



**By Ulande Nkomesha**  
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# Auditor General reveals more irregularities in Covid-19 funds

# MOF 'CONCEALED' K6.3BN DONATION

## Bill 10 result final - Speaker

**By Zondiwe Mbewe**  
SPEAKER of the National Assembly Dr Patrick Matibini

has ruled that the result for the vote on the Constitution of Zambia (Amendment)

Bill Number 10 cannot be re-visited or revised and shall stand as recorded on the system on Thursday last week.

And Dr Matibini says contrary to Chifubu PF member of parliament Frank Ng'ambi's assertion that his vote was not recorded due to a system failure, he and Mwansabombwe PF member of parliament Kabaso Kampampi's failure to register their vote ...

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## Lungu asks police to be fair during 2021 polls

**By Natasha Sakala**

PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu has asked the police service to be fair in the execution of their duties as the country goes to the polls next year.

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## Govt announces 12hrs load-shedding per day

**By Julia Malunga**  
ENERGY Minister Mathews Nkhuluwa says there will be eight to 12 hours of load shedding for seven days, starting this Sunday, to facilitate the filling of Kafue Gorge lower dam.

Rendering a ministerial statement to Parliament, Thursday, Nkhuluwa said the new dam filling would result in increased load shedding in the first 24 hours as power generation would be considerably reduced.

"Mr Speaker, the construction of the 750

Megawatts Kafue Gorge Lower power station commenced in

2016. This project is valued at US\$ 2.3..."

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# Telesphore is wrong, PF not in the business of fixing people - Chama

**By Julia Malunga**  
DEFENCE Minister Davies Chama says the PF are not in the business of scheming to fix any opposition politician, including UPND leader

Hakaide Hichilema, because he cannot win elections.

On Tuesday, Archbishop Telesphore Mpundu said that the ruling PF was demonising the opposition and

slapping them up with trumped up criminal charges so that they fail to stand at next year's general election.

He predicted that after targeting NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili, who

was jailed last month, the next target would be Hichilema.

But in an interview, Chama dismissed Archbishop Mpundu's accusations as...

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**By Zondiwe Mbewe**  
SPEAKER of the National Assembly Dr Patrick Matibini has ruled that the result for the vote on the Constitution of Zambia (Amendment) Bill Number 10 cannot be re-visited or revised and shall stand as recorded on the system on Thursday last week.

And Dr Matibini says contrary to Chifubu PF member of parliament Frank Ng'ambi's assertion that his vote was not recorded due to a system failure, he and Mwansabombwe PF member of parliament Kabaso Kampampi's failure to register their vote was because they did not press on the "present" key which would have activated the necessary options to enable them vote.

Meanwhile, Dr Matibini

# Result of Bill 10 vote is final, rules Matibini

has urged members of parliament to acquaint themselves thoroughly with the voting procedure, and promptly alert the Presiding Officer, whenever they experience any challenges with the system.

He was ruling on a point of order raised by Chifubu Ng'ambi on Friday last week on whether the Records for the vote on Bill 10 which took place on October 29, would be amended to reflect that he voted in support of the bill.

Ng'ambi said this is because at the time of voting, there was a system failure which had resulted in him not being registered as being present for the vote.

"On October 29, 2020, the Constitution of Zambia (Amendment) Bill No. 10 of 2019 was presented on the Floor of this House. This Bill was meant to benefit the people of Zambia, as it was progressive. It was also meant to address the many challenges that they have been experiencing. One of the issues that came out yesterday is what we are experiencing today, which is that the

communication system at the National Assembly keeps freezing from time to time. So, at the time of voting yesterday, my console froze and was unable to register my vote," Ng'ambi said in his point of order.

"I supported the Bill and my name was supposed to appear among those who voted for it. However, my name did not appear, and I have publicly declared that it was my intention to support Bill No. 10 of 2019. Since the system failed me by not registering my presence and I am publicly declaring my support for Bill No. 10 of 2019, will the records at the National Assembly be changed so that I become number 106 among those who voted 'yes' yesterday (Thursday)?"

On the same day, the Speaker's office also received letters of complaint from Mwansabombwe PF member of parliament Kabaso Kampampi and Ng'ambi on the same matter.

not even have been able to log into the system, let alone, to press the "PRESENT" and "YES" options, as alleged in his letter of complaint. At any rate, if his console had indeed frozen, as alleged, he should have immediately alerted me, and I would have, in turn, instructed the ICT officers in the Chamber, to assist him forthwith. As a matter of fact an ICT specialist is positioned adjacent to me," he said.

"In the premise, I have come to the conclusion that, on the material day, Dr Ng'ambi, MP, logged into the system as required. He, however, did not select the "present" key, which would have activated the necessary options to enable him vote. Therefore, contrary to his assertion that his vote was not recorded due to a system failure, Dr Ng'ambi's failure to register his vote, was as a result of his own failure to press on "present," and thereby register his intention to vote. And, subsequently, proceed to vote. It is self-evident that the same narrative relating to Dr Ngambi, applies to Mr K Kabaso, MP"

Dr Matibini said the result for the vote on Bill 10 could not be re-visited or revised and shall stand, as recorded on the system.

"In view of the foregoing, the result for the vote on the Constitution of Zambia (Amendment) Bill cannot be re-visited or revised. And shall stand, as recorded on the system, as declared by me, on Thursday, 29 th October, 2020. Finally, I would like to seize this opportunity to urge Hon Members to acquaint themselves thoroughly, with the voting procedure, and promptly alert the Presiding Officer, whenever they experience any challenge(s) with the system," said Dr Matibini.



Lands Minister Jean Kapata poses for a photo with Zambia Nurses and Midwives Multi-purpose Cooperation Society Limited during the organisation's launch at Government Complex in Lusaka yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

## Nkhuwa announces week-long 8-12 hour load shedding

**By Julia Malunga**  
ENERGY Minister Mathews Nkhuwa says there will be eight to 12 hours of load shedding for seven days, starting this Sunday, to facilitate the filling of Kafue Gorge lower dam.

Rendering a ministerial statement to Parliament, Thursday, Nkhuwa said the new dam filling would result in increased load shedding in the first 24 hours as power generation would be considerably reduced.

"Mr Speaker, the construction of the 750 Megawatts Kafue Gorge Lower power station commenced in 2016. This project is valued at US\$ 2.3 billion. The project is located in Chinkankata district of Southern Province and is currently at 93 per cent. The project has advanced and the initial phase of power generation will commence soon. Commissioning of the first phase entails filling of the dam with water, known as the impoundment process, which is planned to start on Sunday, November 8, 2020. The process is expected to last

a week. Kafue Gorge Lower lies on the downstream of the existing Kafue Gorge Upper power station with an installed capacity of 990 megawatts," Nkhuwa said.

"With the planned commissioning of the Kafue Gorge Lower, Zesco Limited will have to restrict generation upstream at the Kafue Gorge Upper power station by closing the diversion tunnel gates at Kafue Gorge Lower dam thereby reducing water dispensing from Kafue Gorge Upper. As a result of this reduced power generation, this activity of the new dam filling will result in increased load shedding [in the] first 24 hours as power generation will be considerably reduced. During the subsequent six days, reduced generation at Kafue Generation Upper power station will be maintained at a level to control the rate of filling up of the new dam. The nationwide load management programme will maintain level three of the weather induced power deficit of 2019 which translates into 8 to 12 hours of load shedding."

He said once the dam was successfully filled up, the first two generator units would be commissioned.

"Once the dam is successfully filled up, the first two generator units, each with a 150 megawatts capacity will then be commissioned. It is expected that the first unit will be commissioned at the end of November 2020 while the second unit is expected to be commissioned at the end of December. The last three of the five generators are expected to be commissioned in 2021 bringing the total of 250 megawatts online," he said.

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## Kalimanshi, 2 others deny assault charges

**By Zondiwe Mbewe**  
PF supporter Innocent Kalimanshi and two others have appeared before the Lusaka Magistrates' Court and denied assault charges against them.

Kalimanshi and the others were arrested in connection with a fracas that allegedly happened in Chawama constituency on October 27, this year, between two groups of Patriotic Front youths.

Kalimanshi, aged 34, Nathan Phiri, 43, and Capson Mwanza, 46, all businessmen, are now charged with three counts of assault occasioning actual bodily harm.

In count one, it is alleged that on October 26, this year, the three assaulted

Isaac Banda and occasioned him actual bodily harm.

In count two, Kalimanshi, Phiri and Mwanza are alleged to have on the same date assaulted Muhammed Mutale and occasioned him actual bodily harm.

In the last count, it is alleged that on the same date, the three assaulted Kingsley Nyondo and occasioned him actual bodily harm.

Kalimanshi, Phiri and Mwanza appeared before Lusaka Magistrate Nthandose Chabala yesterday where they took pleas of not guilty.

After Magistrate Chabala recorded pleas of not guilty, defence lawyer Agrippa Malando applied for bail, pending trial, saying the offence the three were charged

with was bailable.

He added that the accused persons were all of fixed abode and would adhere to the conditions the Court may set.

In response, State prosecutor Sipholiano Phiri said the State had no objection to the application for bail.

He, however, asked the Court to put in place stringent measures, which make the accused persons to appear before court whenever they were required.

In her ruling, Magistrate Chabala granted the accused persons bail in the sum of K10,000 cash each.

She further ordered them to provide two sureties each from reputable institutions, who would be bound in the like sum.



# MoH didn't explain where donations from Jack Ma Foundation were distributed - AG

*By Ulande Nkomesha*  
THE Interim Audit Report on the utilisation of COVID-19 resources for the period 1st February to 31st July, 2020, has revealed that the Ministry of Finance failed to indicate the actual funds it received from cooperating partners amounting to K6.3 billion.  
And the Report revealed that there was also no evidence of reconciliation of the donations given to the Ministry of Health by the Jack Ma Foundation.

The Report indicated that cooperating partners, like the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United States government, among others, committed nearly K6.4 billion collectively, which had not been disclosed by the Ministry of Finance.  
“As at 31st July, 2020, Zambia had received pledges and commitments from both local and international (bilateral and multilateral) cooperating partners in amounts totaling

K6,399,286,226: African Development Bank US \$67.5 million, equivalent to K215,000,000; World Bank US \$79.9 million equivalent to K1,438,200,000; European Union, EUR89.3 million equivalent to K1,747,800,000; Global Fund US \$6.7 million equivalent to K120,600,000; Germany, EUR18.5 million equivalent to K362,086,226; United States of America, US \$14.5 million equivalent to K261,000,000; United Kingdom (DfD), GBP46.4

million equivalent to K1,031,400,000; Sweden, US \$12.4 million equivalent to K223,200,000; total US \$355,515,901.00 equivalent to K6,399,286,226,” the Report narrated.  
“However, the Ministry of Finance had not indicated the actual funds received from the cooperating partners listed above as at 31st July, 2020. A review of press releases by the Ministry of Finance done in June, 2020, revealed that there were pledges and donations in

the form of cash in amounts totalling K12,922,755, Aid-In-Kind valued at K74,383,526 and US \$111,600 and other assorted items not valued.”  
And the Report revealed that there was no reconciliation between the Ministry of Health and cooperating partners in the donations that were given to help in the fight against COVID-19.  
The Report stated that there was also no evidence of reconciliation of the donations given to the Ministry of Health by Jack Ma Foundation.

reconciliation between the pledges in the documentation and the items received had since been undertaken and documentation was available for verification. However, the audit verification conducted on 14th August, 2020, revealed that the reconciliation had not been done.”  
The Report further revealed that there were equally no reconciliations on the donations made by Trade Kings.  
“On 9th April, 2020, Trade Kings Group wrote to the Ministry of Health requesting to make a pledge towards the fight against the COVID-19 as part of its corporate social responsibility. The company made a pledge of K28 million through the Trade Kings Foundation. However, it was observed that there were no reconciliations by the Ministry of Health on the items that had been pledged, received and distributed. Further, there were no measures put in place to verify the cost of the pledges made by Trade Kings Foundations as at 31st July, 2020. In response, the controlling officer, Ministry of Health, stated that the donations from Trade Kings were in various forms and for various beneficiaries and that management would only account for what the Ministry directly received,” read the Report.

## Blame PF for mismanaged COVID-19 funds, not controlling officers - Kakoma

*By Ulande Nkomesha*  
UPND spokesperson Charles Kakoma says Secretary to Cabinet Dr Simon Miti and government are hiding behind controlling officers on the mismanagement of COVID-19 donations because they are the main perpetrators of the abuse of funds.  
In an interview, Kakoma said the PF government was hiding behind controlling officers because it was a known fact that COVID-19 donations were highly politicised by the ruling party.  
“I think the Secretary to Cabinet and government are just hiding behind controlling officers. You know that this whole COVID-19 issue, including the funding and resource mobilisation, has been politicised. It is the politicians that have been directing resources. We saw politicians distributing COVID-19 materials, they gave themselves COVID-19 materials to start distributing. The question is: how did they access those COVID-19 materials? They are not civil servants, but we saw them distributing those materials. We have also been seeing the Minister of Health (Dr Chitalu Chilufya) who was personally receiving donations from stakeholders, people who

were concerned were going to the Ministry of Health headquarters to donate and he was personally receiving! So, how were they accounting for those donations?” Kakoma asked.  
He wondered why Dr Miti only listed controlling officers and left out the Health Minister on the mismanagement of COVID-19 funds.  
“We cannot just blame controlling officers, the whole thing reaches up to the politicians, including the highest level at the Ministry, the Minister himself. So, how is it that people below the

Minister can be cited and the Minister himself is clean? That deserves an explanation. In fact, in other countries, when things go wrong in the Ministry, the first person to resign is the Minister himself, voluntarily resigning because things have backfired. But in Zambia, it doesn't happen that way, they even fight to remain in the positions. Unfortunately, the appointing authority, the President, is also playing a blind eye to that,” Kakoma said.  
“The other civil servants, those in law enforcement agencies, I think have given

up on this fight against corruption. How many times are they going to investigate the Minister of Health and nothing happens? They investigated him, took him to court and the results are that the courts acquitted him. Obviously, many people are still questioning how he was acquitted. Do you think the same civil servants will still go and investigate him and take him to court? They think that they will just be burning their fingers, they will end up even losing their jobs instead of the person they are investigating...”  
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## Kamfinsa MP also blames technical fault for skipping Bill 10 vote

*By Ulande Nkomesha*  
KAMFINSA PF member of parliament Elalio Musonda says he is yet to receive a letter from PF Secretary General Davies Mwila asking him to explain to the party secretariat why he did not vote for Constitution Amendment Bill number 10.  
In an interview, however,

Musonda said he had also faced a technical difficulty.  
On Wednesday, Mwila wrote to Musonda, Mwansabombwe MP Kabaso Kampampi and Ng'ambi to explain to the party why they did not vote for bill 10.  
“I have not received a letter yet, none of the three of us have. For now I don't have

much to say but I will be going to fetch the letter, I have only seen it on social media, I have not received it physically. So I want to have it because it has not been served yet. When I have it that is when I can say something. Suffice to say you know what transpired,” Musonda said.  
When asked if his situation

was similar to Chifubu member of parliament Frank Ng'ambi who complained in a point of order that he had voted but a technical fault showed that he did not vote, Musonda said the situation was similar.  
“Yes it was the same situation with Honourable Frank Ngambi, and I just sit three or four people in between,” said Musonda.  
And Mwansabombwe PF MP Kabaso Kampampi said he would issue a statement at the appropriate time.  
“Before you even go further, I know what you want, I guess the secretariat will pass their statement at an appropriate time and Parliament will also pass a statement. So for now, I have nothing to tell you. I will only issue my statement at an appropriate time for now it is not the right time,” said Kampampi.

Parliament belong to families, for example the PF and the UPND and so on. So other than what we do in Parliament, we sit in Parliament on behalf of the party, so if the party expects us to do certain things and we don't do them, the party has the right to find out why certain situations happened. So there is nothing wrong with the letters because the letters are not expelling them from the party, they are just trying to officially get correspondence from them as what transpired,” said Ngulube.  
“Parliamentary privileges relate to Parliamentary duties. There is nothing in those letters that is stopping those MPs from enjoying any rights. The UPND is so inconsistent. Remember they were celebrating that three PF MPs voted with them and then on the other side they want to cry that their rights, so they don't know what they want. They are actually the ones who caused that because Hakainde was saying he's got three PF MPs, so it is important for the SG to find out if it is true Hakainde is the one who incited them not to vote.”

## Nkhuwa announces week-long 8-12 hour load shedding

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And Nkhuwa said the flash fire that ignited at the Kafue Gorge Lower site claimed two lives.  
“Allow me to state that on Friday 23rd October, 2020, a flash fire ignited at the Kafue Gorge Lower project site. The flash fire accident occurred in the afternoon when three workers were assigned to cut some protruding steel bars on the dam concrete. As the workers were cutting the steel bar, hot slug from the cutting torch fell onto a safety nylon that was attached to the motorized elevated working platform and a portion of the burning rope fell to

the foot of the dam onto a pile of remnant sealant coating that had been applied to the dam walls thus igniting a fire. On a sad note, two of the workers sustained severe burns from this incident. May their souls of our dearly departed rest in peace. Despite the accident, construction works did not stall thus the planned commissioning of the initial phase is still on course,” Nkhuwa said  
Asked by Zambezi East member of parliament Brian Kambita, who wanted to know the estimated pay back period of the money used for the construction of the project and the interest earned,

Nkhuwa said the payment period was over 25 years.  
“The project is to run and the payment is over 25 years. I don't have those statistics [on interest]. I could inform the House at an appropriate time,” he responded.  
And when asked by Mumbwa member of parliament Credo Nanjuwa if the load shedding would be countrywide, Nkhuwa responded in the affirmative.  
“The load shedding is going to be countrywide. Everybody will be affected including the mining companies who have already been informed about this process,” said Nkhuwa.





# K452m wasn't distributed to Social Cash Transfer beneficiaries, reveals AG

**By Natasha Sakala**  
THE Auditor General has revealed that over K450 million was not distributed to Social Cash Transfer beneficiaries leaving a coverage of 16.6 per cent of entitlement.  
According to the Report of the Auditor General on the accounts of the financial

year ending December, 2019, 632,327 programme beneficiaries were only paid amounts totalling K90,462,009 out of an expected amount of K542,772,052, leaving a balance of around K452 million that was not distributed to beneficiaries.  
“In the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure

for the financial year ended 31st December, 2019, a provision of K699,494,400 was made to cater for the implementation of Social Cash Transfer programmes against which amounts totalling K105,779,645 were released resulting in an under-funding of K593,714,755. The Administration of the Social

Cash Transfer Programme provides that 90 per cent of the funded amount should be spent on the programme beneficiaries, while 10 per cent should be spent on the administration. In this regard, K95,201,681 (90 per cent) was to be spent on programme beneficiaries, while K10,577,964 (10 per cent) was to be spent on administrative activities,” the report read.  
“During the period under review, an amount of K3,939,902 was brought forward from 2018, in respect of administrative funds, bringing the total available funds for administration to K14,517,866. As at 31st December, 2019, amounts totalling K90,462,009 had been spent on the programme beneficiaries resulting in under-expenditure of

K4,739,672, while K16,672,829 was spent on administrative activities resulting in over-expenditure of K2,100,963. During the period under review, the Ministry had a total of 632,327 Social Cash Transfer beneficiaries located countrywide, who should have been paid amounts totalling K542,772,052. According to the programme, the beneficiaries were entitled to social cash payments every two months to assist in poverty alleviation. However, the 632,327 programme beneficiaries were only paid amounts totalling K90,462,009 out of an expected amount of K542,772,052, representing 16.67 per cent of entitlement.”  
The report further revealed that the Ministry of Community Development failed to pay back K195,248

that was borrowed from the recovery account for input distribution.  
“During 2019/2020 farming season, the Ministry disbursed FSP inputs to seven districts for various beneficiaries without disbursing funds to facilitate the distribution of the inputs. In this regard, the District Community Offices borrowed amounts totalling K195,248 from the recovery account for distribution of the inputs. The funds in the recovery account were meant for empowering vulnerable households to enable them achieve food security, which included purchasing of hammer mills and tractors. However, as at 31st August, 2020, the Ministry had not reimbursed the recovery account,” read the report.

## Lungu asks police to be fair during 2021 polls

**By Natasha Sakala**  
PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu has asked the police service to be fair in the execution of their duties as the country goes to the polls next year.  
Speaking when he toured the newly constructed Kanyama police station and police camp, President Lungu said he would continue to support the police with necessary equipment which they needed to maintain law and order, no matter what his opposers said.  
“I am yet to find a police force or a police service elsewhere, anywhere in the world where they go to plead with rioters to say ‘please ta papata (we beg you), please’. Policemen are supposed to be equipped...so they are entitled to a conducive environment where they work, in order to make their job easier and to apply the necessary force to bring the disorderly conduct to an end. And I will continue supporting them, no matter

what they will say, those guys who are always talking against me, they have never said anything good about me since I became President, so I have decided not to listen to them, occasionally when they coincide with patriotism, I will listen to them,” he said.  
“So I will support the police and as we go into this period of contestation for political power, the police should be encouraged to be fair, to allow us exercise our democratic rights and freedoms to choose our leaders but not with impunity to hinder others from exercising their rights and freedoms. So this is what is typical of the political players, they want to bring chaos so bakapokola, mwabombeni (policemen, you’re doing a good job).”  
President Lungu wondered why people were quick to vandalise police infrastructure when officers were there to protect their lives and property.

He said this when he inspected a house which was vandalised during gassing-related riots which erupted in the area earlier this year.  
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## Blame PF for mismanaged COVID-19 funds, not controlling officers - Kakoma

*From page 3*

“...The buck stops at the politicians.”  
He further cautioned that the PF would continue abusing COVID-19 funds, adding that the K1.3 billion, which was mismanaged and cited in the Interim Audit Report, was just a tip of the iceberg.  
“They will continue to take advantage of these funds; we saw in the recent past, the PF donating COVID funds. Up to now, its source is still unknown, K1,600 to each person. It was traced to or widely believed to be COVID funds, whether it was an international donor or the UN, so on. Indeed, if it was the UN donating,

they will be concerned how that money, which was meant to be used to help in the COVID fight, was being politicised. It was used for campaigns. It is only politicians that campaign; you don’t expect civil servants, controlling officers, whom they are now blaming to be the ones responsible for those campaigns,” said Kakoma.  
“DMMU was receiving donations and we don’t know how they were accounting for those donations. The first one month or two months, we saw the Office of the Vice-President making a stable attempt to publish the donations, after that, it was quiet. So, what has happened? Are they

trying to hide other donations that are coming in? No one knows how much is being donated now. When people just receive those donations and there is no one recording them in the government books that they have received these things, they are taking them to their homes for personal use or for campaigns. They have failed to pay tailors of children face masks, but the money was there. So, probably, even what the Auditor General has revealed is nothing, it is a tip of the iceberg because that Auditor General’s Report is old; it doesn’t capture the recent happenings, so the figure is even higher.”



*By Natasha Sakala*  
FORMER Special Assistant to the President for Policy and Project Implementation Jack Kalala has charged that giving aid or debt relief to Zambia will be like pouring water



# Zambia needs regime change more than debt relief – Kalala

in a bottomless container as what the country needs now is regime change.  
In response to Oxfam who recently called for debt relief to help the country deal with the COVID-19 pandemic and revive the stressed economy, Kalala said the challenge that the country was currently facing was a leadership crisis and not the need for debt relief.  
“The underlying problem in Zambia is not COVID-19 whose existence in Zambia is questionable; not even the debt burden is the main problem in Zambia. The fundamental and critical problem in Zambia is the inept, ignorant, corrupt and ineffective leadership. In the current situation, even if five trillion dollars were

pumped into Zambia without addressing the inherent problem of an ineffective and corrupt leadership, the situation would not change. It would even worsen. Giving debt relief or any aid to the PF regime to help the country would be like putting water in a bottomless container in the hope of filling it up. The water would continue to flow out without filling up the container. To get out of its wretched socio-economic situation, Zambia needs to deal with the deep-rooted crisis of poor leadership.

What Zambia urgently needs is not aid or debt relief but regime change. The bad and mediocre PF leadership needs to be removed and replaced with a leadership of credible, competent and knowledgeable people,” Kalala stated.  
“This is the first step that needs to be undertaken in addressing the socio-economic problems that Zambia is currently facing. Otherwise nothing meaningful would be achieved and the situation will continue worsening. In the case that debt relief is accorded to Zambia as Oxfam is suggesting, the financial resources that will accrue will just end up in the private hands of PF leaders and their surrogates as it happened with the borrowed money. Apart from stealing the money, they abused it on unnecessary by-elections, aimless presidential trips abroad and criminal activities such as gassing and sponsoring political brutality against political opponents and innocent citizens. Creditors will not be rendering help to Zambia by giving debt relief to this corrupt and wasteful regime. It would be like putting acid on a festering wound.”  
He added that what the country needed were credible

elections next year, failure to which, the PF regime should be made to face sanctions.  
“To help Zambia, donors and creditors should insist on the holding of transparent, fair and credible elections next year. They should also prevail on the PF regime to create a conducive political environment for democracy to thrive and for the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) to work professionally, failure to which, they should be made to face sanctions. Free and fair elections will accord Zambians an opportunity to elect credible and able leaders,” Kalala stated.  
He wondered why Zambia was still poor when it was richer than countries such as Japan, Britain, France, among others, when it came to natural resources.  
“To help people, it is better at times to be unkind in order to be kind. Zambians should also be made to understand that they owe it to themselves to put in positions credible, responsible and capable people of integrity to serve the nation. Zambia is not a poor country to continue relying on aid. In terms of resources, Zambia is richer than Japan, Britain, France, Italy, Singapore and Israel. These countries are more developed and richer than Zambia, which has abundant resources. Zambia has the potential capacity to be one of the richest countries on the planet. It is a country of honey, milk and gold but extremely poor and hungry due to lack of effective leadership. This is absurd,” Kalala stated.

## Court convicts Lsk man who joined in beating suspected gasser for manslaughter

*By Zondiwe Mbewe*  
A MAN of Matero township has been convicted by the Lusaka High Court for causing the death of a suspected gasser earlier this year after he joined a crowd in beating the deceased.  
Christopher Sheleni, 25, was convicted by Lusaka High Court judge Mwila Kombe yesterday after he pleaded guilty to the charge of manslaughter.  
Sheleni was in this matter alleged to have caused the death of Emmanuel Maibwe.  
When the matter came up yesterday before Justice Kombe, Sheleni pleaded guilty.  
Facts in this matter are that on February 16, this year, Sheleni was at his house in Matero Township of Lusaka when he heard a crowd of people making noise outside.  
Sheleni heard the crowd chanting that they had caught a person that was administering toxic substances in residential areas commonly called a gasser.  
Sheleni went out of his house and found a mob had gathered near Hillside ground

and had surrounded Maibwe, the deceased.  
Persons in the crowd began beating the deceased with kicks and fists and he joined the lynching.  
Around the same time, the police at Matero Police Station were alerted and arrived at the scene.  
They fired warning shots in the air to disperse the crowd and apprehended Sheleni as he was fleeing the scene.  
The deceased was rushed to Matero Level One hospital where he passed on as the results of the beatings.  
After the facts were read to him, the accused admitted that they were true and correct.  
Judge Kombe then convicted him.  
In mitigation by his lawyer from legal aid Wina Vukovic, the convict said he was a first offender who had pleaded guilty to the offence, thereby not wasted the Court’s time and the State’s resources.  
Sheleni said during the period he had been in incarceration, he has had ample time to reflect on his actions which contributed to a

loss of his life.  
He added that this fact will haunt him for the rest of his life.  
Sheleni said he had a five year old girl whom he helps to support and also lived with his elderly grandmother and auntie.  
“The convict is fairly young in age and still able to meaningfully contribute to the community. He is a father to

a little girl aged five whom he helps to support. The convict is deeply remorseful of his action of joining in a mob that led to a loss of life. We therefore beg for the Court’s mercy and leniency to the convict who is deeply remorseful and regretful of the actions that took place on that fateful day,” the lawyer said.  
Judge Kombe adjourned the matter to November 9, this year for sentencing.

## HH still my friend despite me voting for Bill 10 – Senanga MP

*By Julia Malunga*  
SENANGA UPND member of parliament Mukumbuta Mulowa says Hakainde Hichilema cannot chase him from the party for voting for the Constitution Amendment Bill Number 10 of 2019 which fell off last week.  
In an interview, Mulowa said he was still a member of the opposition party and that he was going to recontest his seat next year.

“UPND is my party and I am standing on the UNPD ticket. Hakainde is still my friend despite me voting for Bill 10. He is my close friend and there is no way he can chase me because of Bill 10. Tell Hakainde, he is still my friend and president. I wish to work with him in the future very well. In the party there are different people, there are those who are reasonable and those who are not reasonable. Reasonable people like Hakainde cannot bring a grudge against me,” Mulowa said.  
He said it was unfortunate that Bill 10 fell off because there were some progressive clauses in it.  
“It is unfortunate because I don’t think that delimitation will take place. For us to have delimitation of these constituencies, there is supposed to be a form of constitution amendment and that was an opportunity which was given to us through Bill 10. I know there are some arguments that the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) can still move a motion so that there can be delimitation, I agree with that but whatever constitution amendment which takes place, it will need about two thirds. Now do you think our friends in the PF will agree this time? Some of us with wide constituencies will suffer because they are quite big to be developed. I think we have lost out,” Mulowa said.  
He said Bill 10 also

provided an opportunity for MPs to go back to the councils.  
“Remember in 2016, the constitution amendment number 2 of 2016 removed MPs from the councils, hoping that there could be provincial assessments which never happened. So now the failure of Bill 10 means that MPs will not go back to the councils. There are a lot of things which are happening in the councils, things like equalization funds being misused. One of the functions of the MP is to provide an oversight role which is not there. So that means the fight between the mayors, council chairperson and MPs will continue at the expense of the Zambians who voted for these people,” said Mulowa, who also refuted claims that he was bribed by the ruling Patriotic Front to vote for the bill.  
“There is also an issue of chiefs. Today, the paramount chiefs, like the Barotse Royal Establishment, anyone can declare himself chief, so this bill wanted to save these chiefs from such embarrassment that anyone can declare himself chief anywhere. The people of Zambia are going to lose out on this. The women, the youths, the church will all lose out. We are not saying that we can make a perfect law, the only perfect law is the law of God. Look at the money that was spent on the roadmap for Bill 10! So now we are back to square one.”

He further advised Oxfam to advocate for a vibrant civic movement as opposed to justifying its relevance by speaking for the government.  
“Instead of speaking out for a rotten and corrupt regime, Oxfam should be advocating for a vibrant civic movement in Zambia that would government accountable and educate the general citizenry on their civic duties and responsibilities. Donors should not channel their aid to vulnerable people through government institutions but through NGOs and the Church who should in turn distribute the same to the needy. The responsibility of Government should be to develop the country and create opportunity to end poverty in the nation, not to be a conveyor belt of distribution of aid to its people from other governments,” stated Kalala.  
“The Oxfam’s claim that Zambia urgently needs debt relief to help the country deal with the COVID-19 pandemic and revive the stressed economy is fallacious and lacks merit. To any critical minded person, it is perceivable that Oxfam has made the claim to justify its existence and relevance in Zambia and for purposes of sourcing additional funds for its operations. Oxfam is not an advocate for the Government of the Republic of Zambia.”

## Jay Jay, his co-accused deny assaulting a police officer

*By Zondiwe Mbewe*  
SUSPENDED Eastern Province PF youth chairperson Emmanuel Banda, commonly known as Jay Jay ,and four others, have denied assaulting a police officer at Lusaka Central Police Station.  
The five pleaded not guilty to the charge of aggravated assault before Lusaka High Court Judge Wilfred Muma Thursday morning.  
In this matter, Banda, 35, a businessman of Petauke, Eastern Province, is jointly charged with John Lungu, 26, a general worker of Garden House, Lusaka; Maxwell Pito, 20, a peasant farmer of Lusaka West; Moses Silyonde, 27, unemployed of Kanyama and Lyford Phiri, 21, unemployed, of unknown residential address.  
It is alleged that on July 6, 2020 in Lusaka, the five jointly and whilst acting together with others unknown and with intent to steal, assaulted Allan Mbahwe, a police officer.  
When the matter came up for plea yesterday before Judge Muma, Banda and the

others said they understood the charge after it was read to them.  
They then took pleas of not guilty.  
After the court entered pleas of not guilty in respect of all accused persons, the State applied that the matter be adjourned to November 11, 2020, which application was granted.  
The matter comes up on November 11, this year in the afternoon.  
On October 21, the Lusaka Magistrates’ Court committed Banda and the others to the High Court for trial.  
Banda and the others had earlier appeared before the Lusaka Magistrates’ Court and were committed to the High Court for trial where they pleaded not guilty to the same charge of aggravated assault with intent to steal.  
But on October 12, this year, when the matter was scheduled for commencement of trial in the Lusaka High Court, the State entered a nolle prosequi in favour of the five.  
But Banda and the others were rearrested shortly after the case was discontinued.





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Why we deserve your vote



COMING TO AMERICA!

By Andyford Mayele Banda

COMING to America is a 1988 American romantic comedy film directed by John Landis and based on a story originally created by Eddie Murphy, who also starred in the lead role. Eddie Murphy plays Akeem Joffer, the crown prince of the fictional African nation of Zamunda, who travels to the United States in the hopes of finding a woman he can marry. However, this article is not talking about the movie Coming to America, we want to pick a few lessons from the elections that just passed in the United States of America.

At the time of writing this article there was no clear winner in the United States of America Presidential elections but Former Vice President and Democratic Party Candidate Joseph R. Biden was leading with 253 electoral college votes and incumbent President Donald Trump was trailing with 213 with a few states to call. While some critics have lately labeled American Democracy overrated, we still have a few points that we as PAC we would like to take home with. America is the largest economy and has so much influence on the affairs of the world undoubtedly everyone is interested in who is the next President of that country. Here are the four take-aways from our side:

Despite some chaos especially with the announcement by the sitting President Donald Trump commanding the stopping of the vote accounting due to his alleged irregularities, American institutions have demonstrated resilience. No secretary of state in all the states where vote counting is still ongoing has bowed down to that demand from the President. Only the supreme court can make that demand and that can only happen after all votes have been counted and completed. This is a tremendous example of how strong institutions work despite having leaders who maybe lunatics and want things their way including elections.

Imagine this is in most African countries including Zambia, the word of the President is final due to weak institutions. If he gives command in that regard, vote counting would definitely stop. Hence, we are still elated at the fall of bill 10 which was supposed to weaken our constitutions and institutions. Any sane leader must work towards not only improving the lives of the people as they take office but ensure that any lapses and loopholes in the constitutions and intuitions

are mended. This improves democracy which ensures and gives the people an opportunity to select people of their choice. As PAC we commit to improve institutions to avert any possible chaos in the future. Yes, indeed if American institutions were so weak, today we would have seen chaotic scenes in that country like never before.

Another take away from the American elections is how somehow the media has so much respect for elections. There is no doubt American media is highly divided, polarized and biased between conservatives and liberals but we were impressed with Fox News and other media outlets who have demonstrated independence. The Trump campaign had expected to win the state of Arizona and one of the first calls came from news network that is aligned to them and that is Fox News. Though other news outlets such as the New York Times and CNN are yet to call that state, President Trump and his campaign were not pleased to learn that Fox News had projected Democratic Presidential candidate Joe Biden would win the state and requested the network to retract that news item which they never did.

Also, the media has shown tremendous professionalism in the analysis of elections and ensure that voters have adequate information during this process. This also can be attributed to some transparency in the conduct of the elections. This is contrary to what happens in most African country including Zambia. To start with while we know that media outlets should sponsor some journalists especially as we go towards the elections to be trained on election reporting, we also believe that the government, the electoral commission of Zambia must invest hugely in the media in that area. Elections are critical to any country and we see how people become so anxious to see their candidates emerge victorious because it's a thin between hope and hopeless. Hence, we believe that every institution from Electoral Commission of Zambia, the government and media houses must invest in ensuring that our journalists are trained in election matters.

Another take is election management. This may well fall under the institutions, but this should be directed to one key institution which is the ECZ. Transparency in election management is critical. The idea of having the ruling party meddling with the operations of the electoral body must come to end. Despite the four years of Donald Trump,

Americans have demonstrated the will to defend their democratic institutions during these elections, no doubt. This is the kind of electoral management that we need to develop in our country. Whether ruling or opposition we should be able to trust the Electoral Commission of Zambia. This is what those who are elected to office must work towards. If you have a group of people who try compromise our democracy, then they don't deserve to be in government. As PAC we shall ensure that we strengthen the electoral commission of Zambia so that it represents the will of the people.

Last but not the least is on the superior strategy that was used by the Democratic party. Well this is for us and anyone who is serious about taking over government, strategy is everything otherwise you will never achieve your target. We have said this before and we shall say it again, winning elections is about strategies. Clearly whether in America or any country the institutions that manages elections will not be 100% perfect but it's important that imperfections are taken care and strategies are built on how to deal with them.

The coronavirus pandemic caused concerns in the US that traditional, in-person voting could spread COVID 19, and so some states and a lot of them changed their voting rules to make it easier for eligible people to vote by mail. This is where the Democrats took advantage and ensured that majority of their voters had voted by election day. This strategy helped them flip states that voted Donald Trump in the previous elections and have helped Joe Biden to be in the lead. To win elections you need strategies and don't things because everyone is doing them. As PAC we are on course with our strategies and we shall surprise many in the coming 2021 elections.

There has been a lot of mixed feelings of the Trump Presidency and surely America has a lot of work to do in a lot of areas especially the polarised house of representatives and the senate, racial inequality, the criminal justice system and other areas but the above takeaways are some things that we can learn to protect our democracy. PAC will surely be the game changer in African governance once we take power in 2021.

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



*By Julia Malunga*  
DEFENCE Minister Davies Chama says the PF are not in the business of scheming to fix any opposition politician, including UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema, because he cannot win elections.

On Tuesday, Archbishop Telesphore Mpundu said that the ruling PF was demonising the opposition and slapping them up with trumped up criminal charges so that they fail to stand at next year's general election.

He predicted that after targeting NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili, who was jailed last month, the next target would be Hichilema.

But in an interview, Chama dismissed Archbishop Mpundu's accusations as irrelevant, saying the opposition were not a factor ahead of the 2021 general election because they could not win elections.



# Telesphore is wrong, PF not in the business of fixing people – Chama

“Was it PF that took Chishimba Kambwili to court? You have been following these matters. If I am taken to court and jailed, can I accuse the UPND? Is that being fair? We are not in the business of fixing people. PF is not in the picture...(Chilufya) Tayali is an opposition leader, he took his fellow opposition leader to court and the court made a judgement; why should the PF be brought in this? That it wants to ‘fix political opponents?’ For what? For us, they are not even a factor, they cannot even win! Why fix a person who is not going to win? These are irrelevant matters! Unfortunately, it is coming from people of the former collar, I don't know if he is still wearing a collar. Why should the PF take Mr Hakainde Hichilema to court, for what? If he has a case, he will be taken to court. If he has stolen, he will be taken to court, not by PF or government officials, no. If you steal, the long arm of the law will catch up with you, it is as simple as that,” said Chama.

“You cannot hide by saying, ‘Mr Chama is a politician so

he is immune.’ Are you saying that all politicians are immune from criminal prosecution? Only ordinary people can be taken to court? If you are doing an illegality, there is no politics, you are alone. Zambia is a democracy. In 1991, Zambia chose to be a multi-party democracy and we are not intimidated. We will never

be intimidated because the power is vested in the people. We are at peace. So, those who are imagining criminality or imagining persecution that is the problem in their minds.

They don't need to bring us the picture that ‘PF is scheming this,’ we don't scheme! Our business is to make sure that we transform this country. 24/7, we are thinking of how

we can better the lives of the Zambian people that is what we concentrate on a daily basis, not scheming. They don't match us, they don't even exist. We are not troubled at all.”

## Reduce interest rates on loans, HH urges HELSB

*By Julia Malunga*  
UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema says the interest rates on student loans being applied by the Higher Education Loans and Scholarship Board (HELSB) to beneficiaries is too high.

But HELSB corporate communications officer Kawanda Chiselwa says the current interest rates are only pegged at 15 per cent.

Hichilema argued in a statement that graduates' current earnings were not commensurate with the harsh economic realities caused by the PF government's incompetent leadership.

“We wish to express serious concerns on the high loan interest rates being applied by the HELSB to the student loan scheme beneficiaries. While we appreciate the contractual obligations between HELSB and the beneficiaries, and the reason that the money recovered is deployed into the revolving fund for the benefit of new students, we, however, are of the view that the instalment and interest rates are way too high under the prevailing economic climate in Zambia. Most of our graduates entering the competitive job market are underemployed. Their current earnings are not commensurate with the harsh economic realities caused by the incompetent leadership of the PF. It's remarkable to note that the PF are hell-bent on recovery of loans from work debutants with small incomes, but are dragging their feet to recover money from Ministers, who illegally stayed in office in 2016,” stated Hichilema.

“The HELSB should, therefore, consider reducing the high interest rates on these loans to enable their clients to afford the instalments. We are beneficiaries of free education

from primary school right up to university, and our desire as UPND in government, will be to offer free scholarships to deserving students regardless of their background. We have seen it happen in other African nations that have prudent and strong fiscal priorities and under our leadership it shall happen here again.”

But in an interview, Chiselwa said the interest rate pegged at 15 per cent was fair and could not be reduced because owing students had a long repayment period.

“We sponsor students to go and study at one of the seven universities: Copperbelt University, (CBU) University of Zambia (UNZA); Chalimbana; Mukuba; Kwame Nkrumah; Kapasa Makasa and Mulungushi University. For the other five universities, we only started in 2018, so we haven't had anyone graduate yet from these five institutions. But from UNZA and CBU, we have been sponsoring them, those we sponsored from 2004 what they got was a loan and they signed a clause, which says they need to pay back to help sustain the loan. The 93 per cent you are talking about

is a lie, we charge 15 per cent on reducing balance. I will give you an example: if someone is owing K30,000, the payment period is 10 years, so for you to repay that money in 10 years, your interest will be K29,000. But another person owing K30,000 if they say they want to pay off, the only thing that we are going to get is probably a K500. Now, K30,000 five years ago and now the value is not the same,” said Kawanda.

“So, the longer they take to pay, the more they get to pay back. But it is not 93 per cent, no. We are charging 15 per cent on reducing balance. The other thing in the Act stipulates that as a beneficiary, you are supposed to come to us, but these beneficiaries have been waiting for us to follow them. So, again, we are incurring costs that the beneficiary has to incur. Remember, we have thousands of students that want our support, we need to sponsor them, too. It's an obligation they just have to pay back. The interest is not high, it is 15 per cent and it won't be reduced. No bank in this country will give you a loan for you to pay back in 10 years.”

## Failure to pay K60,000 fine lands fake teacher in jail

*By Natasha Sakala*  
THE Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) says a fake teacher has been committed to prison for six months after failing to pay a K60,000 fine slapped on her in February this year by the Nakonde Magistrates' Court.

In a statement, Thursday, ACC public relations manager Timothy Moono stated that Catherine Nakamba aged 30, of Muzabwela Village in Nakonde District was in February this year convicted of 2 counts by the Nakonde Magistrates' Court and sentenced to twelve (12) months simple imprisonment for each count to run concurrently.

The sentences were, however suspended and the convict was also fined K 60,000 which she was ordered to pay within 6 months, failure to which she would serve six months in prison.

“In 2018, the Anti-Corruption Commission arrested Catherine Nakamba and charged her with one count of uttering a false document contrary to section 352 and 347 and one count of obtaining pecuniary advantage by false pretenses contrary to section 309 (a) respectively of the Penal Code chapter 87 of

the laws of Zambia. Particulars of the offence in count one are that on a date unknown but between 1st January 2012 and 31st January 2013 at Nakonde in the Nakonde District of the Muchinga Province of the Republic of Zambia, being a public officer namely a teacher employed in the Ministry of Education, Nakamba did knowingly and fraudulently utter a false document namely a Teacher's Certificate no. 14288 to the District Education Board Secretary purporting that the said document was genuine when in fact not,” stated Moono.

“Under count two, the particulars are that on a date unknown but between 1st January 2012 and 31st January 2017 at Nakonde in the Nakonde District of the Muchinga Province of the Republic of Zambia, being a Public Officer namely a teacher employed in the Ministry of Education, Nakamba did dishonestly and with false pretences purport to have a Primary Teacher's Certificate in order to be employed as a teacher by the District Education Board Secretary under the Ministry of Education and was so employed, by virtue of which she obtained pecuniary

advantage in form of salaries amounting to a total of K 184,084.70.”

Moono further stated that Nakamba was currently committed to the Nakonde Correctional Facility where she will serve six months of imprisonment.

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# It's unlawful for PF to punish MPs over their Bill 10 vote

**P**F Secretary General Davies Mwila has ordered three PF members of parliament to exculpate why disciplinary action must not be taken against them for absenting themselves at the time when Parliament was voting on the Constitution Amendment Bill number 10 of 2019. The three members of parliament are Kamfinsa MP Elalio Musonda, Chifubu MP Frank Ng'ambi and Mwansabombwe MP Kabaso Kampampi.

“It has come to my attention that during the voting for the Constitution Amendment Bill No 10 of 2020, on Thursday 29th October, 2020, you decided to absent yourself from voting for the Bill. Hon Member, you are aware that His Excellency, the President had directed that all our Members of Parliament vote for the Constitution Amendment Bill No 10 of 2019 as it had progressive clauses

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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that would have seen us uplift the lives of the less privileged in society, I find your action not line with the party's interest and in breach of article 74, regulation 29(d) and (l) of the party constitution. I therefore give you seven days to exculpate yourself why disciplinary action should not be taken against you,” wrote Mwila.

In our view, this is illegal and tantamount to contempt of parliament. First of all, an MP enjoys absolute immunity for everything he does or says in the assembly. What Mr Mwila is doing amounts to intimidation of lawmakers. The PF boss has not stated in his letter what Article 74 and regulation 29(d) of the PF constitution states,

but we are sure that it relates to collective responsibility. Now, if that is the case, then the PF constitution is a very bad autocratic document.

We say this because there is a difference between ministers and MPs. When you are a minister, you are expected to go by what they call collective responsibility because when you sit in cabinet, you take a position. And it is that position that you must collectively stand by. Ministers are a front bench, meaning they are there to prop up the government position. That decision comes from cabinet, of which ministers are members. So, that one is expressly provided for in the Ministerial and Parliamentary

code of conduct. As a front bench, as a minister, you abide by a concept of collective responsibility. According to that ministerial and parliamentary code of conduct, if you are in breach of that code, it is not even supposed to be the party to discipline you, it is for the tribunal to be constituted by the chief justice. That's what we know.

But this is not the same for MPs. When you are a back bench, you are not bound by collective responsibility. You cannot discipline a member for departing from a party position because you can't point to any provision of the law which authorizes you to do that. What those three lawmakers did is

simply to exercise their powers as members of parliament. And as a political party you have no control over what a member of parliament will do when they are in parliament.

What Mr Mwila is doing has no basis. The legal thing for Mr Mwila to do is to identify which MPs are not tolling a party position in the House and punish them by not adopting them in 2021. That one squarely lies in the hands of the Patriotic Front Secretary General. So, we can confidently state that what Mr Mwila is doing now defeats the essence of democracy because if you are going to say that “we adopted you, we made you MP, we campaigned for you and so you should do as we say” then you

are throwing away the voice of the people whom those MPs represent in the House. What is an MP supposed to do if in his particular constituency the people made it very clear that they don't want Bill 10, what is that MP supposed to do? You cannot just vote yes simply because your party has said so.

What Mr Mwila has done shows that the PF intentions on Bill 10 were not good. It was not about creating laws that are of interest to the people of Zambia but to the interest of the sitting President and the party in power. How can it hurt you so much that a bill has fallen off to a point of wanting to discipline an MP, threatening and intimidating them just over a vote in Parliament? It has never happened!

Anyway, even if you discipline the three MPs, it will not change the outcome, even if you convert their votes to “yes”, it will change nothing. It's done, the people have rejected Bill 10. It's over!!

## Crossword puzzle No 726

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

*“You are strong because of what you overcame, brave because of what you defeated, fierce because of what you mastered, and powerful because of what you conquered”*  
- Matshona Dhliwayo

Across

1. Locale  
3. Soup containers  
6. Nectar gatherers  
9. Fries or slaw  
11. Household pest  
12. Belonging to Ida  
13. \_\_\_\_ of Evil  
14. Morning riser  
15. Lazily  
17. Buck or doe  
20. Sunrise direction  
21. You do this with a book

Down

1. Long sandwich  
2. Casual top  
4. \_\_\_\_ Baba  
5. Observe  
7. Concluded  
8. Cheeky  
9. Don't sit  
10. Tee off  
15. "If \_\_\_\_ said it once..."  
16. \_\_\_\_ Angeles  
18. New Year's \_\_\_\_  
19. Scarlet or Maroon

## Crossword puzzle No 725

1	T	U	B	E		3	B	A	L	5			
	I		O					G		I			
6	S	7	T	A	8	B		9	C	O	10	R	E
			A		11	R	O	O			E		
12	A	B	L	E			13	U	G	L	Y		
			L		14	A	I	R		I			
15	L	E	N	D			17	T	I	C	19	K	
	O		E						L		E		
20	S	E	W	N			21	C	L	A	N		



# Readers' Feedback



**'Telesphore right, PF working on eliminating opposition ahead of 2021, but they won't succeed'**

Editor,

*"He speaks for the people, he is not like those self ordained pastors only addicted to blown envelopes to shut their mouths!!! The time PF started fighting the Catholic Church I smelt their exit in 2021, Vatican is listening, this is the man who said Bill 10 will flop, they thought he was joking!!!" - George Bwalya*

*"They won't go away with it Scot free. Our democracy has to be defended". - David Chulu*

*"Iyo nkhani Bishop, izibika. But they will not manage. This is 21st Century and information filters through at lightening speed. Their plans will be thwarted before they are executed". - Edward Mapulanga*

*"They will not manage in Jesus name, they have opposition within PF so in the quest to eliminate opposition they will eliminate themselves!" - Mze Aniesto*

*"These are clergymen we deserve in this country who can see clearly the writings on the wall". - Chester C Siajunza*

*"That's my bishop...! Not these other mushanina bwali kind of pastors who love brown envelops....! just call a spade as a spade not a big spoon..!" - Ba Mukangwa Peter*

**ND! OPINION: Well, sh\*t happens! Learn and move on**

Editor,

*"Am glad Bill 10 was defeated, a constitution should be about laws governing the country not to fix opponents or disadvantage others so as to prolong the PFs stay in power, no gimmicks of 3rd term and if citizens don't want HH or Kambwili they will do so on the ballot papers". - Mutinta Mulonda*

*"It was like a team which kept qualifying to the next rounds but still lost the finals with no opponents on the pitch!" - Richard Waga*

*"So PF think any law they bring up has to pass?!" - Maimbolwa Kamanga*

*"To date I can't believe what I saw. They were all dressed up in a blue uniform ready to celebrate the success on pushing bill 10 into law but God thwarted their evil plans. Shame on Edgar who wasted taxpayers money in sewing that uniform. Mwalobele iyauma!" - Chiundule Wansimbi*

*"A reckless high stake gamble with National resources". - Ben Kauzeni*

*"That's the beauty of having strong opposition in parliament. When it comes to election time, Zambians must vote for individuals as their MPs and not necessarily follow the popularity of the party especially the one in power. In the next election, Zambians must vote for more opposition MPs to make parliament more stronger and legitimate". - Chanda Pochoko*

**'What law is Tutwa going to use to petition the candidature of HH?'**

Editor,

*"This lawyer is dull indeed. article 52 will be used to petition Lungu's third term bid because he has been elected twice and is been sworn in twice according to constitution. so now what law is Tutwa going to use to petition the candidature of HH? His bill 10 failed bcose of their arrogance. go back to the church for the effective National Dialogue. Bill 10 is gone and forgotten!" - Chanda Pochoko*

*"The constitution states if he has held office twice, he is not eligible to stand as president. The problem with PF members is that they think because they are a party in power they can do as they please. Tutwa Ngulube as a learned lawyer should be in the forefront*

*educating ignorant members of the party that Mr Lungu is not eligible to stand". - Paul Bwanga*

*"If Tutwa Ngulube is a Lawyer the PF rely on in their Legal team then am sorry for them. The Kabwe Central MP behaves as if he's never been to Law School... People that have never been to Law school are able to interpret the law better than him Mwebantu sure!" - Emmalito Lias*

*"You wanted to remove article 52 from the Constitution, now you want to use it too. Can't PF find someone with a bit of grey matter to be issuing statements? Law is too complicated for some lawyers!" - Cimbulu Matanga*

*"Most people are equally waiting for him to walk round Kabwe naked as he promised if Bill 10 failed. It would be setting a very bad example as a so-called leader to break his promise". - Zuba Kayasha*

*"Why wait for next year.....??? Let the Pravitasation Inquiry be Constituted Now.....Bring it On!!!!.....It is becoming a Song..... Bally has told you to go ahead and institute that Inquiry!!! To the Upnd....please finish up with the Provincial Conferences and then the elective Convention.... Don't give the Pathetic Failures who raise hands at their Conventions and claim to be more democratic to petition our Bally using Article 52!!!!" - Michael Mulele Sililo*

**EDITOR'S NOTE:**

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**N'gambi's cry over his Bill 10 vote not being counted because the system froze**

Dear Editor,

*"If the system failed, then that is a spoiled vote. Simple! Why continue crying over the failed Bill 10? It's water under the bridge, let's move on". - Chanda Pochoko*

*"It can't be added because it is possible you could have voted against the Bill at that moment. Moreover, the technical glitch was part of God's intervention to make sure you don't vote". - Trevor Jengajenga*

*"The system was very ok, it's your brain that froze.... Couldn't even vote!" - Fryde Friday*

*"So the UPND and friends were smart not to vote. They must have known that the system was faulty. Otherwise, It could have frozen on them too. Mmmmm those guys are smart". - Ngula Munalula*

*"From simple analysis, there's a problem with IT at parliament on such crucial situations let's do it by raising of hands so that us the electorates can see our betrayers". - Christopher Phiri*

*"There is no voting after results have been announced,*

*imagine if that's the scenario, there would be chaos when managing any election". - Mainga Levis*

*"Okay we have counted it so the total votes now stand at 106. I now DECLARE Bill 10 dead because it has less than 111 votes needed!" - Gostinoh Bandah*

*"Sit down honorable, all the 105 votes did not count, ultimately!" - Richard Waga*

*"With or without your vote Bill 10 is History now, just as you will be History after August 2021!" - David Senior*



TANZANIA'S populist President John Magufuli has been sworn into office for a second five-year term amid tight security by the police and the army.

The swearing-in on Thursday came despite the opposition calling for a fresh election, the disbandment of the electoral commission and an “endless peaceful demonstration” over the October 28 vote.



Magufuli over the weekend said he would not pursue another term amid concerns that the governing party, which won nearly all

parliament seats, might try to extend the presidency's two-term limit.

Ahead of the swearing-in, leaders of Tanzania's two

main opposition parties, ACT Wazalendo and CHADEMA, were charged with organising unlawful assembly and demonstration.

The opposition alleges the October 28 election was riddled with irregularities.

Magufuli received 12.5 million – or 85 percent – of the total votes polled, while his main challenger, CHADEMA'S Tundu Lissu, got 1.9 million or 13 percent, the electoral commission said.

After the landslide results were announced, CHADEMA and fellow opposition party ACT Wazalendo called for new elections and mass protests.

But police swiftly arrested the parties' leaders, while a heavy security presence deterred potential protesters and the demonstrations never took place.

CHADEMA'S Tundu Lissu, ACT Wazalendo's leader Zitto Kabwe, and several

other opposition leaders were arrested this week.

Kabwe had called for a panel of African leaders to investigate “large-scale irregularities” during the polls.

Several nations, including the United States, noted credible allegations that call the vote's results – and the country's democratic ideals – into question. Few international observers were allowed to watch the vote.

Magufuli's CCM party, a version of which has held power in Tanzania since independence from Britain in 1961, has also retained power in the semi-autonomous Indian Ocean archipelago of Zanzibar with 76 percent of the vote. *Aljazeera*

## Ethiopia's Abiy Ahmed vows to continue military offensive

THE Ethiopian prime minister has vowed to continue a military offensive in the northern state of Tigray amid concerns it could descend into civil conflict.

Tensions between the state and the federal government

have been building for months.

On Wednesday, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's administration accused Tigrayan forces of attacking a federal army base.

Meanwhile the Tigrayan

president said that his region was in a state of war.

In a statement on television, Debretsion Gebremichael said that resources would be mobilised in preparation for a conflict.

*BBC*



Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed addressed the nation on Wednesday evening



These Tigray special forces were pictured outside the Northern Command Headquarters

## AstraZeneca chief says COVID vaccine on track for year end

ASTRAZENECA Plc's coronavirus shot could be ready for large-scale vaccinations as early as this year, Chief Executive Officer Pascal Soriot said, dismissing reports of delays and production snags.

The U.K. drugmaker is poised to unveil vaccine test results by year-end even after trials were slightly delayed over the summer as infection rates slowed in the northern hemisphere. A recent resurgence has allowed scientists to gather the clinical data they need, according to Soriot. Astra and the University of Oxford are keeping the vaccine in a frozen bulk state to preserve its shelf life while they await final test

results.

“At the end of the day, we don't yet know if the vaccine works,” Soriot said in a Bloomberg Television interview, adding that many questions remain, such as whether it will show results for everyone and for how long. “We would hope that large-scale vaccinations would be possible starting in January next year — possibly even December.”

Soriot's remarks come a day after Kate Bingham, chair of the U.K. Vaccine Taskforce, said only 4 million doses of the shot would be available by the end of the year, far fewer than the 30 million that were due to be ready by September. AstraZeneca said it's confident it can begin supplying hundreds of millions of doses on a “rolling basis” once a shot is cleared.

The U.K. drugmaker has been at the forefront of efforts to fight the pandemic, and its experimental shot could be one of the first to be approved globally if successful. Astra and drugmakers Pfizer Inc. and Moderna Inc. are all seeking to deliver crucial test results on a vaccine in the coming weeks, with emergency clearance possible before the end of the year.

Soriot said the world needs several vaccines and that Astra studies conducted in the U.K. and Brazil kept progressing well even as the U.S. one suffered a halt. It's

possible the U.S. Food and Drug Administration will want to wait for the results of the local trial before reviewing the product, he said.

The FDA “may want to wait for the results of the U.S. study or they may review our international program and give us an emergency approval on that basis,” Soriot said. “It will be up to regulators in individual countries to decide.”

Astra has said it will sell the vaccine at cost during the pandemic at a price tag of between \$4 to \$5, depending on local manufacturing charges. The company said recently it would add as much as 20% to cover manufacturing costs to avoid any material impact on its finances. Astra is incurring a bill in excess of \$1 billion globally for expenses including clinical development, Soriot said.

The Astra-Oxford candidate has produced a robust immune response in older adults and the elderly, those at highest risk of severe illness. Astra and Oxford have enrolled about 23,000 volunteers in vaccine trials globally, with plans to reach 50,000 once the U.S. arm has completed recruitment.

A U.K. government spokesperson said Thursday that “a vaccine will only be deployed once proven to be safe and effective” and that the National Health Service was ready to start the vaccination program. *Bloomberg*

Tuesday's election was projected to be the highest in 120 years at 66.9%, according to the US Election Project.

Mr Biden had the support of 70.5 million voters, the most won by any presidential candidate ever. Mr Trump has pulled in 67.2 million votes, four million more than he gained in 2016.

The bitter election race was dominated by the coronavirus pandemic, which hit a new record high of 103,000 daily cases in the US on Wednesday, according to the Covid Tracking Project.

But the economy, which has been badly affected by the pandemic, was the most important single issue to voters, exit poll data indicated.

On Wednesday afternoon, Mr Biden told reporters in Wilmington, Delaware: “When the count is finished, we believe we will be the winners.”

“I will govern as an American president. The presidency itself is not a partisan institution.”

He and his running mate Kamala Harris have launched a website for the transition of power, which says that their team “will continue preparing at full speed so that the Biden-Harris Administration can hit the ground running on Day One.”

Mr Biden also said he was feeling “very good” about Pennsylvania, although President Trump's campaign said it was “declaring victory” in the state on the count of “all legal ballots”.

Mr Trump has attempted, without evidence, to sow doubt about the validity of ballots counted after election day and cast by mail.

Senior Trump campaign aide Jason Miller said: “By the end of this week, it will be clear to the entire nation that President Trump and Vice-President Pence will be elected for another four years.” *BBC*

## Man admits killing his children during UK lockdown

A MAN has admitted slitting the throats of his two young children during lockdown. Nadarajah Nithiyakumar, 41, attacked his daughter Pavinya, aged 19 months, and three-year-old son Nigash at the family home in Ilford, east London, on 26 April.

The children's mother, named locally as Nisa, was in the shower at the time of the killings and alerted the police.

Pavinya was pronounced dead at the scene while Nigash was rushed to hospital in Whitechapel, London, but he also died.

Their father was taken to hospital for treatment for knife wounds. At his discharge, Nithiyakumar was charged with murdering the

children.

In a police interview Nithiyakumar, a shop worker, accepted that he had killed his daughter and son with a knife. He said he had been depressed, and while working in a shop, customers had “upset him”. He had thought about killing himself but considered it would “ruin the children's lives and they would go off the rails”, a court had previously heard.

On Thursday the defendant appeared before Mrs Justice Cutts at the Old Bailey, London. He pleaded guilty at court to two counts of manslaughter by diminished responsibility, which was accepted by the prosecution. *The Guardian*



# 'Pogba has been nothing but problems' - Ince tells Pogba to forget about Real Madrid & start performing

PAUL Pogba has been "nothing but problems" for Manchester United since returning to the club in 2016, says Paul Ince, will all concerned at Old Trafford now asking questions of where they go from this point.

The Red Devils invested £89 million (\$116m) in bringing a France international back onto their books, with their transfer record smashed when doing business with Juventus.

Pogba's capture was considered to be a quite a coup, with there plenty of potential in his game still to be unlocked.

United have, however, been unable to bring the best out of an enigmatic 27-year-old, with regular questions being asked of his form and future.

Pogba has become a World Cup winner during his second spell in England, but domestic struggles have contributed to the Red Devils being unable to kick on as a collective.



## Lungu asks police to be fair during 2021 polls

**From page 4**

"You bring property for them, they are the beneficiary. The presence of police in the community is meant to protect them, but then they want to be against the police to bring out chaos, so I don't know the benefit of chaos, I don't know. The police are part of our society, police are defenders of property and life but then because of a small misunderstanding, they want to go to [destroy] the police? It's very unZambian and it's on the increase but then two three days later they will be looking, where are the police," said President Lungu who also promised police officers that the new office block would be a Christmas present to the people of Kanyama.

And Minister of Home Affairs Stephen Kampyongo thanked President Lungu for the equipment acquired to help police in public order management.

"Your Excellency, we are very grateful to you as our Commander-in-Chief for the equipment that you have acquired for these men and women in uniform because to quell public order disturbances has been a mammoth task for them but the equipment you have facilitated in acquiring, it will be easy to quench the disorderly conduct before we start recording damage like this but again like you have said, it's important that our police get to interact with the community from time to time in order to avoid these serious confrontations between the members of public and our officers," said Kampyongo.

Kampyongo said he would engage AVIC to see if a variation could be done in the contract to allow for the construction of a mess in the police camp after President Lungu emphasised the need for officers to have recreation facilities in the camp.

Meanwhile, area member of parliament Elizabeth Phiri thanked the business community in her constituency for the support towards the project and urged other MPs to emulate the initiative and do community led interventions to get work done in their communities.

There is now no obvious role for an expensive asset within Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's side, with a place on the bench taken up in a 2-1 Champions League defeat at Istanbul Basaksehir, and Ince admits those on and off the field need to be mulling over their options.

The former United midfielder told Ladbrokes: "I love Pogba. I think he's a world-class player on his day. We saw that at Juventus. But since he's come to Manchester United it's been nothing but problems.

"Under Jose Mourinho and things with his agent, there's always something. His performances haven't been up to scratch, the fans have almost gone against him.

"If I was playing with him, I'd be saying 'listen, you just go out there and play. Go out there and start performing. Once you start performing like you should be performing, then you can talk about wanting to sign for Real Madrid, because at the moment you can't even get into the Man United side.'

"If I'm Paul Pogba, I'm sitting on the bench thinking 'hang on, I've got Fred, Scott McTominay and Bruno Fernandes all playing in midfield and I'm sat on the bench? There's got to be something wrong with me.'

"Man United is not about Paul Pogba."

Pogba has aired a desire to represent Real Madrid at some stage in his career, but United have taken up an extension option in his contract that is due to keep him in his current surroundings through to the summer of 2022. **GOAL**

# Lampard axes Jorginho from penalty taker role



CHELSEA boss Frank Lampard has confirmed Jorginho has been axed as the team's No.1 penalty taker and replaced by Timo Werner, with the German scoring twice from the spot in a 3-0 Champions League win against Rennes on Wednesday.

Werner's two penalties were added to by Tammy Abraham as the Blues coasted to a victory at Stamford Bridge that puts them in the box seat for qualification to the knockout stage.

Lampard was asked about why Werner was on penalty duty despite Jorginho also being on the pitch, with the Chelsea legend admitting he had replaced the Italian after he missed from the spot in their last continental game against Krasnodar.

"I spoke to Jorginho first because he's been brilliant at taking penalties," Lampard said post-match. "It's more missing a couple recently that I felt it was time to change. Jorgi's answer was as professional as I'd expect. He only wants to score them but he was fine with that.

"If Timo takes them as well as today he'll be happy. I'm happy he scored. Timo is as it stands now but of course he needs to keep scoring them. Today he did it very well."

C o n t r o v e r s y surrounded Werner's second penalty after Rennes defender Dalbert was penalised for handball and shown a second yellow card despite the ball deflecting unluckily on to his arm.

Lampard admitted he would feel aggrieved about the decision if he was Rennes' manager and believes the handball ball is currently being interpreted differently across Europe.

"We had this earlier in the season in the Premier League and it has been well adjusted to show what feels like common sense in terms of the arm moving in a natural or not natural position," he said.

"It probably goes along with the rules of the Champions League that the decision gets given today. I'm not sure they are the rules we're going by in the Premier League.

"I'm not completely happy with them and if I was the manager of Rennes today I wouldn't be happy either. It's one that worked in our favour today but I'm not mad about that rule. It is what it is."

Chelsea top their Champions League after three matches with seven points alongside Sevilla. **GOAL**

# Mutapa slams Prisons' bumpy turf

**By Ngosa Chalwe**

POWER Dynamos coach Perry Mutapa has slammed the quality of the pitch at Kabwe's Independence Stadium following his side's scoreless draw against promoted side Prison Leopards.

On Wednesday, Power dropped two points after they drew with Mwenya Chipepo's side.

Mutapa said in an interview that some pitches are not befitting for a premiership side.

"This is a win for us, not a draw, it is tough, but some pitches in the premier league I don't know [what to say], the boys have worked so hard...but I think premier division pitches are not supposed to be like this. We did not play our normal game but in batches; we played our game but we were disadvantaged because of the pitch. I am not sure in 2020, my son will be turning 19 we still have pitches like this. You cannot pass three, four, five touches because we are afraid, we have told the boys to play like the way Prison was playing, you have the ball, you have to kick it and chase, is that football?" Mutapa complained.

He said the national team could not play good football if clubs were failing to showcase it.

"You want the national team to play nice football? We have small players in stature so where do you expect that national team to play good football? I am

just puzzled, for me the boys have played so well, I would be glad to come to a pitch like this and get a draw, I will be very glad," Mutapa said

He wondered why Zambian clubs failed to keep their pitches in good condition.

"In terms of pitches, I don't know where we miss it in Zambia, and it is you the media guys, don't just go and report, report about the pitch," said Mugala.





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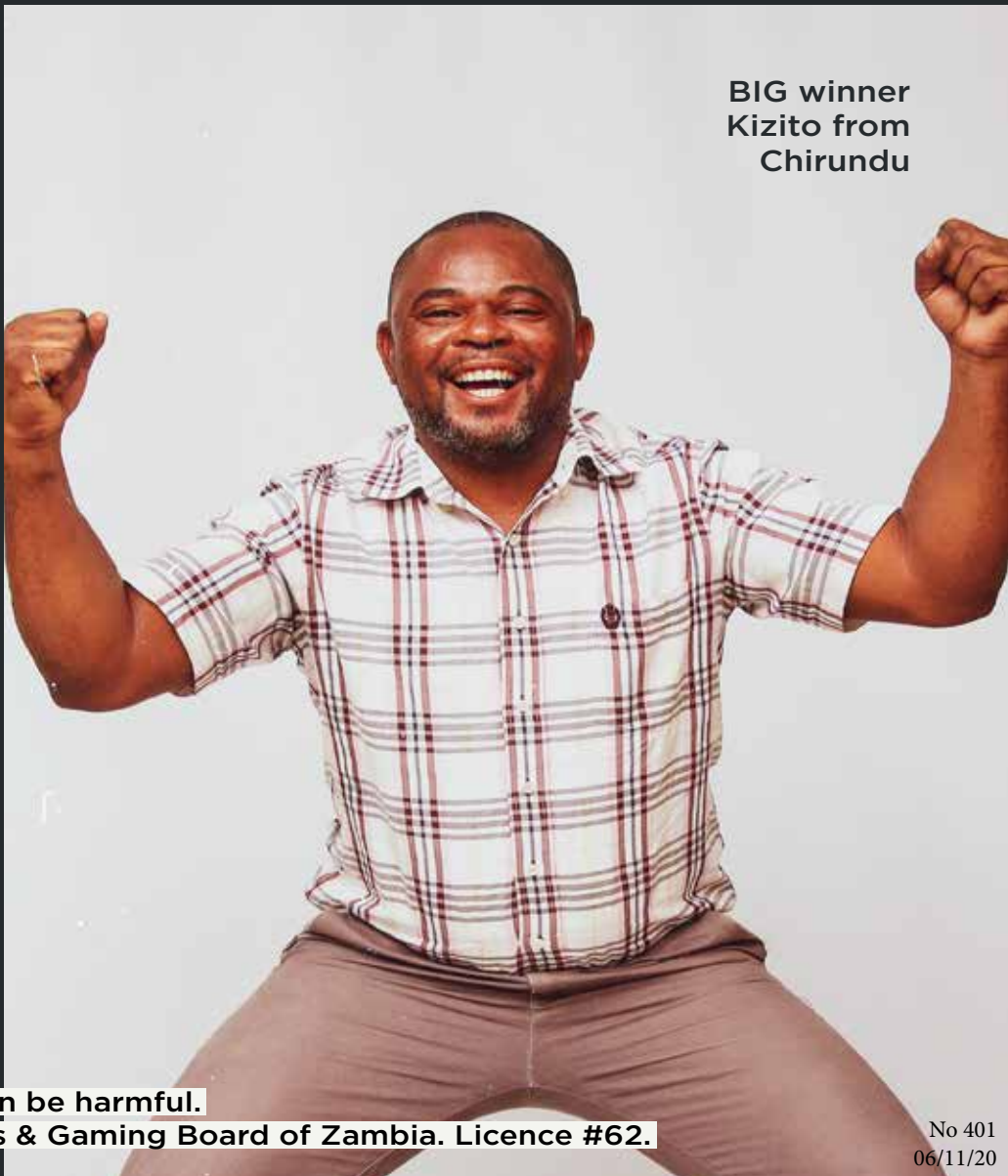
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