriculture institutions; other countries lack a suitable climate to venture into Agriculture products and others lack enough land for growing enough crops to feed their countries. This has caused these countries to have food shortages and the cost of living has skyrocketed due to the cost of food.

Clearly as PAC we totally agree with everything that President Levy Mwanawasa brought up in his will. It will be an honour and privilege to be given an opportunity so that we can fulfil his vision.

May your soul continue to rest in peace Batata.

Andyford Mayele Banda
President
People's Alliance for Change (PAC)

By Ulande Nkomesha

LAWYERS representing PASME FM Radio Station in Petauke have written to the Attorney General Likando Kalaluka and Petauke District Commissioner Velanasi Moyo, demanding settlement of damages amounting K1 million for trespass on the radio station's premises, false imprisonment and loss of business.

According to a letter addressed to Moyo, Marah Phiri, an advocate from Messrs PNP Advocates, cautioned that should they not hear from the DC by close of business, Friday, they would proceed to issue a writ against her for the lawless acts.

This is in a matter where Moyo stormed PASME FM with police officers and closed down the radio station for broadcasting a programme that featured UPND president Hakainde Hichilema.

Phiri stated that the action taken by Moyo endangered the proper functionality of radio equipment and caused serious loss of business for the time they remained off-air.

"Our client instructs us that on or about 13th August, 2020, at around 19:30 hours in the evening, you stormed its premises and ordered that it halts the continued airing of a paid-for radio programme featuring the president of the

PASME FM demands K1 million from Petauke DC over partial closure

opposition United Party for National Development (UPND), Mr Hakainde Hichilema. Our client's management refused to heed your said illegal order and directive. You then called the Police and directed them to switch off the radio station, which they did. The radio station remained off-air for four hours. This action endangered the proper functionality of our client's radio equipment and caused them serious loss of business for the time they remained off-air. Further, your presence and that of the police at our client's premises conducted into your falsely imprisoning the staff and indicted mental torture, anxiety and distress," Phiri stated.

"We have further been informed that you have since ordered the closure of our client's community radio station until further notice because they did not apply for and were not issued with a police permit to air content from an opposition political party. According to you, a radio station should obtain a police permit in order for it to air political content from an opposition political party."

She stated that due to the breach of constitutional rights exhibited by Moyo, PASME FM was demanding K1 million in damage settlements.

"The foregoing lawless acts show your clear misapprehension of your role as District Commissioner. By your said actions, you breached our client's constitutional rights as enshrined in Article 20 of the Bill of Rights of the Constitution

of Zambia, Chapter 1 of the Laws of Zambia. You have occasioned damages to our client when you, not only trespassed on their property but also against their property. Your act of switching off the radio station caused them damage as it led to loss of business," Phiri stated.

"By matters aforesaid, we have instructions to demand, as we now do, settlement of damages in the amount of K1,000, 000.00 (one million kwacha) for your lawless acts. Should we not hear from you by close of business Friday, 21st August, 2020, we will proceed to issue a writ against you in your personal capacity for the lawless acts aforesaid and at your

personal cost."

In a separate letter to Kalaluka, the Attorney General, Phiri stated that PASME FM demanded an apology, assurance that the action of lawlessness would not be repeated and settlements in damages of K1 million for trespass to premises on property, false imprisonment and loss of business.

"Our clients instructs us that on or about 13th August 2020 at around 19:30 hours at Petauke, while a paid for radio broadcast featuring the president of the opposition UPND was airing, the District Commissioner of Petauke, a Ms Velanasi Moyo, without our client's licensor permission,

stormed our client's premises and ordered that the airing of the subject programme be halted. She then called in police whom she ordered to forcibly switch off the radio station, which they did. Consequently, the station went off-air for four hours resulting in the loss of business as our client could not meet the obligations it had been contracted for with its clients. In the process, our client's staff was falsely imprisoned and were occasioned mental torture, distress and anxiety. The Constitutional Rights of our client as enshrined in, inter alia, Article 20 of the Constitution of Zambia, were casually and flagrantly breached," stated

Phiri.

"By the aforesaid, your client, the government of the Republic of Zambia is vicariously liable for the petulant and uninformed actions of its servant, the District Commissioner of Petauke. Our client demands an apology and an undertaking by yourselves that the aforesaid lawlessness will not be repeated by your servant or any of your servants should our client feature broadcasts from opposition parties. Specifically, our client demands settlements of damages in the sum of K1,000, 000.00 for trespass to premises and on property, false imprisonment and loss of business. We hope to hear from you regarding this claim not later than Friday, 21st August, 2020."

Details of ACC investigations that angered Lungu: Arrest of Paul Moonga, more Cabinet Ministers, Savenda boss revealed

From P4

Moonga claimed that the ACC had been targeting ministers in President Lungu's Cabinet, namely Dora Siliya, Vincent Mwale, Joe Malanji and Stephen Kampyongo.

"I have been quiet but now you have provoked me that is why I should talk about it. That is your ACC, they are excited. Whether there is a case or no case, they arrest. The ACC summoned me once and that is when they wrote a 24 paged document while the officer from ZRA had a four paged document. I complied when I was called. I was summoned by ACC yes. And I know there are a lot of people who have been arrested. Mr [Stephen] Kampyongo was arrested,

Dora Siliya, Vincent Mwale, and [Joseph] Malanji. There is a chain of people who have been arrested claiming that PF is a corrupt party," he revealed.

He went on to accuse the ACC of working with the opposition to remove PF from power.

When asked if his claim about the arrest of ministers was true, Moonga asked this reporter to hear it from him.

"Sponsored officers by ACC are being used by my fellow politicians outside the party. The ACC has become an agent of the opposition. There is a list of people who have been arrested to break the PF, take it or leave it. Chilufya has no case," he said.

Moonga challenged the

ACC to take him and his son to court, saying his son had been traumatized enough.

"Paul Moonga Junior is being traumatized. He was being told to be reporting every day and again stopped. The boy was suspended from ZRA from February to date. And to date, they can't take him to court because the only way they can appear in court is to face Paul Moonga, when I am so innocent, and they know it. That's why the ACC, is a moribund [institution]. I would really want to go to court. Let ACC arrest me and I will appear in court because I know I am innocent, we shall sue them. I have never been crooked in my life, at the age of 62 today. You can't have a system which only targets the

ruling party. Is corruption only in the ruling party? It takes two to tangle," Moonga said. "Who did I corrupt as Paul Moonga to have the goods released in Nakonde? Who did I pay money to release these goods dubsiously? Can one officer from ZRA say 'Mr Moonga told me to release these goods.' ACC is there for corruption but did I corrupt somebody? Or who corrupted me? I want to appear in court. Can ZRA arrest me? We can go to court with my son. How can they keep extending the bond and my son is getting a full salary when the boy is not working. Can they stop paying my son if he is not working. You are paying a full salary to the person you have given extended police bond, for what? Then what are they investigating?"

And Moonga said it was nonsensical and stupid for the ACC keep his son under arrest without taking him to court, further daring ACC to jointly charge them.

"I went there because I am a law abiding citizen. I respect constitutional officers in Zambia. Any officer in Zambia is acting in the name of the President and I shall always comply with any officer in Zambia when I am called upon to go and appear. But I am frustrated. My son is now running a butchery in Ndola there, trying to find means. But he is still heavily paid every month. If my son is not taken to court on 17 September, ZRA should recast the bond. If they want, let them jointly charge us and we shall appear in court because we are innocent," said Moonga.

"What stupidity is this? You cannot be extending police bonds every month. It has never happened in the history of Zambia where a police bond is extended every month. The other time they extended it saying that it is because there is COVID-19 but how come Honourable Chitalu Chilufya is appearing in court when there is COVID-19? What nonsense? The ACC has become a moribund. I have not been given a warn and caution statement. And if they want Paul Moonga to be arrested with his son, I am ready."

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-COVID-19 IS MY FIGHT, YOUR FIGHT, OUR FIGHT-

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READING news from other countries on the African continent about how leaders are leaving office gives a chilling feeling. President of Mali, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, announced around midnight on Tuesday that he was resigning from his post, saying he did not wish blood to be shed following a military mutiny that plunged the country into a political crisis.

“Today, certain parts of the military have decided that intervention was necessary. Do I really have a choice?” He wondered, adding: “I have decided to give up my duty from now on because I do not wish blood to be shed.”

This is a very sad development. History shows that countries that undergo such forced change of leadership fail to retain political and economic stability. In a democratic country, guns should never be used in the process of changing government leadership. It is good that all regional and international bodies, such as ECOWAS, African Union, European Union and the United Nations have unanimously condemned the arrest and ousting of the Malian leader.

But there are some ways in which our African leaders can avoid such endings. The events in Mali came in the face of a protracted political crisis that saw protesters

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Ear to the ground

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What happened in Mali must never happen in Zambia

taking to the streets to demand the departure of Keita, accusing him of allowing the country's economy to collapse and mishandling a worsening security situation. This political tension has been simmering following the re-election of Keita in 2018, in a poll that opposition parties said was marred by irregularities.

The 'resignation' of Keita is an exact replica of Robert Mugabe's downfall from the helm of Zimbabwe. It took soldiers to extract that surrender, such developments take away so much from the democratic gains that our continent has achieved. Malawi is another example where

chaos ensued before the will of the people could be achieved. Why do our leaders insist on sticking to power even when they can see that the people they are leading have rejected them?

In the case of Zambia, we say no to such development. We love our peace and nothing should disturb. We are okay with a battle of opposing political views, but nothing else. Of course we cannot bury heads in the sand and pretend like everything is okay. We have a potential crisis which could erupt if our leaders do not respect the will of the people. Our case is beyond just the mismanagement of the

economy, as Malians were complaining. Ours is a much more complicated situation where our legal minds are divided over the definition of term limit in the Constitution.

Term limits regulate leadership succession. They are meant to counteract leaders' temptation to overstay their welcome. This helps to consolidate and legitimise democratically elected leadership. Indeed, as Kealeboga Maphunye wrote in The Conversation, weaning African leaders off addiction to power is a real struggle, but this struggle must not be left to overshadow the good progress that Africa is making

towards sustainable development.

Regular transfers of power give citizens hope that new policies, programmes and approaches will be adopted by the new leadership. We totally agree with Maphunye that the benefits of frequent power transfers keep the incumbents on their toes because there's a real chance they can be removed from power if they fail to govern properly. Our leaders must not feel so comfortable and start treating the electors like beggars.

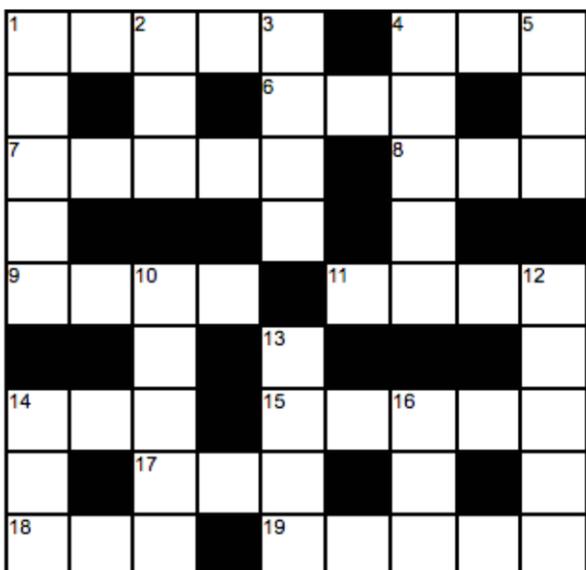
Unless this Bill 10 nonsense is stopped, Zambia will fall in the category of

Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo, where leaders have used dubious constitutional amendments to extend their stay in power. Like was the case in these countries, what we are seeing in Zambia is that the governing party and its leaders almost exclusively want to pass such amendments with minimal or no opposition participation.

When you hear the Patriotic Front say that they will rule Zambia for the next 100 years, they are looking at countries such as Angola, Togo, Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea as their ideal kind of democracy, when those countries are in fact virtually de facto one party and one leader repressive states.

We don't wish for what has happened in Mali or what happened in Zimbabwe to happen in Zambia. We don't wish for a violent uprising to happen in Zambia and we want to challenge our leaders to ensure that this peace we are enjoying is maintained. The ball is in the incumbent President's hands. It's up to him how he wishes to lose power. When President Edgar Lungu reads the news from Mali it should disturb him and he must seek sincere answers about what the people really want.

Crossword puzzle No 673



“Even though your time on the job is temporary, if you do a good enough job, your work there will last forever.”
- Idowu Koyenikan

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>Across</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exact copy 4. Neptune's realm 6. Portable bed 7. West Point student 8. Playing card above King 9. Singer Fitzgerald 11. Short satirical play 14. Coupe or sedan 15. Movie performer 17. Wrigley product 18. TTYL 19. John Paul II and Benedict XVI | <p>Down</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ride a bike 2. Not young 3. Outer: Prefix 4. Pile up 5. Dazzle 10. Big 12. Rotates 13. Summer getaway 14. Car for hire 16. Pinnacle |
|---|--|

Crossword puzzle No 672



Readers' Feedback



Leadership matters: remembering Levy Mwanawasa

Dear editor,

"A decent human being and politician who laid the base for the selfish politicians to loot with impunity. He endured ridicule day and night but never treated anyone unfairly. He is the best of all the presidents Zambia has had so far! What a great man, what a great leader!" - Joel Saniko Moonga

"Not one of the best, but was the best of all Presidents Zambia has ever had". - Dhanx Car Lee Mbwe

"The best president our country ever had. Mhsriep". - Levi C Kangololo

"We need more leaders like Levy Mwanawasa, cream of the crop...not like our current harvest of officials". - Krash Infinix

"The Legacy is worthy of note. Undoubtedly he had rear qualities. But most importantly a character anchored on firm beliefs, values and principles. Its safe to say his name will forever be etched in the history books of Zambia as a Leader that was admired and loved". - Ben Kauzeni

"He was the best Zambia has ever had....MSRI.I miss him..." - Kennedy Mwiza Mweetwa

Jay Jay's case: #TABAKAPITE!

Editor,

"That was quick. First of its kind , aggravated robbery suspect getting police bond. Precedence set". - Mwange Ezy Daz Et

"A CRIMINAL ATTACKS A POLICE STATION. HE'S ARRESTED AND IMMEDIATELY RELEASED ON BOND. MONEY WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN STOLEN BUT PF POLICE CHARGE HIM WITH INTENT TO STEAL. REALLY! PF RESPECT OUR COUNTRY. MAY YOU LOSE NEXT YEAR'S ELECTION WITH A HUGE MARGIN!!! #TAMWAKAPITE". - Wanosha Wanosha

"Chellah Tukuta was kept in police custody for days without bond and yet JJ Banda who beat the police is let off the hook. Of course everyone knows that this case is going nowhere because he is one of their own. Fikapwa elo takapite!" - Simon Kumwenda

"I think LAZ is just too weak. Why can't they speak when such things are happening in our country?! The young man Chella was locked up for over a week and here is this guy who beat up the police, he is already home! No cold nights in the cells because he drinks from the same cup as the PF. TABAKAPITE!" - Peter Mmembe

Mukuka

"Mwaliteta stayed for a year inside for the same offence. Kwena ni animal farm, nangu tapasoswa, teifi!" - Gerrard Mayungano

"So someone charged with aggravated robbery can be released on police bond? .. Interesting times under the able leadership of ECL". - Ricardo Musonda

"That guy is a flight risk!!! How do you give him bond when he has been "on the run" for over a month wanted for aggravated robbery of a police station? Anyways #tabakapite!" - Clifford G Ngoma

'Lungu can not fire Lusambo'

Editor,

"Lungu is not as humble as he pretends to be. He supports those who are tribal,those who are corrupt,he thinks firing him will mean losing popularity.

People called for the firing of Chitotela, Chitalu and now Lusambo, but the humble one never said a word". - Musheke Sishekanu

"Asking Lungu to fire this over proud Lusambo is the same as asking him to climb the tree from the leaves, Lungu doesn't care how much Lusambo insults

credible Zambians, but don't worry ba Mambo, Zambians are surely not just firing Lungu and Lusambo,but the whole dead PF next year". - Ernest Simwanza

"He can't, Lusambo is a pillar in PF at the moment. He is the one who shuts up anyone who ridicules the boss!" - Akapondo Kansansa

"That's not possible. He is like a deputy president". - Amwana Ka Mwanta

"Fire who? Lusambo cannot be fired lisengo lyambwa". - Lastone Nyambi

EDITOR'S NOTE:
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IBA on the investigation of the disruption of UPND programme at PASME radio

Editor,

"IBA,why wasting time with unproductive investigations when things are straight forward, just arrest that PF DC and lock her up, simple. How and why can she jump from DC to a radio program stopper?" - Ernest

Simwanza

"Investigation for what? Just arrest that D.C. She is unfit for public office, the same goes for Lusambo, they don't deserve to hold public office, time will catch up with them, eleven

months remaining". - Brighton Kennedy

"Mrs Mapoma is just a disgrace and pathological liar, which investigation is she talking about?? How many radio stations

have been attacked for featuring UPND with her mouth zippered??!" - Michael Sandala

"If it was against the government... Trust me you would have acted quickly... Now that it's a government person

at fault you need to investigate... Zambia the real Africa!" - Crispin Sikazwe

"This thing called IBA should be disbanded. It's a political tool working against the interests of the Zambian people". - Ken Peters

By Zondiwe Mbewe

UPND has submitted that pleadings in a case where a Lusaka man and a company are seeking an order that the party be declared bankrupt for allegedly failing to pay debt amounting to K520, 000, are defective and must be struck off.

UPND secretary general Steven Katuka has further argued that the purported originating process does not disclose any actionable cause of action against the defendants.

In this matter, a Lusaka man, Prince Siame, and Prospect Tech Limited have sued UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema and other party members in the Lusaka High Court for allegedly failing to pay K400,000 for tickets printed for the party during the national card renewal exercise in 2017.

Siame and Prospect Tech Limited want an order for payment of K400,000 plus 30 percent interest, bringing the total due to K520,000 and further, an order that UPND be declared bankrupt for failing to pay its debts and that the party be dissolved and deregistered.

They have sued Hichilema, Katuka in his capacity as UPND secretary general, Miriam Masando (organising committee chairperson for the card renewal) and UPND Registered Trustees as defendants.

The plaintiffs are further seeking damages for breach of contract and an order that the defendants pay all the costs for the collection and all charges incidental and connected to the suit.

But according to an affidavit in support of summons to set aside the originating process for irregularity filed in the Lusaka High Court, Monday, Katuka urged the court to strike out the originating process for irregularity.

He stated that a perusal and interrogation of the documents filed into court established that they were defective as they did not disclose any actionable cause of action against him, Masando, Hichilema and UPND.

"I am further advised by my advocates and verily believe that pleadings in this matter are defective and must be struck off insofar as they seek to liquidate the UPND. I am further advised by my advocates and verily believe that the said Writ of Summons filed in this matter is irregular in material particulars as the second plaintiff's (Prospect Tech Limited) full address has not been endorsed on the Writ of Summons in terms of the amended High Court Rules," Katuka stated.

He stated that in the circumstances, this was a fit and proper case for the court to strike out the originating process for irregularity.

"I am advised and verily believe that in the alternative, unless the action is struck out, the defendants will be embarrassed and cannot therefore, enter defence. No prejudice would be occasioned to the plaintiffs by order striking out the

UPND asks court to dismiss K520,000 debt case

originating process and conversely the interest of justice shall be served," Katuka stated.

Last month, Prospect Tech Limited and Siame had asked the court to enter judgement in default of appearance and defence



Late Grey Zulu's wife Mary (c), and his brother Anderson arrive at the Anglican Cathedral during her husbands funeral church service yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

against the defendants for having failed to enter an appearance and defence in the matter.

They wanted the court to award them damages for breach of contract and an order for payment of K400,000 plus 30 percent interest, bringing the total due to them to K520,000.

Prospect Tech Limited and Siame had stated in their statement of claim filed by their lawyer Tutwa Ngulube last month, that by a written agreement made between them and the defendants represented by Masando dated March 16, 2017, the defendants contracted them to print 200, 000 tickets for the National Card Renewal exercise at the cost of K2 per ticket, thereby translating to K400, 000.

The plaintiffs stated that

soon after the execution of the said agreement, they printed 200, 000 tickets.

They added that the defendants further requested for 50,000 more tickets on a gratuitous terms known as mbasela.

The plaintiffs stated that the defendants pegged the tickets for sale at K1000, K50 and K30 respectively.

"The plaintiffs shall aver that according to the information supplied together with the request, the third defendant (Hichilema) was supposed to be the guest of honour at the said event," read the claim.

The plaintiffs claimed that despite delivering the said tickets within the agreed period, the defendants had not paid the money despite asking for more time in which to pay.

They stated that despite having committed to pay by November 17, 2017 the defendants still failed to pay the debt and to date the outstanding amount of K400,000 and interest of 30 percent remained unpaid.

By Julia Malunga

CHIEF Government spokesperson Dora Siliya says media houses should take advantage of business stimulus packages which government has put in place in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic to help them survive.

And Free Press Initiative (FPI) founder Joan Chirwa says a number of media houses, including those in the public sector, are facing similar challenges of reduced revenue, making their operations difficult.

Speaking when Chirwa presented a report on a survey to establish the impact of COVID-19 on media as businesses, Siliya said operators of media businesses should seriously consider taking a chance by applying for the resources to sustain their businesses.

According to a statement issued by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Press and Public Relations Unit, Thursday, Siliya said media houses should not be shy to borrow money to help them survive in the difficult times.

"Siliya has urged media houses to take advantage of business stimulus packages the government has put in place in the wake of the covid-19 to help them survive. She says the stimulus packages and the COVID bond are not limited to a specific all business sector but that everyone, including media houses can access the funds. Siliya said

Siliya urges media houses to take advantage of stimulus packages

the introduction of stimulus financial packages is meant to hold the hands of all business entities that have been affected by the coronavirus pandemic including the media industry. Media houses should not be shy to borrow some of these monies so that they can survive in these difficult times," read the statement.

"She said it is the desire of the Government to see all businesses thrive even with the coronavirus which she said has had a negative impact on almost all sectors of the economy. For the media sector this is very important because like others Journalists are also worried and are not sure if they will have a job tomorrow and so they can only be assured once the sector survives these harsh times. Siliya said the stimulus packages and the COVID bond are open to both public

and private media institutions provided they come up with plans and measures to pay back. She said the slowdown in business operations especially for the print media provides an opportunity for them and all stakeholders to think of the best way to do their business adding that the print media still experienced challenges even before the outbreak of COVID-19. Siliya said there need for the sector to think of innovative ways to capture their readership and remain in business under all circumstances."

Siliya commended media houses and journalists for their role in the fight against COVID-19.

"Siliya has expressed gratitude to media houses and journalists for their continued role in the fight against COVID-19 through

the dissemination of relevant and useful information to the public. Siliya said journalists have continued to write stories on COVID-19, including those to do with how the pandemic has affected many citizens in various areas of life such as education and business. She commended Free Press Initiative Zambia for conducting the survey adding that evidence based discussions, debate and decision making are critical important. Siliya said it is important that those in the profession of journalism lead in providing discourse in the country that is based on evidence, as it has become common with the advent of social media, to have discussions based on rumors and non-truths leading to fake news," the statement read.

And Chirwa said the Free Press Initiative Zambia, with support from the World Association of Newspapers, commissioned a survey to find out how media houses, as business entities, were surviving amid the pandemic.

She said the survey was important because the pandemic caught the media business, just like other sectors, by surprise.

"Chirwa said among key findings of the survey

was the fact that a number of media houses including those in the in the public sector are facing similar challenges of reduced revenue making their operations difficult .She said the report has since recommended that Government seriously considers tax suspension and rebates as a way of helping the sector survive the hash economic challenges as a result of COVID-19. Chirwa said as the situation stands now, many media houses were finding it difficult to pay salaries and meet other statutory obligations in form of taxes. She said her organization is optimistic that the report will help Government to come up with specific measures that will help industry players continue operating," read the statement.

Meanwhile, Information Permanent Secretary Amos Malupenga said the move by FPI was commendable because all sectors, including the media, raised questions on how they would survive during the pandemic.

Malupenga said there was a need for media houses to be clear on the kind of relief they would want Government to consider to help them survive as Government was also dependent on taxes to offer various services to the public.



Information and Broadcasting Services Minister Dora Siliya with Free Press Initiative founder Joan Chirwa

If you've not stolen, there's no reason to fear ACC – Musa

From P5

"THE FIC listed corrupt transaction coming up to over US\$800 million in just 3 years! The list of corrupt activities goes on and on and to add insult to injury, the corrupt individuals who steal from us have the audacity to live like pop stars and shamelessly flash their wealth which has been stolen from the poor. When the poor complain, we are being told that 'government cannot provide everything, we Zambians are lazy' but

those telling us that are having all they need provided for by us Zambians who they are stealing from."

Mwenye said corruption was a cancer and the corrupt were worse than pickpockets.

"In the midst of all these things, we have a Minister harassing police officers at road blocks who he accused of getting small bribes which can just buy a few necessities. This same Minister is on video saying that those

in power steal to safeguard their future. The same Minister, who appears very dear and close to our President, goes on to tell us that we shouldn't get concerned about K2,000,000 possibly lost to corruption because it is nothing," lamented Mwenye.

"Corruption is a cancer and the corrupt are worse than pickpockets who steal from people's pockets or even armed robbers who terrorize a single family because the corrupt

steal from millions of Zambians at one time and the effect of their theft leads to absence of drugs in our hospitals and death of hundreds of Zambians, lack of basic necessities of Zambians, absence of input support for our farmers and the list is endless. The fact that the corrupt drive expensive cars and wear nice suits does not change the fact that they are just thieves. Our leaders should genuinely fight corruption."

'Koeman gave me nothing' - Deulofeu blasts new Barcelona boss and says club has ignored La Masia

FORMER Barcelona winger Gerard Deulofeu has taken aim at his old side, criticising new manager Ronald Koeman and saying the club has ignored its youth system.

Deulofeu, who came through Barca's La Masia youth system, played under Koeman at Everton in 2016-17 but was sent out on loan to AC Milan. After leaving Goodison Park, Koeman took charge of the Dutch national side before being announced as the new Barca boss on Wednesday.

"I can tell you about Koeman from my personal experience, and I have very little to tell you about Koeman," Deulofeu told Catalunya Radio.

"He provided me absolutely nothing. I wasn't happy, I asked to leave and I went to Milan. We'll see how he does at the Camp Nou."

Barca presidential candidate Victor Font has already said that if he wins next year's election, Koeman will not remain as manager, however successful he is.



Deulofeu now looks to be on the hunt for a new club once again, following current side Watford's relegation from the Premier League.

When the 26-year-old left Everton permanently in 2017, it was for a brief return to Barca. Now, after two frustrating spells at

Camp Nou, he says he isn't bothered by the club's most recent crisis.

"The truth is that Barcelona's [situation] does not bother me," he said. "In fact, right now, I don't care."

Deulofeu was once one of La Masia's most prized assets, but his relative fall from grace in recent

seasons has been a familiar story.

Ansu Fati and Riqui Puig are among the academy products to have broken into the first team in recent months but Barca's ageing first team bears little resemblance to the golden generation that reached its peak under Pep Guardiola.

Big-money signings like Philippe Coutinho, Ousmane Dembele and Antoine Griezmann have failed to shine while the core of the team - the likes of Lionel Messi, Luis Suarez, Sergio Busquets, Jordi Alba and Gerard Pique - are in their 30s.

"At Barcelona, they have

not had patience with La Masia for years," Deulofeu commented. "If you give [the youngsters] time, they learn the style of the first team."

"There are players, many of us have come from there, but not patience. Now there will be changes, but they are years behind." GOAL.COM

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Toure sees 'time to change' at Man City as Guardiola fails to deliver Champions League glory

YAYA Toure believes questions should be asked of Pep Guardiola on the back of another Champions League failure by Manchester City, with the Blues legend suggesting it may be "time to change".

A highly-decorated Catalan coach was appointed in 2016 with the intention of delivering long-awaited European glory to the Etihad Stadium.

Guardiola had previously conquered the continent at Barcelona, but has been unable to replicate that success at Bayern Munich or City.

Domestic silverware has continued to roll in, with title triumphs enjoyed in Germany and England.

It is, however, nine years since Guardiola last hoisted aloft the Champions League trophy, with his current employers suffering a surprise quarter-final defeat to Lyon in 2020.

Toure feels pressure should be put on those calling the shots after seeing the Blues fall short once more, with it easy to argue that changes in approach and personnel may be required.



The legendary Ivorian, who spent eight years with City between 2010 and 2018, told Football Daily: "The manager has been signed for that, just to bring this trophy and when you see Liverpool maybe and other clubs who [have won it] without doing a lot of work in the transfer market, it's quite strange and disappointing."

"Of course, he's been brought to the club to get a massive trophy for them and at the moment it's not been delivered in the way they want."

"Everyone knows Pep is a great manager but at the moment when things are not going their way, sometimes it's the time to change the way they do things. We'll see."

Toure knows all about Guardiola's methods having worked under a demanding coach at Barcelona and City. The pair did not always see eye to eye, with Toure having gone as far as to claim that Guardiola's standing as one of the finest coaches of all time is "a myth".

He said in 2018: "Pep likes to dominate and wants to have obedient players who lick his hands. I do not like this kind of relationship. I respect my coach but I am not his thing."

"Like all players I have bickered with my coaches, but at a certain point men who do not understand each other reconcile. This is not possible with Pep, who is very rigid." GOAL.COM



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