



# RIGGING SCHEME UNDERWAY - ZUKAS

## ...but when people are fed up, bribery can't work



President Edgar Lungu (r) interacts with Zongwe Farm General Manager Sean Jordan (c) as he explains the varieties of Crocodile skins during the Head of State's tour of the farm in Sinazongwe on Monday - Picture by Salim Henry

## Court acquits Chitalu

By Zondiwe Mbewe

LUSAKA Chief Resident Magistrate Lameck Mwale has acquitted Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya after the prosecution said they would offer no further evidence in a matter he was

charged with four counts of possession of property suspected to be proceeds of crime.

Meanwhile, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) acting director general Rosemary Khuzwayo on Tuesday failed to

appear before magistrate Mwale to show cause why contempt of court proceedings should not be instituted against her for suspending the investigations officer who testified in the matter, as she was unwell.

Story page 2

## I'm not a prostitute, I don't sell young girls, Siliya tells court

Story page 6

By Julia Malunga

OUR Civic Duty Association (OCIDA) chairperson Simon Zukas has charged that PF has already started the process of rigging next year's general election through the NRC registration exercise and the unfair application of the Public Order Act.

Story page 7

## Corruption endemic in PF - Telesphore

By Ulande Nkomesha

ARCHBISHOP Telesphore Mpundu says corruption in the ruling Patriotic Front is endemic and on a large scale.

And Archbishop Mpundu says it is disappointing that citizens are not allowed to freely express their views as most of them are being intimidated for speaking against the lack of good governance in the country.

Story page 10

## I denied myself unnecessary consumption to become successful, says Hichilema

By Ulande Nkomesha

UPND president Hakainde Hichilema says he is a successful man because he has denied himself unnecessary consumption like purchasing expensive cars, which is why he can promise a better Zambia once elected as Head of State.

Meanwhile, Hichilema says he will have a balanced Cabinet with representation from all 10 provinces.

Hichilema was speaking on Camnet TV's National

Matters programme which was hosted by Pastor Moses Chiluba.

"I am not in Aliko Dangote's league. I have met Dangote before and we had a conversation, totally..."

Story page 3

## Simusamba issues bench warrant against Kambwili

Story page 6





*By Julia Malunga*  
HOME Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo has failed to disclose how much government used to procure security equipment, saying technocrats are still preparing the report.  
Speaking when he featured on Hot FM's Red Hot Breakfast Show, Tuesday, Kampyongo said procurement of equipment was done by technocrats.  
When asked the cost of the security equipment, he said members of the public were going to be given the information soon.  
"Procurement of public equipment in government systems is done by technocrats who understand the regulations and the Public Procurement Act and the regulations that goes with that. When you say riot kits, policing is not

## Kampyongo fails to disclose cost of recently purchased security equipment

just about riot kits, we, in this country, should avoid hypocrisy! You, the people, have been saying, 'we went to report to the police, there was no transport, the police couldn't respond to a distress call.' 'No, a citizen was killed by a live bullet by the police.' Now, what you don't realise is that when you are making those complaints, it's ticking to exactly the limitation of capacity for our law enforcement agencies. And the critical one has been lack of equipment so when the officers use the limited equipment they have, the loaded AK 47 with live bullets, it becomes a challenge and we understand, we acknowledged. So, when we resolved that we needed to capacitate our law enforcement agencies, what you are seeing today was not

planned for yesterday, this was planned for as way back as 2012," Kampyongo said.  
Asked if there was anything sinister in the procurement of the equipment Kampyongo replied in the negative.  
"There is nothing sinister at all. The members of the public will be given the information; these are matters of public [interest] and the technocrats will compile a comprehensive report when they inform us that, now, they have finished. Mind you, we are not only catering for the Zambia Police Service, we are providing modern equipment for the correctional facilities so that they can get into full production. You saw me going there handing over farming equipment so that

they go into production. The Drug Enforcement Commission (DEC) who also have a key role to ensure that illicit drugs, financial crimes are equally being equipped [and] Immigration Department so this has never happened in a long time. Criminals are becoming sophisticated every day and so if you want to keep your law enforcement agencies inferior, you will be running in this country. Let us not play around with these things," he said.  
Asked to state the cost, Kampyongo said; "We are not buying these things for our farms and so when our technocrat staff are done, we shall go to the public and say, 'for all this equipment you have seen, this is the cost.' And we know that at the end of the day, there is a need for

accountability."  
When asked how urgent the procurement of the equipment was, Kampyongo stressed that national security remained an urgent matter.  
"How urgent are you serious? Which investor worth his salt would want to bring investment that should boost the economy of the nation in the absence of security where they are not guaranteed protection of their investment? Because we are all looking for investors to come and invest so that we can create jobs. Because that is what everybody wants to look at is how secure the investment is going to be. Not long ago, you saw how our people were tormented; we had gassing activities from undesirable criminals and then we ended up with

riots and we had people dying," replied Kampyongo.  
"We send our police officers in war-torn countries to go and help restore order. They have to go with equipment as required by the United Nations. If you have had any attack by criminals, you will understand better why the police should be capacitated to move and protect you as and when you need protection. Beyond that, there is no economy that can thrive where there is no security, that is the urgency. You are talking about the (2021) election as well; we are not going to manage the elections with bare hands, how? The only ones who should be worried are criminals. The security of the nation should be an urgent matter."

*By Zondiwe Mbewe*  
LUSAKA Chief Resident Magistrate Lameck Mwale has acquitted Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya after the prosecution said they would offer no further evidence in a matter he was charged with four counts of possession of property suspected to be proceeds of crime.  
Meanwhile, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) acting director general Rosemary Khuzwayo on Tuesday failed to appear before magistrate Mwale to show cause why contempt of court proceedings should not be instituted against her for suspending the investigations officer who testified in the matter, as she was unwell.  
However, the said summons against Khuzwayo have been cancelled following Dr Chilufya's acquittal.  
In this matter, it was alleged in the first count that Dr Chilufya on a date unknown but between December 1, 2016 and December 31, 2017 in Lusaka possessed US\$200,000 which was used to purchase 6,000 shares in Samfya Marines and Tourism Services Limited from Den Daas Investment Zambia Limited, property suspected to be proceeds of crime.  
In the second count, it was alleged that Dr Chilufya on a date unknown but between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 in Lusaka possessed K270,000 cash which was used to purchase 2,000 shares in Samfya Marines and Tourism Services Limited from Leo Jonas Ngosa Investment Limited, property suspected of being proceeds of crime.  
In the third count, it was alleged that Dr Chilufya on an unknown date but between January 1, 2018 and December 30, 2019 possessed K3,000,000 which was used to purchase Lot No. 365/366 also known as Spark Guest House situated in Mansa district of Luapula Property, property reasonably suspected to be proceeds of crime.  
In the last count, it was alleged that Dr Chilufya on a date unknown but between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 in Lusaka possessed US\$52,000 which was used to purchase a passenger boat also known as Transport 32 from

## Court acquits Chitalu

Smart Own FZE of Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, property reasonably suspected to be proceeds of crime.  
On Monday, Magistrate Mwale summoned Khuzwayo

to appear before him to show cause why contempt of court proceedings should not be instituted against her for suspending ACC investigations officer Chipampe Manda, who

had testified in court that Dr Chilufya did not commit an offence.  
However, when the matter came up for continued trial, Tuesday, ACC prosecutor

Clifford Moonga informed the court that Khuzwayo was unable to appear before court as she was unwell.  
He said he was informed that Khuzwayo's blood pressure had shot up.  
"This matter is scheduled for continuation of trial. We do note that there was an order by the court yesterday (Monday) to have the acting director general of ACC to appear before you so that an inquiry could be conducted on concerns which were raised by the defence. The Court's order was duly communicated and the position is that the acting director general is unable to appear before you this morning. The reason being that she is unwell, at home. I'm reliably informed that her blood pressure shot up," Moonga said.  
In response, Ngulube said given the explanation by the State, the defence had no objection to have the matter

come up when Khuzwayo was well and able to attend court.  
At this point, Moonga informed the court that in relation to the main matter, he had specific instructions to offer any further evidence.  
In response, Ngulube urged the magistrate to acquit Dr Chilufya.  
"Given that the State has offered no evidence in this matter, we urge the court to acquit the accused person, in the interest of Justice. The accused person who has appeared before you in this matter must not go home thinking he has to appear before court the following day," Ngulube said.  
In his ruling, magistrate Mwale acquitted the accused on all four charges and further cancelled the summons against the ACC acting Director General.  
"In view of the position taken by the State to offer no further evidence in this matter and considering the available evidence on record thus far, the accused person is hereby acquitted on all the four counts that he stands charged with," said magistrate Mwale.  
Asked to comment on the outcome of the case, Dr Chilufya said he had no comment.  
Ngulube, on the other hand, said Justice had taken it's course and further commended Dr Chilufya for being a disciplined client.  
"The only thing I can say is that Justice has taken it's course. And I just want to commend my client for having being a disciplined client who attended the proceedings without faking any illness and without delaying the court proceedings," said Ngulube.  
Five State witnesses had testified in this matter, with the ACC investigations officer Chipampe Manda being the first witness.  
Manda testified that Dr Chilufya did not commit an offence, adding that the Health Minister had the capacity to acquire all the properties he was accused of acquiring through proceeds of crime, from his legitimate income.  
But he was suspended by the ACC, saying his testimony was not representative of the commission's position.



*Dr Chitalu Chilufya with wife Mutinta at the Lusaka Magistrates' Court yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala*

## CEC posts \$32.5m losses

*By Diggers Reporter*  
COPPERBELT Energy Corporation Plc (CEC) has posted losses of nearly US \$32.5 million in its half-year period ending June 30, 2020, mainly triggered by Konkola Copper Mines' failure to settle its outstanding debt owed to the former.  
According to its unaudited financial results for the period ending June 30, CEC announced that it incurred losses of nearly \$32.5 million for the period under review compared to earning a profit of \$7.8 million for the corresponding period last year, mainly induced by KCM's inability to settle its electricity bills amounting to over \$144 million.  
Data also shows that the Kitwe-based power utility's gross revenues equally declined by two per cent to \$201.9 million during the same period compared to \$206.4 million, mainly on account of a reduction in power demand by its Zambian mining customers.  
"The continued KCM payment default has resulted in an increase in reported expected credit loss impairment of US \$60.834 million from US \$28.829

million in 2019 to US \$89.663 million. As a result, the company reported a loss of US \$32.458 million for the period, compared to a profit of US \$7.832 million the prior year," read the Company's results statement issued via its sponsoring broker, Stockbrokers Zambia Limited.  
"Revenue decreased by two per cent from US \$206.437 million in 2019 to US \$201.857 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 two per cent on account of demand reduction following operational challenges by a number of mining companies as well as the effect of the KCM load transfer."  
The company, however, added that revenues from its wheeling services increased by 25 per cent on the back of Zesco's reduced load shedding, while its cash balance increased to \$89.1 million in the period ending June 30 compared to \$73.9 million last year.  
"On a positive note, revenue from wheeling services increased by 25 per cent on the back of Zesco's reduced load

shedding to non-mining customers relative to the comparable prior period. Regional power supply increased by three per cent 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," stated CEC.  
Meanwhile, CEC cautioned that the risk attendant to operating without key contracts with either Zesco or KCM had the potential to trigger prolonged litigation.  
This follows the lapse of its Bulk Supply Agreement (BSA) with Zesco on March 31, this year, while Zesco signed a separate Power Supply Agreement (PSA) with KCM in June shortly after Energy Minister, Mathew Nkhwa, issued Statutory Instrument Number 57 of 2020, which declared CEC's distribution and transmission assets as common carrier.  
The SI is currently being disputed and is the subject of ongoing court proceedings, as CEC and Zesco seek to resume talks for the possibility of a revised BSA.



*By Natasha Sakala*  
ALLIANCE for Democracy and Development (ADD) president Charles Milupi says President Edgar Lungu’s decision to appoint a party cadre as Bank of Zambia (BoZ) Governor will sink the country into hyperinflation.

In an interview, Milupi said Christopher Mvunga’s appointment as new BoZ Governor could make it possible for money to be printed because he lacked significant banking sector experience.

“Now, this is what the PF



government is faced with; no money in the budget, no money in the economy and yet they want to spend. You have seen what they have been doing with the so-called empowerment and so on. Under those circumstances, what normally happens is government now goes for local borrowing. They have tried to borrow, they have issued government instruments, which we are not seeing fully subscribed, but then the ultimate is the printing of money. Now, to print money, you require a weak, unprofessional governor of the Bank of Zambia at the institution so that it panders to the quims of government. I fear that this is where we are heading and, ultimately, when you have a situation like that, the people that pay the heavy fine are the citizens of this country because we shall embark on a path of hyperinflation, high cost of items, rapidly deteriorating exchange rate of the kwacha. This is where we are headed,”

# Appointing a cadre as BoZ governor will trigger hyperinflation – Milupi

Milupi cautioned. “Added on to all these difficulties, no IMF money, locally-generated revenues...we have problems!

## Nakacinda will be nabbed for masquerading as MMD official

*By Sipilisiwe Ncube*  
MOVEMENT for Multi-party Democracy (MMD) national secretary Elizabeth Chitika says Raphael Nakachinda will soon be nabbed and brought to brutal justice for masquerading as an MMD member.

And Chitika says MMD will participate in the forthcoming parliamentary and local government elections.

On Sunday, a faction of the MMD led by Nakacinda held a national executive committee meeting and made resolutions to the effect that they would soon be doing mobilizations in preparation for this year’s general convention.

“It is without a doubt that everyone knows that the MMD convention is due. The true spirit of democracy entails that we must hold intra-party elections as prescribed

## – Chitika

in Article 60 of the Republican Constitution and in our party constitution and MMD members have been calling for a convention to be held before the 2021 general elections. We wish to announce today that a convention is a must and it is unstoppable,” Nakacinda said.

“Therefore, the National Executive Committee resolved to put in place two(2) sub-committees which shall coordinate all programs concerning mobilization and elections from the lower organs in preparation for the convention. And these committees shall operate under the theme; “Operation Save MMD.”

Nakacinda said all those who were expelled from MMD by Mumba would not leave the party but that it was the MMD president who should go.

“The National Executive committee meeting has resolved to take any appropriate action in order to restore sanity on this matter. Dr Mumba cannot chase the only MPs that we have that adds credence to the party, that is madness of the highest order. Instead of MPs leaving the party, instead it’s Nevers Mumba who must go, Nevers Mumba must leave. Having illegally purported to have expelled the MPs, he now wants to go and embarrass the party by fielding candidates in Lukashya and Mwansabombwe who are of no consequence,” said Nakacinda.

But speaking at a press briefing in Lusaka, Monday, Chitika said Nakacinda remained expelled and had no right to speak on behalf of the MMD.

“Let me state clearly that every dog has its day. Nakacinda will find what he is looking for and that day is not far. In the meantime, let me restate for the 100th time that he is not a member of our party. He remains expelled and has no single right to speak on behalf of the MMD. It is laughable that the expelled MPs were announcing their expulsion from the party. I can confirm that we have indeed expelled them because they do not work with the party. The reasons which they gave the public yesterday are their own imagination. The MMD is a party of discipline and order and shall not compromise its values for overrated individuals who believe their mere connection to PF is the license to arrogance,” Chitika said.

*Continues on P5*

And then, we have COVID-19, but then we are going into an election in 2021. So, what we call the power of incumbency in most governments is during this time, there will be lots of money to spend to show the people that they are doing something just as a gimmick to attract votes for the following year, this is what normally happens.”

He observed that the manner in which Dr Kalyalya’s dismissal and subsequent replacement was done was a sign that government wanted to intensify control of monetary policy.

“The removal of Dr Denny Kalyalya in the manner that it has been done and the replacement is a clear indication that government, through the President, now wants to have a hand in controlling monetary policy in this country and we see that this is premised on the fact that the economy of the country is performing so badly. That is clearly indicated by the debt portfolio that we have,” he said.

“When you look at that article in the Constitution about the qualification for the governor, it seeks to have in that position, a highly-qualified person in terms of the economy, in terms of banking, in terms of accounting and also integrity and accountability. I shudder to think that the new appointee (Mvunga) is taken to that position, especially fully understanding that he is basically, really, a PF cadre whose desire would be to ensure that the ruling party continues in power, and for them to continue in power, they have got to show that they are spending and that can only come by the way of mismanaging the Bank of Zambia.”

And Milupi hailed Dr Kalyalya for doing his job professionally during his tenure as BoZ governor.

“If you look at the monetary policies of this country, where, really, the economy has not performed very well due to fiscal instability and lack of fiscal space, inability, really, of the government to put in proper fiscal policies, the Bank of Zambia has been a rock in holding together the monetary policy so we do not go into hyperinflation such as what has happened in countries like Zimbabwe. The conditions that set in motion the hyperinflation that we saw and we are seeing in Zimbabwe are exactly the same conditions that are prevailing in the economic arena of Zambia; lack of productivity and so on. So, without the Bank of Zambia under Dr Denny Kalyalya ensuring that monetary policies were adhered to, we would have long plunged into hyperinflation. We do have high inflation, but it’s not yet hyper. So, I think as a nation we must thank him for the professionalism that he displayed in his running of the Bank of Zambia,” said Milupi.

# I denied myself unnecessary consumption to become successful – Hichilema

*By Ulande Nkomesha*  
UPND president Hakainde Hichilema says he is a successful man because he has denied himself unnecessary consumption like purchasing expensive cars, which is why he can promise a better Zambia once elected as Head of State.

And Hichilema said he denied himself unnecessary consumption in order to become successful.

Meanwhile, Hichilema says he will have a balanced Cabinet with representation from all 10 provinces.

Hichilema was speaking on Camnet TV’s National Matters programme which was hosted by Pastor Moses Chiluba.

During the interview, Pastor Chiluba asked Hichilema how he became wealthy, recalling that when the UPND leader was asked a similar question during an SABC interview, he failed to explain clearly while Aliko Dangote, Africa’s richest man, clearly explained his wealth on Aljazeera.

In response, Hichilema attributed his wealth to the opportunities which he utilised and the education he received saying it enabled him to start a business in corporate investments.

“I am not in Aliko Dangote’s league. I have met Dangote before and we had a conversation, totally different paths. If you listened to that recording, Dangote talked about opportunity, I talked about opportunity with my interview with first commonality. Second commonality when his father died at age eight, he talked about his uncle educating him, education, I talked about education to the young people and Aliko Dangote talked about the same. The third issue, Dangote talked about was a loan from his uncle. I didn’t get a loan from any uncle. No uncle would give a loan, what did I do? I started working and quickly when an opportunity arose, the very opportunity Dangote talked about trade and he talked the manufacturing sector, an opportunity arose for me to start an investment at a very young age 26, 27 years old because I couldn’t get a loan, I was from the village,” Hichilema said.

“So, my best and first investment was education. So you can see this coming in opportunity, education, investments. So he (Dangote) went into trade and I went into corporate business. I don’t have to articulate everything he articulated. We had our small way of opportunity

and at a young age we started corporate investment not too long we partnered with others. Some of those businesses stand today, 35 years later, those businesses stand today and they employ people and they actually pay salaries and create opportunities for other young children.”

And Hichilema said he denied himself unnecessary consumption for him to be successful.

“We also went into agriculture very early on. One of my first farms in Chisamba, I started with six cattle. Today there are thousands of cattle in that farm through hard work, a lot of hard work, it is not easy. We moved on to a different ranch, hard work. When I was in prison for treason, which I didn’t commit, I made a decision when I was in prison that when I come out, I will start a new investment and within two years, it will pay back. I have just done that. I have only been out of prison two years running to three years, it is possible but you need willingness and opportunity to work hard,” Hichilema said.

“You need to deny yourself consumption! If you look at the cars I drive, a lot of pastors drive more expensive cars than me. I have made a decision that there is no value in driving a car worth \$300,000, I would rather buy Steers worth \$300,000 and after three years, I can buy the car most people in government are driving from the returns that I have earned. That is a culture we want to bring into public office. I am not Dangote, different routes, education made a difference. Let me emphasize I had an opportunity to leave the village, government bursary. There is no corruption, there is no sale of a mine, I have never sold a mine. When we form government, no corruption focus on education, job opportunities for the youth, hard work, work and more work. You will see after five years of our time in office, a different Zambia, I promise you.”

And Hichilema said he would form a balanced Cabinet with representation from all 10 provinces.

“If you are stronger in Southern Province and UPND, some people want to call it tribalism. When PF is stronger in Luapula, some people call it stronghold, that is distortionary and we should not allow that in our country. That is the beginning of the problem

because there will be strongholds in a democracy in one region and the other, but what we shouldn’t do is to anchor those strongholds based on tribes or regionalism, it must be based on policies, it must be based on the appeal that you make. We need to reunite this country, it is one of my personal agendas. I am basically cajoling my colleagues in the UPND that one of our agendas as UPND should be to reunite this divided country. So that the cabinet of the UPND, and I want to remember today’s conversation, will be a cabinet which is represented from all the regions of Zambia,” Hichilema said.

“It doesn’t matter how the election results will come out because the Constitution allows us as UPND, like it allows the PF to nominate members from all parts of Zambia. Eight are enough, I wish it was 10 or 15 but to start with, eight are enough to be able to assure that on the UPND Cabinet table, there will be members from each of the 10 provinces because they are equally competent, they are all skilled, they are all Zambians, it is not the case today. It will be the case under the UPND.”

He said the UPND was going to manage the economy differently from the PF regime.

“We are in the process of seeking public office in order to manage the country’s resources in a most efficient way, in a most prudent way and not to be wasteful. Obviously, it is our duty when we take office, God’s will, acknowledge things that need to be done and done better, that is the duty of leadership. The reason you change leadership, pastor, is not to do the things that do not improve the lives of the people of Zambia,” said Hichilema.

“So we are not in the blame game. What we are confident about is that we can run the country differently but better and you will see it through stabilization of the Kwacha, because the monetary policies are measures that we will put in place so that when we come in office, we will need to stabilize interests. This will lead to stable exchange rates, that is where the Kwacha issue is affecting, because it does affect the cost of food and the cost of doing business. The policies we’ll put in place will lead to currency supply, money supply that will ensure that it releases liquidity in the market.”



# CUTS engages IMF and Ministry of Finance on prudent debt management

**O**n Thursday, July 16, 2020, CUTS brought together different stakeholders from various sectors including civil society, government, private sector, academia and the media to discuss solutions to Zambia's debt situation. Public debt is still a major economic challenge for Zambia and thereby, there is need to sustain dialogue on potential solutions. The meeting which took the form of a webinar attracted over a 100 participants from Zambia and internationally to discuss our debt position. CUTS is concerned about the impact debt has on consumers which include increased inflation, less investment in public services used by low income consumers, the crowding out effect on the private sector which affects consumption and all this generally has an impact on economic growth and efforts to reduce poverty in the country.

The meeting had a panel of experts from Civil Society Organisations and Private sector to share how debt affects these sectors. Mr Isaac Mwaipopo, Centre for Trade Policy and Development, Executive Director shared that the increase in borrowing stemmed from the need for the Government to invest in infrastructure development, however, the lack of an efficient procurement system was one of the reasons Zambia found itself suffering from unsustainable debt. He added that the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic had now worsened Zambia's debt situation thereby also limiting the country's capacity to respond to the disease.

In looking towards finding solutions he encouraged the government to continue to engage the International Monetary Fund. He noted that there was a need to ensure parliamentary oversight over debt contraction to enhance transparency and there it was also important for the Government to scale down infrastructure projects and focus only the ones with high economic returns. He concluded by welcoming the move by the Ministry of Finance to reprioritize investment projects and dismantle domestic debt to improve liquidity in the local economy.

Views by the private sector were shared by Ms Florence Muleya, Zambia Association of Manufacturers, Chief Executive Officer. She noted that as the Government had increased its domestic debt, there was less money available for the private sector to



borrowing and this was worsening over the years. Ms Muleya noted that the stimulus package through that the government had made available through commercial banks was unlikely to achieve its intended results as commercial banks would likely charge higher interest rates as opposed to if the money had been made available through the Development Bank of Zambia.

CUTS Lusaka also engaged the International Monetary Fund to understand how the fund can help Zambia's high risk of debt distress. Dhaneswar Ghura, International Monetary Fund, Mission Chief indicated that solutions to public debt needed to be discussed in the broader context including the Covid-19 pandemic which has unleashed an economic crisis globally. Also, disruptions to trade had affected key sectors such as the mining sector and that tourism had come to a halt in all tourist-based economies, including Zambia. As such, estimates show that the economy will contract by 5% this year. Additionally, the drought experienced in the country had a major ripple affect impacting agriculture and slowing growth and this year it was expected to be worse. Food security therefore would be an issue and the pandemic was going to exacerbate the attainment of Zambia's long term development goals such as eradicating poverty, malnutrition and ensuring food security.

Mr Ghura noted that there was a need to increase public spending in health and scale up social nets especially because Zambia has a strong social safety net system. He encouraged the Government to supplement its tax relief measures by dismantling some of its debt to continue to support the private sector. He finally mentioned that the Government had been investing in infrastructure but

most loans had been on non-concessional terms which are expensive. Fiscal policy would therefore not be enough to deal with the debt situation hence the Government has hired debt advisors to help with a debt restructure plan. He noted that the key goals needed to be: revive growth, generate jobs and lower poverty and that IMF planned to support the Government to achieve this.

Finally, CUTS engaged Mukuli Chikuba, Ministry of Finance, Permanent Secretary who indicated that the relationship between civil society and Government is important. He gave some key actions that the Ministry of Finance is undertaking to reduce debt. Mr. Chikuba noted that in the short and medium term there was a need to ensure fiscal balancing to allow for more expenditure rationalization (fiscal consolidation). In the medium to long term, he indicated that there were efforts towards rescoping public spending and reprioritize public expenditure. He also noted that social sector spending would be the focus for Government in long term. He further indicated that creating space for private sector is a goal of Government and therefore they will reduce borrowing, get the rates down and lengthen maturities.

The multi-stakeholder meeting helped show the road map towards dealing with Zambia's high debt in the short, long and medium term. CUTS Lusaka will continue to engage key stakeholders on the need to reduce Zambia's debt. It is clear that there is political will to do so and also support from the international community. Bold action is required to implement the Government's plans to reduce debt and keep the economy growing especially during the Covid 19 era.

**By Kangwa Muyunda, Consumer Unity and Trust Society ([kmu@cuts.org](mailto:kmu@cuts.org))**

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*By Ulande Nkomesha*  
PF SECRETARY General Davies Mwila must consult his colleagues before commenting on national issues because his capacity to analyse remains shallow and questionable, says Monze Central UPND member of parliament Jack Mwiimbu.

And Mwiimbu says the UPND, under Hakainde Hichilema’s leadership, has grown in all corners of the country, contrary to PF’s claim that it only remains popular in Southern Province.

Commenting on Mwila’s remarks that there was something wrong with Hichilema’s head if he did not count the number of times he lost presidential elections, Mwiimbu said Mwila needed a head examination.

“It is Davies Mwila who should be examined pertaining to his understanding and sanity pertaining to national issues. It has to be stated that the statement made by Davies Mwila against president Hakainde Hichilema is regrettable and is unacceptable. Davies Mwila’s capacity to analyse issues is very questionable. The statement that was made by Hakainde Hichilema was clear without any ambiguities. Hakainde Hichilema’s ambitions and aspirations is to serve the people of Zambia diligently,” Mwiimbu said in an interview.

“He should not trivialise issues of national importance when he makes a statement. He is a leader and he is the secretary general of a big political party in Zambia. His analysis of issues is very shallow. If he has no capacity. Let him consult his colleagues and they will be able to advise him prudently over issues.”

And Mwiimbu said Hichilema had made the UPND grow in all corners of the country.

“It must be noted that the UPND under Hakainde Hichilema has grown to all corners of the country. It must be said in very clear terms for the understanding of Davies Mwila that UPND has MPs in six provinces; we have members of parliament in Southern

Province, Western Province, Copperbelt Province, North-Western, Central Province and Lusaka Province. It, therefore, means that UPND has parliamentary representation in more than 60 per cent of the constituencies in this country,” he said.

“Further, we have councilors in every province of Zambia. It just shows that UPND is not confined to Southern Province as he alleges. The Former MP for Chipili, who was defeated by an Independent, should realise that UPND is a national party and is growing. If you check the numbers that are coming out in the by-elections in the perceived PF strongholds that UPND is growing and UPND is going to form the next government.”

Mwiimbu wondered why the PF were expressing confidence of winning next year’s general election when they had continued to brutalise and arrest political parties that were mobilising for the election.

“The confidence, which the PF is trying to portray to the public, is very deceptive. If someone is very confident what would be the motivation for them to militarise the police? As far as we are concerned, the militarisation of the police is intended to brutalise and to ensure the opposition have no political space to campaign. For us, that is testimony to show that the PF has no confidence in winning the elections in 2021. They want to use brutal force to remain in power,” said Mwiimbu.

# It’s Mwila who needs head examination, not HH – Mwiimbu

“I have no doubt in my mind that the people of Zambia will not allow the PF to use force against their own citizens. Citizens, when they want to mobilise for the next election, are being arrested; does it show that these people have the confidence of winning the election next year? The answer is no! Can you imagine they can issue a statement purportedly condemning the disturbances of radio stations, but their officials are doing the opposite. It just shows that this is a desperate regime, which wants to remain in office at all costs, but Zambians are up to the game; they will not allow that to happen.”



## GBV cases drop to 4,409 in Q2 2020

*By Ulande Nkomesha*

POLICE spokesperson Esther Katongo says Zambia has recorded 4,409 Gender-Based Violence (GBV) cases in the second quarter of 2020, down from over 6,000 during the same period last year.

In a statement, Tuesday, Katongo stated that this represented a decline of 1,730 cases over the period under review.

She stated that 1,256 children were abused countrywide, representing 28 per cent of all the victims of GBV.

“During the second quarter of 2020, 4,409 cases of GBV were recorded by police. The second quarter of 2020 gender victims disaggregated data indicates that 1,256 children were abused countrywide, representing 28 per cent of all the victims of Gender-Based Violence. Out of the 1,256 child victims, 999 were girls, representing 80 per cent, while 257 were boys, representing 20 per cent of all abused child victims, respectively. The statistics further indicate that 2,356 were female adult victims, while 797 were male adult victims, representing 53.4 per cent and 18.1 per cent, respectively,” Katongo stated.

“A comparison with the second quarter of 2019, 6,139

GBV cases were recorded last year compared to 4,409 recorded during the second quarter of 2020 showing a decrease by 1,730 cases, translating to a 28.2 per cent decrease. Under sexual abuse, 795 cases of sexual offences were recorded, representing 18 per cent of all the reported cases. Out of 795 reported cases, 596 victims were girls, translating to 74.9 per cent, 173 victims were female adults, translating to 21.8 per cent; 16 victims were boys, translating to two per cent, while 10 victims were male adults, translating to 1.3 per cent.”

She stated that 554 cases of child defilement were recorded in the second quarter.

“A total of 554 cases of child defilement [were recorded], all girls were recorded, representing 12.6 per cent of all the reported GBV cases. Lusaka Province recorded the highest number of child defilement cases with 206, translating to 37.2 per cent of the child defilement cases reported countrywide. Central Province recorded 79 cases, translating to 14.3 per cent,

followed by Eastern Province with 72 cases, translating to 13 per cent; Copperbelt Province had 44 cases, translating to 7.9 per cent and Southern Province recorded 43 cases, translating to 7.8 per cent of the reported defilement cases,” she narrated.

“Other provinces are Northern, 29 cases, representing 5.2 per cent; Luapula, 24, representing 4.3 per cent; North-Western, 21, representing 3.8 per cent; Muchinga, 20, representing 3.6 per cent, while Western Province had 16 reported cases, representing 2.9 per cent.”

She stated that 115 rape cases and 12 attempted rape cases were recorded, while 24 GBV murder cases were recorded.

“115 rape and 12 attempted rape cases were recorded during the period under review. The country also recorded 55 cases of indecent assault out of which 26 victims were women, 20 girls, seven men and two were boys. 12 cases of incest were recorded in which 10 were women and 2 were girl

victims. Under physical abuse, the country recorded 2,082 cases, translating to 47.2 per cent of the reported cases of which 327, translating to 15.7 percent were male victims; 1,601 cases, translating to 76.9 per cent were females; 78 cases, translating to 3.8 per cent were girls and 76 cases, translating to 3.7 percent were boys,” she stated.

“Further, during the period under review, the country recorded 24 GBV murder cases compared to 20 recorded in the second quarter in 2019, showing an increase by four cases or 16.7 per cent increase. The 24 murder cases recorded represent 0.5 per cent of all the reported cases out of which 12 victims were female adults, translating to 50 per cent; 11 male adults, translating to 45.8 per cent and one girl, translating to 4.2 per cent.”

She said 1,756 cases of assault OABH were recorded countrywide, representing 39.8 per cent of the reported GBV cases, with Lusaka Province recording the highest.

“1,756 cases of assault OABH were recorded countrywide, representing 39.8 per cent of the reported GBV cases. Out of the 1,756 cases of Assault OABH, 1,475 translating to 84 per cent were female victims, while 281, translating to 16 per cent were male victims. Lusaka Province recorded the highest number of assault OABH cases with 420 representing 23.9 per cent of all reported Assault OABH cases followed by Central Province, which recorded 301 cases, representing to 17.1 per cent and Copperbelt with 212, representing 12.1 per cent of all assault OABH cases reported countrywide,” she stated.

“Others are Eastern, 206 cases, representing 11.7 per cent; Muchinga had 186, representing 10.6 per cent; Western had 151 cases, representing 8.6 per cent;

Southern recorded 90 cases, representing 5.1 per cent. North-Western, 82 cases, at 4.7 per cent; Luapula had 50 cases at 2.9 per cent and Tazara Division, 31 cases, at 1.8 per cent; Northern recorded 23 cases at 1.3 per cent and Airport Division recorded four cases, representing 0.2 per cent of all the reported Assault OABH cases. Under economic abuse: 452 cases of failing to provide necessities of life and 351 cases of Neglecting to Provide Necessaries were recorded, translating to 10.3 per cent and 7.9 per cent of reported cases, respectively.”

Katongo said that out of 4,409 GBV cases reported countrywide, 963 cases were taken to court resulting in 131 convictions.

“Out of 4,409 GBV cases reported countrywide, 963 cases, translating to 21.8 per cent were taken to court resulting in 131 convictions or 13.6 per cent; 32 acquittals, translating to 3.3 per cent; 101 cases were withdrawn from court, representing 10.5 per cent and 699 are still under investigations. 1,636 cases were withdrawn at various police stations. A comparison with 2019 second quarter statistics on sexual violence, 583 cases of defilement were reported in 2019 compared to 554 cases reported during the second quarter of 2020 with a difference of 29 cases, translating to a 4.9 per cent decrease. Assault OABH cases have remained constant at 1,756 during the second quarters of 2019 and 2020 respectively,” explained Katongo.

“Under emotional and psychological abuse: 158 cases, translating to 3.6 per cent of the total number of GBV cases were recorded; 119 cases, translating to 75.3 per cent were females; 37 cases, translating to 23.4 per cent were males, while one case of a boy and one case of a girl were recorded, translating to 0.6 per cent, respectively.”

## Nakacinda will be nabbed for masquerading as MMD official – Chitika

*From P3*

SHE said her party had decided to participate in the forth coming by-elections.

“We are participating in the forth coming by-elections. Our campaign teams are on the ground and we are excited that after such a long time of absence from elections, we are back again. We are looking forward to a good, violence free and issue based campaign. For Nakacinda and his band of stick-ons, all he lives for is to please the Patriotic Front. When we say they are not MMD this is what we mean. If they even were remotely members of this party, they would be excited to contest in elections and not endorse another party,” Chitika added.

“For 3 and half years when they illegally posed as leaders of our party, all

they were, was to be dancing queens at PF events. Even now, in their shock, all they wish to be is to be mercenaries for another political party against another. The simpler thing for them to do is to openly join the Patriotic Front, but of course that would cut of funding for their mercenary activities such as they had the other day. What a terrible and hopeless life to lead. No purpose, no dignity and no certain future.”

Meanwhile, Chitika warned the ruling Patriotic Front (PF) to distance themselves from Nakacinda’s statement about PF having an alliance with MMD.

“On the other hand, we wish to warn the PF about these so called endorsements from Nakacinda. Everyone can see that all that Nakacinda

is doing is putting up a dance (as his name seems to suggest) for them. But it is for the PF to continue to pay him for his dances while their own members remain without help,” said Chitika.

“We wish to warn that, should they carry that falsehood of the so called alliance, into the campaign we shall petition the election. In the same vein, We have also written to the Elections body (ECZ) about this act of provocation ahead of the by elections. We demand that the PF publicly distance themselves from Nakacinda’s statement about MMD supporting the PF candidate in the forth coming by-elections. If they don’t, we wish to put it on record that we shall petition these elections.”



*By Zondiwe Mbewe*  
CHIEF Government Spokesperson Dora Siliya has testified that the alleged utterances by Lusaka photographer, Cornelius Chella Tukuta, in a video on Facebook that she is a pimp, who hooks up girls with high-profile people, were extremely injurious on her.

Siliya told the Lusaka Magistrates’ Court that she may be single, divorced or have had failed relationships, but that does not make her a high-level prostitute, neither does it mean she sells girls to high-profile men.

This is in a matter in which Tukuta, 34, is charged with one count of libel.

It is alleged that Tukuta on May 26, 2020 in Lusaka, published defamatory matter affecting Dora Siliya in the form of a video on Facebook that: “This Dora Siliya is hooking up girls, selling girls to the high-profile people, so that men can be sleeping [with them], she is actually the highest of the highest professional prostitute. If Dora Siliya is refusing these allegations that she does not connect girls to high-profile people for sex, let her come.”

And when the matter came up for commencement of trial before Chief Resident Magistrate Lameck Mwale, Tuesday, Tukuta took fresh plea after the State substituted the indictment.

Initially, the indictment had two charges of libel, however, one charge had been removed on the substituted charge sheet.

After the accused took fresh plea, Siliya, who is also Information and Broadcasting Services Minister, was called to the stand as the first prosecution witness.

Siliya, 49, testified that on May 25, 2020 on African Freedom Day, she received a call from a lady called Natasha Vandermaas, who asked her if she had seen what had been posted on the internet by a person called Chella Tukuta.

She said she responded by asking the said Natasha who Chella Tukuta was and was informed that he was a photographer.

Siliya said she told Natasha that she did not know who Chella was and had not seen what he had posted.

She said Natasha then sent screenshots of Chella’s Facebook page to her WhatsApp containing what he had written about the Northern Province Permanent Secretary.

Siliya further testified that the next day, she got a call in the morning from Infrastructure and Housing Development Minister Vincent Mwale, who also asked her if she had seen what Chella had posted.

“Once again, I said I had not seen it, except through Natasha. Honourable Mwale then told me that Mr Tukuta had posted that he was coming for myself and Honourable Mwale,” she narrated.

Siliya said on June 1, 2020, she got a call from Kaizer Zulu, President Edgar Lungu’s former special assistant for political affairs, who also asked her if she had seen what Chella had posted, but she told him that she had only seen what Natasha had sent to her as well as what had told her.

She said Zulu proceeded to tell her that Chella had gone too far because he was calling her a pimp, adding that at that

time, she decided to see what the posting was about.

Siliya said her son, whom she was quarantined with during that time, showed her the said video where Chella accused her of being a pimp.

“I had been in quarantine during that time with COVID-19 with my son and so I asked him if I could see this posting of Mr Tukuta, which was calling me a pimp. My son proceeded to show me a video on his phone that Mr Tukuta could have posted on his Facebook page after downloading it,” she said.

*By Zondiwe Mbewe*  
PRINCIPAL Resident Magistrate David Simusamba yesterday issued a bench warrant against NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili for missing court in a matter he is charged with forgery, uttering a false document and giving false information to a public officer.

The said warrant is returnable on September 1, 2020.

When the matter came up for continued defence, Tuesday, Kambwili was not before court.

After State Advocate Mukuma Chipawa called the matter, one of Kambwili’s lawyers informed the Court that his client was not before Court as he was on seven-day bed rest.

However, Magistrate Simusamba expressed concern at the absence of Kambwili when the accused was being seen issuing statements to the media.

He doubted Kambwili’s sickness and placed him on bench warrant.

Recently, Kambwili announced on his Facebook page that he tested positive to COVID-19 and was under isolation.

In this matter, it is alleged that on October 29, 2013, Kambwili with intent to defraud or deceive, forged a ‘no change return’ (Companies Form 71) purporting to show that it was genuinely signed by his son Mwamba when in fact not.

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

In June, this year, Kambwili said in his defence, that Mwamona Engineering and Technical Services was incorporated by his wife Carol Chansa in 2001.

“This is in view of the fact that prior to Mr Tayali reporting this matter to the police, he held a press briefing where he made allegations and I quote: ‘Honourable Chishimba Kambwili had registered a company with a fictitious name with a view that he can be getting company contracts as a minister without being depicted that he was involved in that company’. During that briefing, he stated that the company was registered in 2013 when I was Minister of Youth and Sport in government. To the contrary, Mwamona was registered in August, 2001, way before I was either an MP or a minister in government,” he said.

Kambwili said the Genesis of the registration of Mwamona

# I may be single, divorced, that doesn’t make me high level prostitute – Siliya

“In the video, I saw the face of Mr Tukuta in a bluish, dark t-shirt talking about a number of things. What caught my interest was on the 14th minute where he said to the effect that: ‘this Dora Siliya, who is hooking up young girls to high-profile men, selling them to sleep with high-profile people. She is the highest of the highest of the professional prostitutes.”

She testified that she was

extremely incensed and called her Permanent Secretary, Amos Malupenga, to find out if he had also seen the videos of which he confirmed that he had.

Siliya said she then decided to make a formal complaint to the police.

She testified that she was extremely disturbed that someone could be referring to her as a person who sells girls to high-profile men, which she

believed was a crime.

“I felt angry, embarrassed because apart from my own person, a person who has been a public servant for so many years, I felt that this injury was about me in person, but also government since I work for the government and also the people of Zambia who elected that government that I work for. I also felt that it was damaging to me and to my reputation and my family,” she said.

“A lot of people called me and wondered what was going on because I have a lot of professional friends, colleagues in government and outside government. I got calls, even from people from my church, wondering what was going on. I recall even American Chargé d’Affaires to Zambia David Young sent me a WhatsApp message stating that his officers had just shown him the video and he was extremely shocked at what Mr Tukuta was saying about me, which he described as misogynistic and disgraceful.”

She added that she felt that Chella’s utterances in the video were extremely injurious on her person.

Siliya said in the past, she had paid a blind eye to some of the things said to politicians, but added that this was different because she was being accused of a crime of selling human beings,

especially that she mentored a lot of young girls.

“It is a crime to sell human beings and to believe that my colleagues would be calling to find out what this was about, I felt that there was no other action to take except to clear my reputation that I do not sell human beings and do not engage in sexual activities for cash! I’m a human being and all I have done is the best I can. Yes, I may be single, divorced, have failed relationships, but that does not make me a high-level prostitute and does not mean that I sell girls to high-profile men,” she stressed.

In cross-examination, Chella’s lawyer Mulambo Haimbe asked Siliya whether she recalled that this was not the first time she was being called a prostitute, and in response the witness said no.

Haimbe then reminded Siliya that in 2017, the Mast newspaper carried a story where Siliya was allegedly rushed to Fairview Hospital for medical attention after being brutally beaten by her lover Mark Ode Mubalama following a dispute, after Mubalama allegedly accused her of seeing other men.

In response, Siliya said she did not read that particular article, but added that: “I do know that everybody knows that I had a relationship with Mark.”

Further asked whether it was not true that there was a time when her dressing in Parliament was brought to question, as she was wearing short skirts, Siliya said she was not aware.

Trial continues.

## Simusamba issues bench warrant against Kambwili

was that his wife, his sister Daisy Kambwili and himself were running a company called ‘CK Scrap Metal Merchants and General Contractors Limited.

He added that he was also running a company called ‘CK Technical Services Limited whose directors were himself, his wife and another.

Kambwili said when he got involved in politics, the two businesses started having problems due to political interference by the then-MMD government.

“There were instructions given to mining companies, who were principal customers not to deal with any companies

where Chishimba Kambwili was a director,” he recalled.

Kambwili said consequently, his wife decided that she needed to register a company with their son, Mwamba Chishimba Kambwili, and his younger sister Sampa Kambwili.

He said the only directors in Mwamona were his son and wife as they later on decided not to include his sister.

And Kambwili said the signature he was alleged to have forged in the first charge belonged to him.

He said he had never forged a document in his life and that he was a law-abiding citizen.

## Kalyalya’s dismissal will compromise Zambia’s debt position – Musokotwane

*By Sipilisiwe Ncube*

UPND chairman for economy and finance Dr Situmbeko Musokotwane says no positive change will come to Zambia’s economy if the country’s debt problem is not resolved.

And Dr Musokotwane has insisted that the Bank of Zambia (BoZ) needs to be led by professional and competent technocrats who can solve the country’s huge indebtedness.

Speaking when he featured on a live Programme on Diamond TV, Monday evening, Dr Musokotwane cautioned that leaving the central bank in the hands of incompetent personnel would unleash extraordinary high inflation levels.

His remarks follow President Edgar Lungu’s dismissal of BoZ governor Dr Denny Kalyalya last Saturday for unknown reasons.

“Zambia, today, is facing a lot of difficulties. The fundamental problem that is there is heavy indebtedness. Now, to get out of this problem, it is difficult to imagine Zambia getting out of this problem without the assistance of the most competent people, the most experienced people to lead these discussions with the IMF. And Denny Kalyalya has worked with the IMF (International Monetary Fund), he has worked with the World Bank and, of course, he has been in the Bank of Zambia for many years in different departments. Those are the kind of people we need to lead these discussions with the IMF in order to get us out of this debt problem. Without this debt problem being resolved, nothing positive about this economy will happen,” Dr Musokotwane said.

“Heading a central bank, you need not only the general leader, but also a professional leader. I will give you an example of a minister of justice and a chief justice. Anyone can be a minister of justice. We can have a history teacher as minister of justice, you can have an economist as a minister of justice, but there is no way you can have a history teacher or an economist

being a chief justice because a chief justice, as head of the Judiciary, must be a leader, generally, but also a leader by profession. Similarly, the central bank needs leaders who understand the substance to the knowledge of the institutions and its duties, and Denny Kalyalya met those attributes,” he said.

Dr Musokotwane, a former finance minister in the MMD government, cautioned that the BoZ, if left in the hands of incompetent personnel, would be a dangerous institution that would unleash extraordinary high levels of inflation.

“Whether Mr [Christopher] Mvunga is going to be good or not I don’t know, but surely, the bird that is in your hand is better than many in the bush. Secondly, and this is very important, the central bank is a very dangerous institution, and left in the hands of incompetent people, it can unleash extraordinary high levels of inflation! We have heard where countries in the world have reached 100 per cent and even a million and above per cent. Such kind of inflation comes from incompetence in the central bank because there is no way you can have such kind of inflation unless the central bank is printing money to generate that kind of problem. And, therefore, if we put people who don’t have the knowledge, the experience, the competence, the impact is going to be huge!” Musokotwane warned.

He said South Africa’s Finance Minister Tito Mboweni was in order to comment about Dr Kalyalya’s dismissal because any economic decisions made here affected other countries.

“When you talk about what the South African Minister said, first of all, there is no perfect or absolute sovereignty because what you do in Zambia can affect any country. In particular, those people in South Africa will face a lot of problems from economic refugees coming from an individual country. So, they need to be concerned if

they see one of the regional countries doing something that is risky because the next thing that is going to happen is that refugees from that country will go in South Africa and the South African people will say, ‘this government, why are you allowing these people to come here and take our jobs?’ Then the next thing is xenophobia,” he said.

And Dr Musokotwane, who is also Liuwa UPND member of parliament, said the only option to stabilise the economy was to enjoy a good relationship with the IMF.

“If we do not get into a relationship with the IMF now, two years from now, certain loans will be due. For the first one, we must find US \$750 million to repay, and the other loans that we must repay. At that point, even now, the exchange rate will either keep on going up or our government may decide to default. However, that route is rarely not possible because you can’t refuse to pay the loan. So, the best option is to get into a good relationship with the Fund,” said Dr Musokotwane.

“What is important for us is to manage this debt. The most important thing is the amount of debt that Zambia is paying. This year, the Minister of Finance’s budget indicated that we must find US \$1.5 billion. It comes in the country and then it goes out. So, foreign exchange is going out of the country to service these loans. Now, if foreign exchange is strictly channelled towards servicing these loans, how do you expect the exchange rate to be stable? So, only if we stabilise the exchange rate will we have stability.”

Government is grappling with a huge budget deficit of around K17.2 billion from K14.8 billion announced in April, largely attributed to a reduction in economic activity, together with elevated debt levels that will gobble K5.7 billion worth of debt servicing from Dr Bwalya Ngandu’s K15.01 billion supplementary budget, representing around 38 per cent of the total budget.



By Julia Malunga

OUR Civic Duty Association (OCIDA) chairperson Simon Zukas has charged that PF has already started the process of rigging next year's general election through the NRC registration exercise and the unfair application of the Public Order Act.

And Zukas says his Association will endeavour to ensure there will be no third term for President Edgar Lungu.

Meanwhile, Zukas says President Lungu is attacking the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) because they are prosecuting his friends.

In an interview in Lusaka, Sunday, Zukas charged that attempts to rig next year's polls had already started.

"If you listen to international news, we know that in Belarus, people have risen against the powerful man (President Alexander Lukashenko), who has been there for 26 years with massive demonstrations, they want him to go. So far, he hasn't moved, but the international community are trying to help the demonstrators by applying sanctions and it looks like he will have to go even though he might have a vicious police force. What we have seen on television is that they are brutal and they injure people. Now, this may sound a long way away and doesn't concern us, but it does. Because even next door to us in Malawi, only a short while ago, we had a similar occasion when someone tried to rig the elections, basically, what people are complaining about in Belarus. In Malawi, we saw that the election was rigged and they demonstrated, not only people in the streets, but at all levels of society. There was a reaction and eventually the incumbent had to give way. New elections proved that they were rigged. There is a lesson for us, riggers beware! You may get away with it, but it eventually can catch up and it usually catches up from the bottom up," he cautioned.

"People who are in

# We'll fight Lungu's 3rd term bid, vows Zukas

authority, ordinary people in the streets doing their work get fed up with the leaders and they vote against him and he manages because he is the incumbent, he may use his power to rig. Now, there comes a time when enough people don't believe it and they go into the streets. My conclusion here is to warn... because we know that in this country attempts of rigging take place, firstly, by the people in power; they are able to get the results they want, not by true vote numbers, but by rigging and bribing. Now, rigging and bribing doesn't just take place at the voting booth, it is a process, it has already started. It all leads to unfair elections and that unfairness doesn't start from the booth. It has even started here, at the moment, it starts with the National Registration (Card exercise) not being fairly distributed; it starts with the police using the Public Order Act in a biased partisan form: they let the ruling party have their meeting and arrest people, while the opposition are held at bay. So, my warning is that those authorities should take note of what happened in Malawi and what happened in Belarus."

And Zuka insisted that President Lungu's attempts to hand himself an unprecedented third term in office must be resisted in line with what the Republican Constitution states on presidential term limits.

"If the Constitution says, 'you should only have two terms' and people who are in power arrange things for some whatever third term, there will come a point when people don't accept it. You may remember when (Fredrick) Chiluba tried to have a third term...At that time, we called ourselves the Oasis Forum, we managed to block him. Yes, to start with, they look as if they can succeed, but there should be no attempted third term here. We should all be conscious that we want a fair election. Yes, the incumbent might get most of the votes, let it happen, but it has to be done fairly not by twisting rules. What I don't like about what is happening is people in government are using government resources to have an advantage. They are using the police in a partisan way. And even cadres think they can do anything and get away with

it. Now, we have set up OCIDA, not as a party, but to watch the process to make sure that they finish with fair elections," Zukas said.

"The Constitution says it is two terms only and that's got to be. And we can't have the incumbent rig themselves to have a third term. We still have time to mobilise. OCIDA will definitely try to play its part to make sure that two terms is enough and whoever tries a third term is going wrong and must be stopped! We depend on people, we don't have our own police, our own judges, but what has been shown in Belarus is how, eventually, the strands of people come through. If you watch TV, the demonstrations are massive and the same can happen here."

Meanwhile, Zukas observed that President Lungu was attacking the ACC because they were prosecuting his friends.

"The President should not be partisan. He can deal with misgovernance; it's his job to achieve good governance. But just to go and attack the ACC because they are doing something he doesn't like, that is not what he has been elected to do. I find that the problem with our President at the moment is he has become too partisan, he is a party president,



his politics is partisan and by that he is making a mistake. Once elected, his job is to make sure there is good governance and I don't see that he has proved anything so far against the ACC. Maybe he doesn't like that they are beginning to prosecute some friends, but they are doing their job," Zukas said.

He added that the case against PF Eastern Province youth chairperson Emmanuel J Banda, commonly known as Jay Jay, should be properly dealt in view of the evidence against him.

"We are against these cadres who feel empowered, even to the point of attacking a police officer! It is very unusual in the whole world, people are scared of police. To go and attack

a police officer in the police station means that they feel very powerful and that power must come from somewhere. I can summarise that it is coming from his party or some other officials. I am sure the President hasn't directed him to give him that power, but other officials might have. So, the police are quite entitled to deal with him and charge him. I understand he is trying to get out of it by saying, 'he is a defender of the President' so he seems to say that, 'he can do something wrong as long as he is the defender of the President...' Now, that again is wrong," he said.

"And I think the PF have in fact made a statement that he should be dealt with. I think that from OCIDA's point of

view, he should be dealt with the evidence against him. We would support the authorities to deal with him properly. And as a lesson to the cadres, they are not the authority in this country. They may be giving themselves authority in bus stations and markets, but they are subject to the law, they have no special standing. If the PF are defending someone who has done badly then there are also bad people."

He further insisted that it was wrong to identify OCIDA as part of the opposition political fraternity.

"When we formed OCIDA and they asked me to be chairman, Mumbi, (Phiri) the deputy secretary general of PF said: 'I am looking for a job!' Can you imagine that? So, I take no notice of that, you have to say what you believe in. In the case of OCIDA, it is wrong to identify us as a part of some party. We are opposition because we just don't only approve what the government is doing, we are critical. I hope that none of us in OCIDA blames the government for what they are doing right, that is not our purpose. Our purpose is to blame them for bad governance, for misuse of the POA. Our job is to make sure Zambians are treated fairly irrespective of party or tribe," said Zukas.

Zukas encouraged opposition political parties to be courageous.

## Kwacha poised for further losses after Kalyalya's dismissal, warns Hamaundu

By Stuart Lisulo

DR Denny Kalyalya's dismissal is likely to trigger a sharp kwacha depreciation because there will be a severe lack of confidence in the country's economy, says financial market analyst Maambo Hamaundu.

President Edgar Lungu sacked the highly-respected BoZ governor, Saturday, in an abrupt announcement, replacing him with Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet, Finance and Economic Development Christopher Mvunga.

The Head of State terminated Dr Kalyalya's appointment with immediate effect, subject to ratification by the National Assembly, after the latter served as governor since 2015.

Commenting on the

development, Hamaundu said Dr Kalyalya's dismissal came as a shock in view of his strong performance as governor and vast experience as a technocrat and economist, adding that the kwacha was now likely to post further losses as both foreign and local investors lacked confidence in the country's economy.

The kwacha sharply depreciated to hit an historic K19 per dollar psychological barrier for the second time in Zambia's history by close of business, Friday, hitting an average K19.10 per dollar from an opening of K18.98, so far remaining unresponsive to the benchmark policy rate cut effected by the Bank of Zambia (BoZ) last Wednesday.

"It was unexpected, the best description is, it

is shocking! No one really expected that Dr Kalyalya would be fired, especially given his track record, commitment and resilience. As a financial analyst, I am of the view that it would have a negative impact on the financial market. I think investors will be sceptical; people in the forex market will be wondering to say, 'where will the rate go to?' It could go down further," Hamaundu cautioned in an interview.

"It would not be surprising at the rate we're moving, I think in a few days, we've seen the kwacha lose strength by four of five per cent. It is still something we are keeping our minds open to say, there is a possibility we could see the kwacha sliding even further because when you look at the measures that have been put in place over a period of time, there have been quite a number of interventions using monetary policy just to keep the kwacha in check. And minus those interventions, the rate would have been much worse. So, it is very possible."

He stressed that government must be transparent about why Dr Kalyalya was dropped from his position for market players to clearly know what direction President Edgar Lungu was taking the country.

"What I would appeal for is for the country to be given an insight of what led to his contract being terminated because in the absence of information on why his contract was terminated, people will be left to speculate

as to the reason why he was gotten rid of. And with speculation, it comes with its own negative sentiment. It would not be surprising, as we go into this week, to see the kwacha sliding against major currency convertibles; it would not be surprising to hear people, who ordinarily would want to do business in the country, slowing down. So, it would be opportune for government to avail us with information as to what led to his contract being terminated," said Hamaundu.

"Of course, we are oblivious to the fact that the President has got the authority to hire and fire. But on this one, he owes us an explanation as a people as to why this man (Dr Kalyalya) has been fired. It really is not a good position to be at as a country. So, one would hope that information will be quickly made available. If there's a possibility of taking corrective action, it must be taken because we cannot afford to have further slides in terms of economic performance than where we already are."

This year, the kwacha has oscillated between gains and losses, but has remained on a depreciating trend in view of the absence of US dollar suppliers on the local market, causing what frequently is panic buying of the greenback.

Dr Kalyalya's dismissal comes just 12 months away from a crucial general election, as Zambia's economy continues to grapple with the devastating COVID-19 effects and sluggish growth.

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WHEN we hear politicians claim that they are working tirelessly to return the country back on a path of economic recovery, we feel they are ignoring the most fundamental cause of the downturn. To us, almost all the problems that are facing SMEs can be traced to the high cost of electricity.

Zesco needs to be taken to task so that they can explain to consumers how they are calculating their electricity tariffs. We say this because, nowadays, it's like the Zesco metre just keeps beeping. You load units in the morning, same day in the evening it starts beeping again. This is what SMEs and consumers in the compounds are experiencing.

Now, we wonder how our politicians hope to restore economic growth without addressing the energy crisis that the country is experiencing. In a situation where you are now under recession and you are hitting negative growth, and the electricity tariff is the major contributing factor, you need to first restore affordability to consumers. That's a decision you make if you want to stimulate economic activity. It's common knowledge that economic productivity is

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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# If there is anyone who deserved to be fired, it's the IDC board chairman

dependent on energy. Now, if in this recession, the cost of energy is as high as it is, it goes without saying that it inhibits productivity.

How can you fix the economy without first fixing load shedding? If people only have electricity at around 18:00 hours and when they wake up, load shedding is already in effect, what productivity can you record? That means your economy is shrinking, and even those sectors that are supposed to be stimulating growth like agriculture and the value addition industry cannot operate. If they devise back up plans, there can never be economic growth because the cost of

production also goes up.

We wonder why the President is shying away from this energy crisis issue. He is the chairman of the Industrial development Corporation. He must know that with these tariffs, there is no industrial development that can happen.

In our view, if there is anyone who needs to be fired, it's the IDC board chairman. IDC was not created to buy as many companies as it can lay hands on, it was created to revamp loss-making parastatal companies and turn them into profitable ventures. How many existing

parastatals can IDC claim to have turned into profitable companies since it was established? Zero, as far as we can count.

Under Lungu's IDC, the dying companies have continued on their path towards oblivion. Those that were poor at service delivery like Zesco have become even more pathetic now. People can't afford to buy electricity as they were before IDC took over Zesco. Look at Nitrogen Chemicals! How has IDC improved that plant? What about Times of Zambia? How has IDC helped? The only news you get from State Owned Enterprises, such as Indeni, ZAFFICO,

and others is that of intention to sale. They are selling companies which they were created to revamp and buying loss making ones. Where is the logic?

It should worry all of us as citizens that IDC's impact to the economy is next to zero if not negative. Look at Zambia Airways. How much dollars have they been paying to the foreign CEO who is presiding over an airline that doesn't even have a launch date anymore? Is that a prudent use of scarce resources?

You can't expect the economy to grow with such leadership, with such high cost of doing business

slapped on local entrepreneurs. If you look at other countries who are trying to manage this Covid-19-imposed recession, apart from giving tax incentives to local businesses during this period, they are lowering and subsidising the cost of energy. There is no way you can expect to recover in such an environment where people are not generating income.

Someone in IDC has to think and ask questions why these chain stores are exiting Zambia. It doesn't require an economist to explain. The supermarkets have seen that Zambians have now become too broke that they can't afford to buy products from the malls anymore. So the supermarkets cannot continue maintaining cold rooms at a high cost and importing goods that end up expiring on the shelves. They have to leave.

This is where a sober leadership should move in and start making sound decision for economic recovery. We need brains in government to create a favourable environment for business growth, and this starts with making energy affordable. It's not just about firing people using your mouth to grow the economy.

## Crossword puzzle No 676

1			2		3		4		5
		6							
7	8					9	10		
			11		12				
13					14				
			15	16					
17		18				19		20	
		21							
22						23			

“Great things happen to those who don’t stop believing, trying, learning, and being grateful.”  
- Roy T. Bennett

Across

1. Significant time period  
4. Non-neutral particle  
6. Breakfast order  
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Angeles  
9. Related people  
11. I am, you \_\_\_\_\_  
13. Male deer  
14. Sprouted  
15. Energy unit  
17. Whichever  
19. Pig's home  
21. Worship  
22. Legs, when sitting  
23. Kitchen spray

Down

1. Snake-like fish  
2. Muscle man's six-pack  
3. Left after cut heals  
4. Writing liquid  
5. Woman in religious order  
8. Time after time  
10. Bumbling  
11. Historical period  
12. Scrambled or poached food  
16. Top of a house  
17. Feel poorly  
18. Babble on  
19. Labor Day mo.  
20. Root vegetable

## Crossword puzzle No 675

1	H	Y	2	P	E	3		4	P	A	5	L
	A		6	U		7	U		E			A
8	M	A	R				D	A	R	E	D	
				E		E						E
9	C	A	R	E				10	S	O	O	N
	H					11	I		L			
12	I	D	13	L	E	D			14	D	O	G
	L			A			O		E			A
16	D	E	W				17	L	A	N	E	S



# Readers' Feedback

Editor,

“The idea is to maintain the status quo, the chosen elite will do their utmost to ensure the majority and their children remain in their poverty, how? Poor everything, starting with living conditions, for if you live in a

## ND! Opinion: Why should Zambians entrust their money in the hands of financial perverts?

poor neighbourhood you're bound to go to a poor school, in poor schools you find poor demotivated teachers who churn out poorly trained pupils and students, then with a poor education you're

bound to get a poor paying job which only enables you to only afford staying in a poor neighbourhood. So its a vicious circle.# Malcom X..-who taught you to hate yourself?” - George Mwamba

“In the Bible we heard about the foolish rich man, who told himself that I have worked very hard let me enjoy

now, and we know what God did to him”. - Gilbert Mutafela Nyambe

“They lack wisdom...” - Vincent Mwenya

“Power belongs to the people”. - Simon Chinyama

“The alleged humble one has humbled Zambia”. - Mwenya Kay



### EDITOR'S NOTE:

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

## ‘Wynter’s right, Bowman will soon return to being nothing!’

Editor,

“I agree with comrade Kabimba because he once behaved like BCL”. - Mporokoso Constituency

“For the first time, he has spoken sense”. - Intungulushi Isuma

Being a victim, these words make sense”. - Nomsa Kalenga

“Winter Kabimba is absolutely right soon the MMD die hard cadre will find himself where he came from”. - Mutinta Mulonda

“He will..when fast money stops coming in... you will see”. - Chiko Nathan Mwinga

“He’s never been anything in the first

place...” - Mutale Chanda

“Even this man used to be a boss not until when he was fired,there is nothing certain in politics, the only time politicians become normal is when they are out of power facing reality!” - Aggrey Mayumbelo

“Of Course Wynter would know better. He’s talking from his own personal experience”. - Adrian Idris

“Kabimba is talking out of experience. If I was Lusambo, I would take a back seat like other ministers. Mr Mubukwanu, Mr. Kapita, Mr. Mushanga are all Provincial ministers but work quitely”. - Brian Sichula

## ‘Ramaphosa should know that Mboweni’s right over Kalyalya’s dismissal’

Dear editor,

“Ramaposa your Minister Is Right. He Is Feeling Sorry for The Zambian People. Remember South Africa Is Flooded With People From Outside Because Of Economic Hardship From There Countries Like Zambia. Now The Budden Is Now On South Africa. Otherwise We Have Cipante Pante Pf Leaders In Zambia!” - Chingi Sylvester

“Tito is a Pan Africanist who is interested in the welfare of other fellow citizens of Africa. He was just in order”. - Muwema Kamalwa

“The damage is already done and the message is crystal clear. African Presidents should not be changing central bank governors like their pants!” - Mavu Sakalunda

“long live Mboweni. GOD bless him for speaking for poor Zambians”. - Chanda Pochoko

“Whatever, the message is heard loud and clear”. - Collins Munthali

## ‘Intl. community can’t be diplomatic anymore over Zambian affairs’

Editor,

“Jobs like Bank governor require vast experience and qualification, It’s not child’s play but a serious national business. Simanyengwe!” - Preston Kasempa

“The international community can’t be diplomatic with Zambian authorities anymore. And some people still think everything is okay”. - Kashweka Kash Kashweka

“Even outsiders can see the incompetence of our ECL surely. Please stop looting our economy please Mr Edgar chagwa Lungu. If you see that your days are short don’t think we have the same death day. ‘If you are stupid, it doesn’t mean that us future generation we are also stupid’, Lusambo once said”. - David Cityzen Yoram Nkhoma

“Certain portfolios, you can’t just appoint an unqualified cadre no matter the level of bootlicking, unless you want to run down the economy and completely destroy the limping kwacha!” - Winford Mupaka





*By Ulande Nkomesha*  
ARCHBISHOP Telesphore Mpundu says corruption in the ruling Patriotic Front is endemic and on a large scale.

And Archbishop Mpundu says it is disappointing that citizens are not allowed to freely express their views as most of them are being intimidated for speaking against the lack of good governance in the country.

Speaking on Diamond TV’s “Costa” programme, Sunday, Archbishop Mpundu said everybody was complaining about the high levels of corruption in the government as it could not be hidden anymore.

“Corruption is there, it is a reality and it is so endemic and it is on a large scale. I think the government of the day owes it to

the electorate to be transparent, to be accountable and to be prepared to be held to account. This is not possible, everybody is complaining and this cannot be hidden anymore, it is there. You see, meritocracy is what we wanted to live by when we gained independence from the British, it was under the auspices of the imperial majesty; but things have not been the way we expected. There has been mismanagement, bad governance, lack of constitutionalism, it is all there. So where are we going? Are we there as citizens to remain silent?” Archbishop Mpundu

wondered.

“By the way, there is also what we can call a conspiracy of silence; the government doesn’t want to listen to the truth; they want to listen to only those that are singing praises to them. That is not right, you have to listen to the other side, if they want to know exactly...let them listen to everybody. What is very much evident is this corruption, it is endemic, it is on a large scale.”

He said citizens had the right to demand quality service delivery and transparency of public activities and also had the right to speak about the ills affecting the country without being labeled as championing regime change.

“When the electorates go to the polls, they elect a political party to govern and to rule. Once they do that, they want the government to stamp out corruption, where there are loopholes in terms of procurement to say they should bring it to an end. That is what they are there for, they have to deliver . You see, before the elections, you have political parties going around and they are wooing the electorates to put them into power, so once they have been put into office, it is not just a social contract. When people are elected into government, there is no social contract, it is constitutional. You have been put into government, people expect services and

services that are timely and efficient and there are no two ways about it. If something is happening, it is the government of the day that is responsible. Corruption is there, the number one person that is responsible must put his foot down with a strong hand but we have not seen that,” Archbishop Mpundu said.

“That is exactly what is primitive about Zambia. When you speak about something that is happening in the country, in the administration, in the delivery of services, [then] you are after regime change, no! I don’t even need to belong to a political party to say something that is political. It is wrongly premised on you; ‘don’t talk politics unless you belong to a political party’, no! We have a government that is put in place, all these ills that are going on, it is their mandate, they owe it to the electorate, they owe it to the people to do something about it. If they are not doing something about it, who are we going to blame? We have to blame those whom we have put in charge to serve us, that is that.”

When asked if he had been intimidated for speaking out on the ills happening in government, the Archbishop responded in the affirmative, adding that many citizens were not allowed to express their views without being frightened.

“...even when young

people, want to demonstrate, what happens? Guns are being strained on them. They didn’t go to throw stones, they wanted simply to demonstrate and they were not allowed. We have the Public Order Act, when was it enacted? In 1955 [and] it is still there largely as it was. This is our country, we should be able to allow people to let off their feelings. I have a right given to me by the Constitution; there must be freedom of expression,” Archbishop Mpundu said.

And Bishop Mpundu said the formation of Our Civic Duty Association (OCiDA) was not meant to carry out a partisan agenda but to promote good governance and constitutionalism.

“When I join OCiDA, this is a civil society organization; don’t I have that right because I have a collar? I have a right to belong to any association of my choice and that is what I have done. What OCiDA is about is constitutionalism and good governance, that is all. We are a civil society which is non-partisan. We want the change of heart, whoever goes in State House, whoever holds power chosen by the people must perform well, that is all. If there is no change of heart, us as Zambians can change as many regimes as possible but it will be the same. In short, we are there to ensure that there is good governance. We want to

promote good governance, how? By voicing out! Voicing out what we see as lack of governance and this is our constitutional right to say,” he said.

Archbishop Mpundu said the PF were afraid of their own shadows if they believed that OCiDA was formed to target them.

“If they (PF government) feel that they are being targeted, who am I to target anybody? As it is said time and again, in the political establishment, whether it is in Zambia or Malawi, Zimbabwe everywhere you go, apart from those who say they are in the first world, they have lived democracy for a long time; it is filled with little women and little men who are very much afraid even of their own shadows. Why should we politicise? We are speaking about issues that are affecting people,” said Archbishop Mpundu.

“You cannot take away politics because it is politicians who run for power and we put them in government to look after these issues, to deliver and that is that but if they are feeling that they are being targeted, what happened to Chiluba? It was the same thing, at the time of Mwanawasa, it was the same thing. Anybody who goes there, they get this mandate from the people, and people have the right to expect performance, good governance, constitutionalism, defence of our own Constitution, the rights and liberties must not be interfered with. If government starts frightening us, this is not right.”

## UPND vows to defy ECZ campaign ban in Lukashya, Mwansabombwe

*By Julia Malunga*

UPND elections chairman Gary Nkombo says the party has rejected pronouncements by the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) that there should be no campaigns in the forthcoming Lukashya and Mwansabombwe by-elections.

And Nkombo says the party has adopted Davies Mulenga and Sunday Maluba for the Lukashya and Mwansabombwe by-elections, respectively.

Speaking during a press briefing, Tuesday, Nkombo explained that the party would conduct campaigns while adhering to COVID-19 health regulations.

“The ECZ have been making pronouncements that are undesirable. Judge (Esau) Chulu, time has come for you, sir, to be consistently consistent. At the time we were hit by COVID-19, we went to the ECZ and told them that these elections that PF is sponsoring, we should not have them. ECZ said to us: ‘it is a constitutional mandate that we should have these elections.’ An election is not an event, it is a process. For it to be called an election, it has to qualify because it is a process. People have to associate, people have to sell themselves, the recent pronouncements by the ECZ that there will be no meetings, we reject, as UPND, and also as a lawmaker. We challenge the ECZ to come up with a law that overrides the Bill of Rights, the right to assemble, the right to movement,” Nkombo said.

“We will conduct these elections as business as usual in the new normal where we will assemble people in accordance to the Statutory Instrument for COVID-19 and until they repeal that particular legislation, which they made themselves, we are going to have meetings in Lukashya, in Feira, in Mwansabombwe, in Lufwanyama and everywhere else. We are going to go and campaign, that is the mood we are in. For them to make such draconian, jungle laws where they just sit as ECZ and make unproductive pronouncements that they will be no campaigns is frivolous! We will not allow it! If they insist, we will have no choice, but to continue believing the fact that the ECZ are in collaboration with the PF. And to the police, anyone who takes unlawful instructions commits an offence.”

And Nkombo, who is also Mazabuka Central UPND member of parliament, said the UPND’s decision to adopt a candidate rejected by the PF was not strange.

“Only last week Davies Mulenga, popularly known as ‘Big Mule’ was a contestant in PF. This is not strange. I am sure you all know the member of parliament for Mangango, Honourable Godwin Putu, somebody who attempted to be an MP for UPND for numerous times, either he was not picked and the times he was picked in 2014, I was his campaign manager, together with Jonas Shakafuswa, and we lost. At the critical moment, he made a decision to join PF and he won. Nobody called him an opportunist. He’s an MP for PF, but we know deep inside the full story. He is our candidate for Lukashya and in Mwansabombwe, we have Sunday Maluba,” he said.

Nkombo said Mwansabombwe and Lukashya constituents should be reminded that they would be bribed by the ruling party, but that they should hold firm and show politicians the direction the country ought to go.

“I want to confirm that we have secured candidates in all the 12 local government by-elections and we have finished our processes of adoption of the parliamentary candidates. The people of Lukashya, the people of Mwansabombwe have got an opportunity to show this country the direction. They must be reminded that the PF are going to, as usual, bring mealie meal, stolen cash and we should underline this. They will bring stolen cash for the next three weeks, eat that money. That is our message to you. Luapula ought not to be a poor province with abundant water supply, it should be a shining example of a wealthy region. Why is Luapula in that state? The current leaders of Luapula are the ones with money. How come the people they are looking after are poor? The people of Luapula should remember the state of those leaders before they came into government and realise that it is because of their vote that they have excelled themselves and left everyone behind,” said Nkombo.

*By Julia Malunga*

HEALTH Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya says two facility deaths and 137 new cases of COVID-19 have been recorded in the last 24 hours.

And Ministry of Health Director of Infectious Diseases Professor Lloyd Mulenga says there is an increase in the number of young people succumbing to COVID-19.

Speaking during the daily COVID-19 updates, Tuesday, Dr Chilufya said 32 people were on oxygen support as at yesterday.

“In the last 24 hours, Zambia has recorded 137 new cases of COVID out 651 tests done. Now this brings the number of cases that we have recorded in the country to 11,345. The 137 cases are mainly from Lusaka and mainly from routine hospital screening and individuals identified through surveillance. Two health care workers were also reported to be COVID-19 positive. Currently, we have 60 patients admitted to Levy Mwanawasa Hospital with 32 on oxygen,” Dr Chilufya said.

“Two are critical under Intensive Care Unit and one is on the ventilator. Outside Lusaka, we have 31 patients admitted to our isolation facilities and 15 are on oxygen. Two facility deaths were recorded in the last 24 hours at the Levy Mwanawasa Isolation facility involving a 62-year-old who was hypertensive and

diabetic and a 63-year-old male who also had respiratory failure when they reported to the COVID center. 191 patients have been discharged from our health facilities bringing the total number of discharges to 10,399.”

He emphasized the need for members of the public to maintain social distancing while observing other prescribed guidelines to prevent further spread of Coronavirus.

“Maintaining physical distance is extremely important. What is the essence? Respiratory droplets that are released by this infected person will get to you if you are closer to the person who is infected and you will inhale those respiratory droplets. Therefore, you will reduce the chances of getting infected if you maintain a physical distance. So as we focus on infection prevention and control, physical distancing must be picked as one of the very high impact public health interventions. Frequent hand washing with soap and water is extremely important. It will kill the virus even before you touch your nose, mouth and eyes. Now, washing hands is not just getting into contact with water, it is a skill rule, there is a way you wash hands...We must ensure that we identify which areas the virus would potentially be and therefore, hand washing must be done

correctly and frequently so,” Dr Chilufya said.

And the minister expressed his condolences to a 22-year-old health worker who died on Monday after a short illness.

“As I talk about health workers, allow me to express my sympathies [to the family of the] late Dr Abigail Mulenga, our 22-year-old intern who died last evening. The young lady had suffered from some headaches and had been unwell for more than a week and succumbed yesterday around 18:30. Dr Abigail Mulenga was a highly committed medical practitioner,” said Dr Chilufya. “She worked with the Ministry of Health in the last two months and showed her diligence and duty in a very short period of time. Today, we express deepest sympathies to the family and indeed a dark cloud covers the health sector as we have lost a gallant young fighter. The investigations done so far have not yet confirmed that there was related COVID but so far, what we have picked out are comorbidities and these comorbidities have been investigated thoroughly and noted. May her soul rest in peace.”

Meanwhile, Professor Mulenga said if prevention of COVID-19 was not done, a third of the country would be infected.

“We really need to know that where we are now, we have reached a stage when you

compare to the population density we have as a country, the [17] million people and the number of infections that we have, we also compare to China, the similar population density and the number of cases that they have, we have more cases than China. We really look at the absolute numbers, we don’t look at the percentages of those that are infected relating it to the population, now that is very grave. We have projections that have shown that if we do not do anything, almost a third of the country would be infected. Now if we have a third of the country infected, and translate that to 20 percent of them getting into the facilities, that will be dangerous and we will be overwhelmed. And it will translate almost again to that percentage about, 1-2 percent of them dying. We are talking about thousands of deaths which we cannot afford,” said Prof Mulenga.

“And that will also go into economic disadvantages for the country. We will lose people, we will lose the economic impact which we don’t need to [lose] especially if it starts affecting the reproductive age group. We are seeing deaths in the young age group and if this is not [attended] to, we don’t prevent the infections, we are going to have a ripple effect on the economy, the community and also the health care systems will be overburdened.”

## More young people are succumbing to COVID-19, reveals Dr Mulenga



# Lumwana sign Congolese Ngeleka on 2-year deal

**By Ngosa Chalwe**

IN a bid to strengthen their backline, Super Division side Lumwana Radiants have signed Congolese goalkeeper Alain Ngeleka on a two year deal.

Despite being part of the Nkana team that won the Super Division title this season, the theatrical goal minder was deemed excess baggage last week

when the Kitwe side decided against renewing his six-month contract.

Lumwana, who narrowly survived relegation, have since signed the Congolese who once turned up for Buildcon.

“We are glad to announce the signing of Alain Katembwe Ngeleka on a 2 year deal.

Ngeleka brings a wealth of experience which will help us build on our long term project while meeting our short term objectives,” a statement read on Lumwana’s official Facebook page.

Lumwana survived the chop after finishing 14th with 31 points, three above the first relegation place

# Maguire found guilty of assault bribery charges



HARRY Maguire says he will appeal after he was handed a 21 month and 10 day suspended prison sentence.

The Manchester United captain was found guilty of charges of aggravated assault, resisting arrest, and repeated attempts of bribery after an incident in Greece last week.

The defender, his brother Joe Maguire and their friend Christopher Sharman were all found guilty after a trial in Syros, Greece following an incident which happened in the early hours of Friday morning while Maguire was on holiday on the island of Mykonos with family and friends.

Greek Police claimed the three defendants were involved in an altercation with officers on the island and that bribery was attempted after they were taken to the police station.

It was heard the altercation which led to Maguire and two others being arrested started after an incident with another group, who they believed had injected his sister Daisy with a suspected ‘date rape’ drug.

Maguire pleaded not guilty to all charges and was

represented by his lawyer Alexis Anagnostakis in the hearing on Tuesday as he was not required to be present in person.

His lawyer asked for the sentence to be postponed as the defence had not been given enough time to prepare but despite their requests the trail went ahead.

Following the sentence, Maguire maintains his innocence and is determined to clear his name.

In a statement the England international said: “Following the hearing today, I have instructed my legal team with immediate effect to inform the courts we will be appealing.

“I remain strong and confident regarding our innocence in this matter - if anything myself, family and friends are the victims.”

Manchester United are standing by their captain and in a statement following his sentencing they were critical of the prosecution service who gave Maguire’s team little time to work on a defence.

“Manchester United notes the verdict of the Greek court today. Harry Maguire pleaded not guilty to all of the misdemeanour charges made against him and he continues to strongly assert his innocence,” a club statement read. **GOAL**

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# Giggs satisfied with Bale situation

RYAN Giggs says he is “used to dealing with” Gareth Bale not featuring for Real Madrid after the winger was called up to the latest Wales squad.

Bale has been included despite having asked not to be involved in Madrid’s game at Manchester City earlier this month.

The forward remained in Spain when Zinedine Zidane’s side visited the Etihad Stadium for the second leg of their Champions League last-16 tie on August 7.

Zidane, whose team lost the game and were knocked out by City, claimed Bale had requested to be omitted and the 31-year-old has played just 110 minutes since February.

The likelihood of him taking to the field for Madrid with any regularity next season appears remote –

even though Bale is under contract until 2022 – while the 31-year-old’s wages and hefty transfer price remain stumbling blocks for a move elsewhere.

However, he remains integral to his country’s cause and will be expected to start for Wales when they play Nations League fixtures against Finland and Bulgaria

next month.

“I’ve always said ideally you want the players playing,” Wales boss Giggs told FAWTV. “You want them playing regularly so when they come into camp, they’re in that match rhythm. You don’t always get that and it’s something I’ve become used to and you have to manage it right.

“Gareth played every game in the [Euro 2020] qualifiers but wasn’t playing regularly for his club. I’m used to dealing with that situation.”

Liverpool youngster Neco Williams has been called up to Giggs’ squad for the first time, while there is also a place for Euro 2016 striker Hal Robson-Kanu for the first time in three years. The West Brom forward had previously announced his international retirement but reversed that decision earlier this year. **GOAL**



# Messi tells Barca he wants out

LIONEL Messi has told Barcelona that he wants to leave the club, reports TyC Sports.

The Barca star recently met with new manager Ronald Koeman, but remains unconvinced by the club’s plans for the future.

As a result, Messi has communicated to the club that he wants to leave after 20 years with the club. **GOAL**





# DAKA ...as RB Salzburg draw 2-2 with Liverpool

## BAGS BRACE

By Ngosa Chalwe

AUSTRIA based Chipolopolo striker Paston Daka yesterday showed his class when he bagged a brace in a space of 10 minutes as his club RB Salzburg played to a 2 – all draw against English champions Liverpool.

Liverpool played Salzburg in their final pre-season match ahead of their Community Shield final against FA Cup champions Arsenal at Wembley Stadium on Saturday.

Daka opened the scoring three minutes from kick off before doubling the advantage seven minutes later.

Leading 2 – 0 at half time, Salzburg dropped their guard in the second half, allowing the six-time UEFA Champions League winners to comeback and level matters.

In the second half, English striker Rhian Brewster pulled on back on the 72nd minute before completing a comeback 10 minutes later to ensure the teams share the spoils.

Daka's compatriot Enock Mwepu also started the game.



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