

PRESIDENT'S PAY RISE

A MOCKERY - WK

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Rainbow Party general secretary Wynter Kabimba has expressed concern that while government is pleading with the citizens to tighten their belts under austerity measures, the Executive has been increasing salaries and loosening their belts because they are getting fatter.

To page 4

It's unfair to ask citizens to tighten belts while you get fat, loosen yours



UPND president Hakainde Hichilema interacts with Magoye resident - Picture by Brian Mwiinga



Vice-President Inonge Wina at the funeral of S/Africa bus accident victims - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

PF cadres storm Chibombo District Council meeting, beat up councillors

Story page 5

Say no to mediocrity, HK urges voters

By Mirriam Chabala

President Edgar Lungu's sacking of former Community

Development Minister Emerine Kabanshi last week in response to the theft of donor funds has not resolved the problem of systematic corruption in government, says Bahati member of parliament Harry

Kalaba.

And Kalaba, a 2021 presidential aspirant, says 2021 will not be about removing Lungu from State House, but uprooting the entire PF system and putting in place a sober regime. To page 3

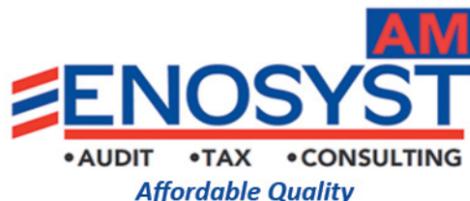
Cop denies fingering student's private part

Story page 6

Mukata pushes for acquittal of murder

Story page 6

- >Statutory Audits
- >Project Audits
- >Accounting Services
- >Tax Compliance
- >Tax Planning
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Kwacha hits 12 per dollar, as greenback gets scarce

By Stuart Lisulo

The kwacha has continued depreciating against major currency convertibles to breach the K12 per dollar psychological barrier for the first time since October, 2015.

And dollars are currently scarce on the local financial market, further weakening the kwacha's prospects of any strong recovery in the short-term.

According to financial market players, the kwacha has breached the K12 psychological barrier per dollar to trade above K12.00 on account of continued heightened demand for dollars on the local market with correspondingly limited supply of the greenback.

The local unit was seen trading at K11.81 and K12.04 by lunchtime, Tuesday, for bid and offer respectively, according to the Bank of Zambia, down from an average of K10.99 and K11.06 per dollar just last Wednesday.

This depreciation represents an around eight per cent devaluation of the kwacha in a space of just six days, and coincides with stagnated copper prices of around US \$6,000 per tonne.

The last time the kwacha depreciated to hit the K12 per dollar barrier was October, 2015, where it traded above K12.00 per dollar in the final quarter of that year.

A check around several bureaus in Lusaka found the kwacha had quickly depreciated to over the K12 per dollar mark.

The kwacha traded at K11.87 and K12.10 per dollar for bid and offer respectively at Golden Coin Bureau, while Ace-FX Bureau quoted the local currency at K11.90 and K12.10 per dollar by lunchtime yesterday.

Ace-FX Bureau director of finance Brian Sakala noted that there is currently a scarcity of dollars on the local market.

"Actually, there is no dollar on the market now, even walk-in clients, nothing! Yesterday, we were just seated, nothing was happening. I think players on the market were a bit hesitant to move in. Now, it's a free-fall; the kwacha is just tumbling. There is no money in circulation," Sakala said in an interview in Lusaka.

And FNB Zambia stated that improved copper prices on the international market will be key in helping to improve the kwacha's performance.

"The local unit opened the week still at a loss, as dollar demand continues to put pressure on the local unit. Strong sentiment, backed by flow, will be vital in helping the market stay below the huge psychological barrier," FNB stated in a daily treasury newsletter released, Tuesday. "Although sentiment is still bearish, we may be seeing the end of a long losing streak. An improvement in supply will hold the market in good stead, with a good possibility of turning the currency's fortunes. Improved copper prices may trigger positive

sentiment."

Cavmont stated in its market report that dollar inflows were lower than expected.

"The kwacha inched closer to

the \$1/K12 mark on Monday as support for the local unit continued to be lower than expected, while demand for the US dollar remains

relatively high, especially on the interbank," stated Cavmont.

"Despite the movement, most corporates have

remained cautious as they anticipate a gain in the local unit with support expected from month-end inflows from sellers and exporters."



President Edgar Lungu with his delegation follow proceedings of the UN General Assembly in New York

Illegal fuel dumping costing Zambia \$81m a year - ERB

By Stuart Lisulo

Illegal fuel dumping and adulteration in Zambia is costing government an estimated US \$81 million in lost revenues per annum, according to the Energy Regulation Board (ERB).

In a statement, ERB executive director Langiwe Lungu stated that through the ongoing Fuel Marking programme, the regulator has established that there has been rampant illegal

fuel dumping and adulteration in the country, which when curtailed, could translate to about US \$81 million in revenue to government per annum.

"Through the ongoing Fuel Marking programme, the ERB has established that there has been rampant illegal fuel dumping and/or adulteration in Zambia, which when curtailed, could translate to about US \$81 million in

revenue to government per annum," Lungu stated in a press release availed, Tuesday.

She stated that results of a baseline sampling and testing of the petroleum supply chain revealed that there is a high level of fiscal tax avoidance through dilution of domestic products with unmarked products and kerosene, among others.

"Having sufficiently penetrated the market the fuel marker since

February, 2018, the ERB is now embarking on enforcement action as a matter of urgency, particularly in the North to South corridor, where the vice is most prevalent. Results of baseline sampling and testing of the petroleum supply chain have revealed that the fuel marker has penetrated the market throughout the country to allow for enforcement to start. The key results of the sampling and testing were as follows: there is a high level of fiscal tax avoidance of domestic products with unmarked products and kerosene," Lungu revealed.

"The incremental tax revenues that would result following successful enforcement of a sustained fuel marking programme in Zambia is estimated to be about US \$81 million per year."

She added that the ERB will now conduct continuous impromptu sampling and testing of fuels at all filling stations as part of its enforcement action.

"In view of these findings, the ERB shall not only take enforcement action, but also conduct impromptu sampling and testing of fuels at all filling stations, bulk fuel storage facilities belonging to the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs); in-country fuel tankers; and all other bulk storage and retail facilities for own consumption. That includes the mines and allied industries, construction; transport and logistics; commerce and the agricultural sector," she cautioned.

"Further, all those conducting illegal activities in the petroleum subsector are hereby warned that the ERB, working with the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA); Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA); Drug Enforcement Commission (DEC); and Zambia Police (ZP) will deal firmly with perpetrators. This is necessary to ensure that the quality of fuel in Zambia is guaranteed and that maximum revenue is realised from fuel sales in the country."

According to Lungu, the ERB commenced marking of fuel in Zambia for domestic consumption of February 15, 2018, following promulgation of the Statutory Instrument (SI): "Energy Regulation (Fuel Marking and Monitoring) regulations 69 of 2017."

Fuel marking primarily seeks to curb dumping of transit fuel and/or smuggling and adulteration of fuel with cheaper products, such as kerosene.

Fuel uplifted for the domestic market from all government depots and selected OMC depots is marked with a biochemical substance in small quantities, which acts as a stamp or "finger print" in line with the SI 69.

Under the Fuel Marking SI, the ERB can take stern action against illegal dealers with imposition of fines of around K30,000 or imprisonment, upon conviction, for a period not exceeding two years or both, among other draconian penalties.

Traditional ceremonies are good for uniting the country - Chief Chikanta

By Mirriam Chabala

Chief Chikanta of the Tonga speaking people in Kalomo District has invited former Foreign Affairs Minister Harry Kalaba to the Chuungu-Lwiindi traditional ceremony slated for next month, as a symbol of unity in the country.

Presenting the letter of invitation to Kalaba when the Bahati lawmaker called on him at his Choma office, Monday, Chief Chikanta, who is also Southern Province Royal Foundation Chairperson, said traditional ceremonies were good for promoting peace and unity in the nation. "Honourable, I would like to welcome you to my office. My office is in Kalomo, but I also have an office here in Choma. I am pleased that you found time to pass through and see me despite your busy schedule. I equally have people I am supposed to see and, therefore, I would like to invite you to the Chuungu traditional ceremony, which us coming up next month. I am sure there, we will be able to talk more. Please find time to

come and celebrate with us. Remember Honourable that this ceremony was founded on the basis of peace and unity. Hence, the need to embrace all types of people across this country," Chief Chikanta said.

And the traditional leader disclosed that this year's celebration of the Chuungu traditional ceremony would be graced by His Royal Highness Chief Shakumbila of the Sala speaking people in Central Province.

Further, Chief Chikanta called on government to consider working on the Muyobe - Chikanta road ahead of the upcoming traditional ceremony in his area.

"We informed the government about that road. We have been talking about the issue of roads, the issue of towers and hydroelectricity as well. But at least now, they've put up towers, about six Zamtel towers in the constituency. Then about the issue of electricity; right now, REA (Rural Electrification Authority) is putting up electricity poles on the Choma turn-off

up to the palace. So, the only issue that is remaining now is the road. So, we are hoping that after we do electricity and towers, probably the road will be worked on; that's our wish," Chief Chikanta said.

He also disclosed that his subjects had opted to sell their maize this season mostly to private buyers due to the low buying price that the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) had announced.

"People are selling, they are selling to FRA and to the private sector, but mainly, they are selling to the private buyers because the price that FRA announced was really below what people expected. So, mainly, they are just selling to the private sector. FRA is picking up the little that is coming through. But again, this time, I think the farmers are happy because they are selling at a price, which is slightly better than last year. However, I just hope FRA will not delay in paying the farmers that are not selling to private buyers, I really hope they will make the payments quick this time around because they have seen the competition," said Chief Chikanta.

By Mirriam Chabala

President Edgar Lungu's sacking of former Community Development Minister Emerine Kabanshi last week in response to the theft of donor funds has not resolved the problem of systemic corruption in government, says Bahati member of parliament Harry Kalaba. And Kalaba, a 2021 presidential aspirant, says 2021 will not be about removing President Lungu from State House, but uprooting the entire PF system and putting in place a sober regime. Meanwhile, Kalaba says Zambians have allowed mediocrity from their leaders for so long, adding that it is a cancer that needs to be cured. Speaking when he featured on a special interview on Choma Maanu Radio station in Choma District, Monday, Kalaba, the former foreign affairs minister, regretted the PF government's rampant theft of donor funds, which were meant to aid the poor and vulnerable in society, who were still hopelessly wallowing in poverty. He observed that Kabanshi's firing in the wake of the Social Cash Transfer scandal has not resolved the problem of systemic corruption in government. "The money meant for the vulnerable beneficiaries is misapplied, and you fire one minister and you think you have sorted out the problem? Please! Every time it's cosmetic solutions to real serious problems. That is why in 2021, it is not just the question of removing the PF from State House; it is to change the status quo. We must uproot PF completely and have a new system in place, a system that will deal with the challenges that Zambians are going through," he said. "It is now time to call this country to order, it is time to tell our people that the time to change the administrations is now! The time to change governance is now, because we have a group of politicians masquerading as leaders, but have only managed to betray the confidence of the people. That is why people have lost confidence in politics because they have seen that politicians are the only ones benefiting from the empire called 'politics.' So, they have begun shunning politics because it is not responding to their challenges...if this is the attitude people had towards politics in 1964, we could not have gotten our independence." He said there was need for a leadership code to deter members of parliament and government officials from engaging into businesses, while serving in their respective public offices. "We are not short of materials in this country. We have got plenty of water and fertile land and we have plenty of minerals. The only thing this country is struggling with is leadership because leaders, now, are the ones who are being suppliers. When I was minister, I never supplied anything; as a minister, I never tendered. But today, you are

Zambians have allowed mediocrity for too long, its time to change – Kalaba

finding that ministers are the ones who are tendering; members of parliament are the ones who are busy tendering! But how can you be a member of parliament and you are also busy running a business? How will you represent your people like that? If you are a nominated member of parliament, yes, we can understand. But if you are a member of parliament for Bahati, and you also want to be a big businessman... you can't do it! You can't have two things at the same time. That's why Kaunda had what he called: 'leadership code'; leaders had to be checked. And China, today, is still doing that. It's either you are getting paid from government or from your businesses, because you can't be using government to propel yourself! So, the leadership code is an important tool to keep elected leaders in check," Kalaba argued. And Kalaba said he had decided to leave the PF government and fight for the poor Zambian majority because he could not become a bootlicker like others. He insisted that he was not going to be a bootlicker of some few people who were plundering national resources because he was not sent to Parliament to go and sing praises. "The people of Choma did not elect any member of parliament so that he and his family can live well, no! They didn't elect me to become fatter when I go to Parliament. They elected me because they had hope that, 'maybe if Kalaba becomes member of parliament, maybe he will talk for us, maybe he will not be a coward. He will stand up and say it if things are wrong and we will be represented right'. That is the role a member of parliament has, that is the role that I know I have. My role is not to sing soprano or praise everything or be a bootlicker, no! I am not going to be a bootlicker; we have got enough bootlickers already. I am not going to be a part of that, I will speak for the Zambian people," he added. Kalaba also encouraged Zambians to ensure that they vote wisely in 2021. "The 2021 election will be a game-changer. The 2021 is an election that will define where this country is going. If we don't choose properly in 2021, we will regress. And once a regression is made, Zambia is doomed, and I can tell you that the change we seek is right in the hands of the people. The people are the ones who have got the keys in their hands to open the destiny of this country. A destiny, which has been sat on by a few individuals, whose only preoccupation is personal advancement. We are saying, 'not now', we have escorted politicians enough to luxury, they have

benefited, while the people have continued wallowing in poverty! Politicians are the ones who have been winning

in this game and the Zambian people have continued losing. But we are telling them: 'you have had enough, your

time is up and 2021 you are gone," vowed Kalaba. "I am not joining anybody who doesn't convince me

that the purpose of joining into government is not to do business. If it is just to make business, I should have remained in the PF government or I should have resigned in 2020 or 2021 if my purpose was to make money. But I resigned simply on principle because the leaders had gone ahead and the poor people had remained behind. Zambians have been spectators for far too long. We have allowed this mediocrity to go on, it is now becoming a cancer in our country and we have to cure it. And we will not cure it just by having numbers stuck together and say: 'I am joining this.' That's why I am saying the Democratic Party is the only avenue now that has got firm policies, their manifesto is solid on the youth and the women."





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By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Rainbow Party general secretary Winter Kabimba has expressed concern that while government is pleading with the citizens to tighten their belts under austerity measures, the Executive has been increasing salaries and loosening their belts because they are getting fatter. And Kabimba says because of insatiable appetite for wealth, ministers now work as permanent secretaries and sign all government imprest. Speaking when he featured on Radio Phoenix's 'Let the People Talk' programme Tuesday, Kabimba, a former Justice Minister, observed that only an irresponsible government would increase salaries under austerity measures.

Executive is getting fatter under austerity measures – Wynter

Asked about Cabinet's decision to increase salaries for the Executive, Kabimba lumped the blame on Parliament, saying that there was no opposition in the legislature because everybody was agreeable to everything. "It doesn't just worry me, [but] it embarrasses me as a citizen of this country! On one hand, you have announced austerity measures, meaning 'tighten your belts, we are going to

put in measures that will inconvenience everybody in order for us to get out of this economic doldrums in which we are', and on the other hand, you are doing the complete opposite. You are saying to the citizens [that] 'only you should tighten your belts; the President and his team and everybody else should loosen their bets because they are getting fatter.' It embarrasses me, it worries any normal

human being in this situation can take a Bill like that to Parliament. And I think it has been extended to all MPs if I am not mistaken. So, this is the only time when there is no opposition in Parliament, everybody is agreeable! That's a fast-track Bill when it comes to conditions of service for members of parliament, ministers, up to the President. It doesn't take many days, in fact, they can even take 20

minutes to pass it," he noted. He further said government was not coming out clean to tell the public about the exact debt the country owes, adding that only an irresponsible government would increase the salaries for its Executive amidst economic difficulties. "I think the government has not been very honest in terms of telling us how much our debt commitment to our foreign creditors. This debt phenomenon must be worrying to every Zambian, it must be a matter of concern, but the government is not coming out clean to tell us the exact figures. And don't forget, this is only external debt, but there is also domestic debt. We also know and this is no longer a secret that the government is having difficulties in meeting the salaries and wage bill. So, you have all these factors that depress the economy. And in this situation, only an irresponsible government can sit and decide to increase salaries for its President, Vice-President, Cabinet Ministers [and] members of parliaments," he said. Reacting to Emerine Kabanshi's dismissal from Cabinet, Kabimba also said that he was disappointed that the entire board of Zampost was not dissolved. "The breakdown of the system since the Chiluba days is that, ministers have become permanent secretaries; they have become accounts officers because of this greed for money, because of this insatiable appetite for materialism; that they must wear expensive watches; that they must wear designer items of clothing; that they must be seen to be living in styles of affluence and that kind of life, so they actually have overridden and upset the financial rules and regulations and they sign for imprest until situations like this catch-up with them," Kabimba said. "If this money was not donor money, we wouldn't have known about this scam. This is just a tip of the iceberg! I am sure there could even be worse things going on in other ministries other than the Ministry of Community Development, and it vindicates the people that have been crying loud that there is rampant corruption and abuse of office under the PF government. What has really disappointed us, as Rainbow Party is, why suspend management at postal services and leave the board behind? The board works in conjunction with management team. So, our view is that both the management team and the board should be out of that place, there must be a clean slate if we are going to be out of that problem. The financial rules of the public service are not being followed. I was surprised on how the axe would actually descend on the Minister because the

Minister is the last person to put a document to a voucher." And Kabimba revealed that people protested with coffins against him when he was in government because he stood against debt contraction. "Those of us that are vying for public office must look at the team, what the Americans call 'all the president's men.' This issue of state capture that we used to read about former president [Jacob] Zuma in South Africa is not only in South Africa, it is all over Africa, and Zambia included. And I saw it myself when I was in government; I even remember somebody who told me at one point that, 'somebody was talking about you, Wynter; that the problem with you, [is that] you are more straight than even a straight line' because there were just things that I said 'no' to. So, the coffin thing that you saw during that period was part of that. It was not an isolated incident. The reality of those events were that I was touching the nerves of people in the oil supply industry or people that wanted to contract certain debt to Zambia and they went and protested to Mr Sata, people that wanted to be refunded money claiming that they had put money in parastatals in our country when they didn't do so and I said 'no.' So, this issue is a big state capture. It's an octopus with many legs to it," he narrated. Kabimba also said those praising President Edgar Lungu the loudest are not even loyal to him. "We want to hear more about what ministers are doing. We know Edgar Chagwa Lungu is a President. How many times do we need to be reminded by each minister? That is patronage! How many times do we need to be reminded that the President of this country is Edgar Chagwa Lungu. The Electoral Commission [of Zambia] pronounced him as President, and that's it. We know, we see portraits everywhere! Have you ever heard any Chinese official here during the signing ceremony of any agreement refer to Xi Jinping? Have you ever heard any Chinese officials saying that, 'I am signing this document for a road between Nakonde and Isoka because President Xi Jinping says that, 'go to Zambia and sign?' No. I've never heard anybody praise Donald Trump at the rate that our ministers and senior government officials praise Edgar. The point I am making...and it's a pity that President Lungu is out of the country is that, those people are not the ones that are genuine and faithful to him. Niba Kandile (they are opportunists). Those who [shout] his name the loudest are not the ones that are most loyal to him. That's how African politics of patronage is," said Kabimba.

Police abuses account for most human rights violations – NGOCC

By Tenson Mkhala

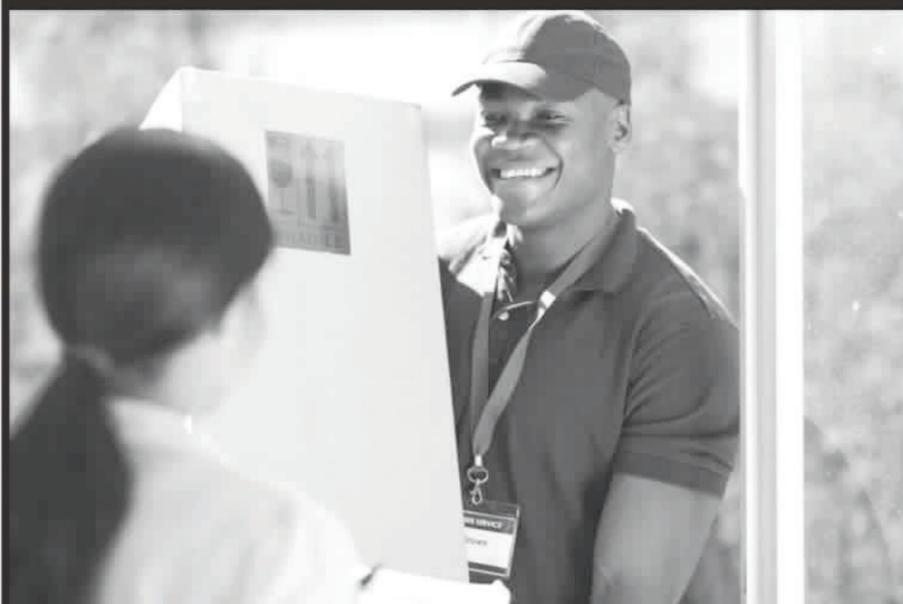
The newly amended Constitution of Zambia has not presented an opportunity for various stakeholders to raise awareness on its provisions, says the Non-Governmental Gender Organizations Coordinating

Council (NGOCC). And NGOCC says the most significant human rights problems are abuses by police, according to the 2015 State Human Rights Report for Zambia. Speaking during the launch of the simplified booklet on Civil

and Political Rights in Lusaka, Monday, NGOCC acting executive director Chilufya said unlawful killings, torture and beatings were some of the abuses by police. "The newly-enacted amendment Constitution of Zambia has not yet been

adequately popularised to present an opportunity for various stakeholders, NGOCC included, to raise awareness on its provisions. Specifically, most Zambians, especially women, remain oblivious about the civil and political rights provided for in the amended Constitution. For instance, a recent baseline survey conducted in Lusaka, Masaiti, Mazabuka and Gwembe, revealed that the awareness levels among Zambians in these districts on civil and political rights are low. And this makes lots of women fail to claim their rights," Siwale said. "Further, according to 2015 State of Human Rights report for Zambia, the most significant human rights problems during the year were abuses by police, including reports of unlawful killings, torture and beatings. Political violence and also restrictions on freedom of the press, assembly, association and speech as well as gender-based violence." She, however, added that the launch of the booklet will enhance citizens' awareness and knowledge of civil and political rights in the Republican Constitution. "It is for this background that NGOCC has been advocating for the enactment of the people-driven Constitution with an expanded Bill of Rights. We believe this booklet will raise awareness and knowledge of civil and political rights in the Constitution for citizenry. It is our hope that citizens will fully utilise this booklet to ensure that the common woman and man out there are able to claim their rights," said Siwale. The booklet provides individuals with information on various civil and political rights, as well as how their full potential as citizens can be fulfilled.

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By Sipiliwe Ncube

The Dar-es-Salaam Corridor Group (DCG) and the Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) have entered into a partnership agreement to develop a dry port at the terminal end of TAZARA in Kapiri Mposhi.

In a statement, TAZARA head of public relations Conrad Simuchile stated that the DCG will be expected to begin constructing the dry port on a Build-Lease-Transfer (BLT) Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) model.

Simuchile stated that DCG will further be required to take hold of the four hectare piece of land, construct the dry port, operate (lease) it for 25 years and, thereafter, transfer all the immovable assets to TAZARA.

And according to TAZARA managing director Engineer Bruno Ching'andu, the

TAZARA, DCG to develop dry port in Kapiri Mposhi

authority will earn regular revenue from the lease as well as from the port's daily operations.

"We are glad that the Attorneys General for both countries

signed off this Agreement, but it was worth the wait because it's a significant development, being one of the first PPP models to be introduced under our strategic vision of

engaging the private sector in the full utilisation of TAZARA's huge idle capacity. Above all, this is one sure way of guaranteeing ourselves of additional freight traffic that

will naturally accrue from the business generated by the Dry Port's operations," Simuchile quoted Eng. Ching'andu as saying.

And DCG chief executive

officer Jesper Sorensen stated the dry port operator is intended to promote railways as the main mode of transportation in the logistics chain.

"We know that TAZARA represents a strong bond between Tanzania and Zambia and are confident that this Agreement signifies a new era in the development of logistics between the two countries," stated Sorensen.

Mayfair Insurance hits K100m in premiums

By Stuart Lisulo

MAYFAIR Insurance Zambia has posted huge gross written premiums of K100 million in 2017 from the K3 million recorded at inception in 2010.

In a statement, Mayfair Insurance posted a massive

growth in written premiums last year of K100 million, up from just K3 million at inception in 2010, registering a K97 million increase in a seven-year time period.

"Mayfair Insurance Zambia's performance has grown substantially, with the

company posting Gross Written Premiums of K100 million in 2017 from the K3 million recorded at inception in 2010," read a press statement issued in Lusaka.

This came to light during an event hosted for chief executives of insurance

broking companies and partners in Lusaka.

Mayfair managing director Hashit Patel said the company's growth trajectory and performance has been positive in the last 8 years.

He also said Mayfair has built a reputation of quick turnaround in settlement of claims.

"We have developed a prompt system of ensuring that claims are paid on time because we understand the difficulties clients face when misfortune has befallen them," Patel said.

He explained that the agriculture sector remained a major contributor in helping to drive the country's economic growth, and in turn, re-position Mayfair's product and service offering. "Agriculture is key to the economic growth of this country. And Mayfair has

positioned itself to support this key economic driver and various products have been developed, including Weather Index Insurance packages," Patel added.

Speaking at the same function, former COMESA Re-Insurance (ZEP-RE) board chairman, Peter Kenneth, commended the board and management of Mayfair Insurance for ensuring good service delivery over the years.

Mayfair was established eight years ago with its headquarters in Lusaka and branches in Kitwe; Chirundu; Nakonde; Choma; Kasumbalesa and Kazungula districts.

The company also has similar insurance entities in Kenya, Tanzania and Rwanda with the Ugandan operations commencing by the end of this year.

Ferngroove secures \$30 million to boost local agro-processing

By Stuart Lisulo

Ferngroove BC, a Lusaka-based investment advisory firm, has secured up to US \$30 million funding targeted at boosting the agro-processing sector in Zambia.

According to a press release issued, Tuesday, Ferngroove BC Chairman, Conrad Gomani revealed that his firm, and its principal partners from Kenya, have approved a capital injection of up to US \$30 million to inject into agro-processing businesses in Zambia.

Gomani disclosed that the funds can be accessed as equity or debt by companies looking for agro-processing capital with tickets ranging from US \$5 million to US \$30 million, and within eight weeks of application.

"Our funding partners have special interest in funding agro-processing and value-addition ventures.

They have made similar investments in South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe," Gomani stated, adding that the investment firm has set its eyes on Zambia due to a positive economic outlook.

Gomani added that Ferngroove's funding partners have appointed Ferngroove BC to handle

disbursements in Zambia for all prospective agro-businesses in the country.

He further said agro-processing firms wishing to benefit from the funding should have been profitable for the past two years and must have a good corporate governance structure solidly in place.

Ferngroove is a wholly-owned Zambian financial and corporate finance advisory firm that specializes in business valuation, corporate restructuring, mergers and acquisitions, capital and financial restructuring, among others, and has been operating for 10 years.

PF cadres storm Chibombo council meeting, beat up councillors

By Joseph Mwenya in Kabwe

Chibombo Town Council Chairperson James Ntalasha says he is appalled by the beating of four councillors at the civic centre by known Patriotic Front cadres.

Confirming the development to News Diggers in an interview, Ntalasha said the said PF cadres pounced on Chikoba Ward Councillor Reagan Mubasa and mercilessly beat him up.

"The councillors were

at the civic centre for a council meeting at the chamber when known PF cadres attacked our Audit Committee Chairperson, Councillor Reagan Mubasa. He was beaten to the point of almost taking away his life. When three councillors

tried to rescue him, they were also beaten. Two of these councillors have sustained injuries and their teeth are even shaky," Ntalasha said.

According to sources within the district council, Mubasa had been objecting the awarding of contracts to a local businessman who is linked to senior PF officials, on grounds that the said contractor had been failing to deliver in the past.

"This councillor has been very vocal and he has come out strongly to say the council must never give contract to a named local businessman, who has links to the former minister in the area. His argument is that last time when he was given a contract, he did not deliver the works. So it is believed that this businessman is the one who hired PF cadres to beat up the councillor," narrated the sources.

But Ntalasha has since given the police 24 hours in which to arrest the culprits whom he says are well known in the area.

"Our councillors were only rescued by State Police who fired warning shots to control the situation. We have followed the due process of the law. We have done the medicals. All that we expect now is the law to take its course. If the Police fail to make an arrest within 24 hours, then we shall know what to do. We therefore, expect the police to act maturely and professionally on this matter," he said.

The Council Chairperson vowed that he would not allow lawlessness to reign in Chibombo.

"If it means blood to be shed for Chibombo to be developed, then we shall do it. Why should individuals take the law in their own hands? We don't expect such behaviour from mature politicians. This we shall not allow. If the councillor had done something wrong, that is why my office exists, those aggrieved should have complained to me. What we want is sanity to be restored in the district," said Ntalasha.



Infrastructure Development Minister Ronald Chitotela with other government officials and technocrats on an inspection tour of the new Kenneth Kaunda International Airport which is under construction

Supreme Court judges grill, convict Rainbow Newspaper boss

By Zondiwe Mbewe

The Supreme Court has convicted Rainbow Newspaper editor-in-chief Derrick Sinjela of Contempt of Court relating to the comments he made on the Savenda Vs Stanbic case.

Sinjela, as editor-in-chief of Rainbow Newspaper, published or caused to be published, an article titled "Zambian Supreme Court verdict in the Savenda vs Stanbic Bank is 'questionable' says COMESA, SADC journalist.

He had earlier pleaded guilty to the charge and apologised to the court.

When the matter came up for sentencing before nine judges in the Supreme Court, led by Deputy Chief justice Marvin Mwanamwambwa, the court convicted Sinjela on his own admission. Asked by justice Mwanamwambwa if he had anything to say before he could be sentenced, Sinjela asked the court to exercise leniency on him when passing a sentence. He added that he had learnt his lesson.

"I know the gravity of my case and I have learnt my lesson. I pray that you be lenient," he pleaded.

However, justice Mwanamwambwa tasked him to give reasons why the court should pity him adding that when the Savenda Vs Stanbic case was going on, Sinjela

used to publish one sided stories in favour of Savenda.

He questioned whether Sinjela was the one writing those articles and if he was a qualified journalist.

"When the case was going on, you used to publish one sided stories, in favour of Savenda. You went to the extent of sending us free copies and even stuck posters and banners on trees. Can you give reasons why we should pity you! We have suspicions that those

publications were done by someone else. Where are you trained? How long have you been practicing your journalism?" he asked.

In response, Sinjela said the articles were done by him and that he had been practicing journalism since 1999.

He added that he was trained at Nomagine College.

Justice Mwanamwambwa then adjourned the matter to November 28, this year, for sentencing.



Bahati member of parliament Harry Kalaba poses for a photo with Chief Chikanta of the Tonga speaking people in Kalomo after receiving an invitation to attend the Chuungu traditional ceremony next month - picture courtesy of Mashindi Ntambu.

Keith Mukata pushes for acquittal of murder conviction in Court of Appeal

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Lawyers representing former Chilanga UPND member of parliament Keith Mukata have asked the Court of Appeal to acquit Mukata of murder for lack of evidence linking him to the death of his security guard.

The lawyers who include; Mutemwa Mutemwa, Kasumpa Kabalata, Milner Katolo, Keith Mweemba and Wilis Muhanga submitted that High Court Judge Susan Wanjelani erred by admitting evidence which was not on record, which led to the conviction of Mukata.

In February this year,

Judge Wanjelani sentenced Mukata to death by hanging for the murder of his security guard but acquitted his co-accused and lover Charmaine Musonda on all counts.

In her judgment, Justice Wanjelani said she was convinced beyond reasonable doubt that Mukata's guard died from gun shots which were discharged by him.

She had further said Mukata's testimony that more cartridges were found outside the gate was false and based on hearsay evidence.

But when the matter came up in the Court

of Appeal before a three member panel led by justice Chalwe Mchenga, Mukata's lawyers asked the court to acquit their client of murder for lack of evidence linking him to the death of his security guard.

They added that the judge erred when she dismissed that there were intruders at the crime scene.

The lawyers submitted that there was no medical confirmation by the postmortem report to prove whether infact the deceased died as a result of the gunshot.

They added that the pathologist in his evidence, did not touch

on the cause of death but only gave evidence on the size of the wound.

Asked by justice Mchenga whether the cause of death of the deceased was uncertain, the lawyers said the cause of death was not disputed but who murdered the deceased should be ascertained.

Mukata's lawyers further argued that there was no malice aforethought in the murder case.

Asked by justice Mchenga what exactly happened if there was no malice aforethought and whether the lawyer was contending that his client fired the gun, Mukata's lawyer said his client only fired in the

air.

The lawyers further submitted that the number of gunshots which were fired was not analysed by the trial judge because Mukata and the two witnesses gave different versions of how many shots were fired.

They further submitted that the findings of fact were not supported by any evidence and the court based her findings on speculation.

The lawyers further said the judge erred in-law and fact when she convicted Mukata purely on circumstantial evidence which had the potential to draw more than one inference.

They then asked the court to allow the appeal and acquit the appellant.

"Based on the evidence on record and submissions tendered, the conviction had no basis at Law and it should be quashed and the appeal allowed," they submitted.

The prosecution team however said they were not ready to respond to the submissions due to the seriousness of the matter.

They then asked for an adjournment to enable them summarize the evidence and submissions adding that they only received the initial submissions last week.

However, justice Mchenga adjourned the matter to today, Wednesday.

Cop denies inserting finger in UNZA student's private part

By Zondiwe Mbewe

A 33-year-old police officer of Lusaka's Obama area has pleaded not guilty to a charge of indecent assault on females were he is alleged to have indecently assaulted a University of Zambia student by inserting his fingers in her private parts.

And a 44-year-old man of Lusaka's John Laing Compound has also appeared in the Lusaka Magistrates' Court for having sex with his step daughter and pleaded not guilty.

Gift Shimo is alleged to have on

September 3, 2018 in Lusaka, unlawfully and indecently assaulted Kanyanta Phiri, a UNZA student.

The accused has since been granted K3,000 cash bail with two working sureties in the like sum.

Details in this matter are that, Shimo found the victim with her boyfriend at the University of Zambia grounds upon which he demanded for money, failure to which he was going to detain the couple.

When the couple informed him that they had no money, he sent the

male partner away and remained with the woman whom he indecently assaulted by inserting his fingers in her private parts.

And when the matter came up before Lusaka Magistrate Faidess Hamaundu, Monday, Shimo pleaded not guilty.

He later applied for bail and was granted at K3,000 cash with two sureties, bound in the like sum.

The matter has since been adjourned to October 15, 2018, for trial.

Meanwhile, a 44-year-old man of

John Laing Compound has pleaded not guilty to sexually abusing his step daughter.

Ackim Sichamba is facing one count of incest by males.

It is alleged that Sichamba in March, 2018, had carnal knowledge of his step daughter.

However, when the matter came up, Monday, Sichamba pleaded not guilty after the charge was read to him.

The matter has been adjourned to October 9, 2018, for commencement of trial.



Bedroom Romance and Kitchen fights

Finally it was evening and David was glad the day was finally over and weekend was at hand. The thought of his wife tickled his facial muscles but before he could smile he remembered that he needed to pass through a joint in Kabwata and catch up with Mr. Njobvu to close the supplying deal he had been pushing for two long months. Although it looked like a great deal, David was beginning to get anxious because this was the fourth meeting with that man and on all previous occasions he had been the one buying him cold ones and putting fuel in his monster ride while all the man gave in return were the same old assurances.

The meeting concluded on a not so promising note as usual, save for the diminished traffic jam, David was back on the road home with a fallen face but he kept believing that one day the deal will get through and he will finish building his farm house in Kafue and stop paying rent. His wife Justina is a Bank Teller, she equally has her demons to fight at work and by the time she is getting home she is tired but for fate's sake she has to stick to the cycle that sustains her family. Immediately she reaches home she throws her big handbag and dashes into the kitchen to fix a meal for her husband and children.

Barely two years in marriage Justina and David had decided to shift into a bigger house in readiness for the arrival of their fourth child. Yes, they had the other two together before they got married and lived separately.

It was a footballing weekend. Trying hard to rekindle the good old days, David made sure that he avoided the tempers that come with the Chelsea vs. Manchester United debut and got into the bedroom early so that he could instead provide warm attention and humour as he listened to his wife's unending stories. On the other side, Justina had decided to get it right by putting up an award winning 'matebeto' dish to give her husband a good treat after a long time. Despite all the preparation and effort from both ends, it was another disappointing night ending in a quarrel over nothing. The following morning was as bad as usual. David was already in the car and wondering what makes his wife come to the car late

even when she was the first to groom up. Finally she arrived and together they drove to work in cold silence and before they realized it Justina was dropping off at the Banking Square and David proceeded to the ZRA offices in Town centre. He is a chief accountant there.

Justina loves cooking for her husband but she cannot understand why since they moved into the new house and started living together she is always upset and tense upon entering her own house. By the time she finishes cooking, she is boiling with rage. David also is ever stunned why he is ever romantic everywhere he goes except in his own bedroom. Of course they both love each other and miss each other and every time they go out for vacation they enjoy each other's company but as soon as they return home their chemistry and mojo just vanishes in thin air.

What could be the problem?

Well, like it or not it is possible that a house can be a kill joy by design. It is possible to have a house where every couple ends up fighting and divorcing regardless of how they like each other. Yes, it is possible to have a house where almost every child that lives there ends up being wayward or a misfit just by the way a house is designed. It is no secret that there are bars and night clubs out there that are designed in a way that makes whoever goes there just become wild, want to spend, dance and drink. On the other hand there churches or other places of worship that just make people introspective and repentant and just want to pray and make peace with self and the deity. Buildings can be designed to give all these illustrate effects on the human mind and in the same way houses do have effects on the mood of the occupants.

In that regard it is important to pay attention to simple details like the colour, arrangement of spaces and even texture of the paint in the room. It is possible that the colour or lighting in Justina and David's bedroom was the cause for their failing chemistry and romance mojo problems. A bedroom is supposed to have warm relaxing colours. Warm and velvet textured colours coupled with dim warm light is a sure recipe for bedroom romance and restful body

replenishment. Strong light and brightly loud colours are not good for the bedroom and can make occupants uneasy and tense thus making them repulsive and unfriendly towards each other.

In the same way that colours and light can affect mood in the bedroom, the way things are arranged in the Kitchen can affect the mood of the person preparing food either positively or negatively. A kitchen is like a factory where the fuel for the family is made. In that regard the kitchen has to be highly functional, beautiful and safe but it should be efficient to avoid tiring the user. It is possible that what was stressing Justina before she joins her husband in the bedroom was the way the kitchen was designed. For a Kitchen to function well it needs to have its most used spaces such as stove, sink and working table arranged in a triangular fashion with the shortest distance between them as possible. Cooking should be fun and one should not feel like they had been running a marathon by the end of preparing a meal. In that regard avoid putting a sink, store (pantry and fridge), workspace and sink far from each other. If possible allow for a seat in the kitchen to relax on as one is cooking. Work spaces should be of good comfortable height for easy and safe reach.

It is never too late to change something in your house, simple things like paint colour and lighting type may shock you at how large a difference they can make at how you feel about your living space.

Building is great investment, do it right.

Quiz Question:

(1). Mention one ideal colour for the Bedroom inside.

(2). What kind of light should be in the Kitchen, bright or dim?

Send your answer with your name to email: zambianbuildingguide@gmail.com and stand a chance to win the book: The ZAMBIAN BUILDING GUIDE. Understanding how to build a house. Written by Architect Kasonde Mwenda C. Wherever we want to go; our feet shall take us there.

Our newspaper believes that the Patriotic Front has a lot of people who truly want the best for this country. Some of these people are serving in various government positions and it breaks their hearts to see the kind of betrayal against the citizens, which they are part of.

They are there in the ruling party's Central Committee, in Cabinet and some in State House. Others are spread across the country and are not being heard, but they are watching in sorrow how things have gotten to where they are under such a short period of time.

Unfortunately, the great majority of these Patriotic Front members who mean well for Zambia are 'outnumbered' by the few who want nothing more than personal gain from this abundantly blessed land. These are the people whose wrong actions and bad decisions must be challenged. We feel the good eggs in the PF and in the system need help from the rest of the people who believe that Zambia is not where it is supposed to be.

We are glad to hear that ACA, ActionAid, NGOCC, Caritas Zambia,

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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Let Laura, the CSOs protest, it's their right

Transparency International, ZCSD, Gears Initiative and other eminent activists are planning a public protest on Friday next week during the budget presentation. According to these civil society organisations, the aim of the protest is to raise citizens' concern on a range of public resource accountability issues including debt, taxation, corruption and mismanagement of public resources.

Zambians have the right to peacefully and lawfully assemble to demonstrate against the countless taxes, theft of public resources and donor aid, abuse of office and corruption, undemocratic practices and the breakdown of the

rule of law. This is one way of expressing their displeasure on all these pressing governance issues. This is their country and it is the only one they have. It is sad that Zambians have been turned into slaves in their own country while their government is servicing the needs of foreigners. This has to stop.

Citizens are working extremely hard to earn a living, to feed their families; but their hard earned income is being extorted by this heartless regime. Citizens have spoken out against these higher taxes, which only go to satisfy the lavish lifestyles of very few individuals. But no one is listening.

Mothers have continued to

die in labour, unemployment is only getting worse while the gap between the rich and the poor is getting wider every day. It is easy to see that taxes which are extorted from the poor citizens are going into a bottomless treasury because the more we pay the more government says it has no money to provide basic social services. Despite all the taxes that are being paid, government is borrowing even more and accumulating debts which our descendants will remain paying for centuries to come.

One Ugandan singer and parliamentarian Bobi Wine once said, such provocation of citizens needs to be met with rejection. We cannot agree

more. Those in power are elected to do as the people demand, not as they wish. But when the people don't say what they want, the politicians will perceive their silence as a form of consent to the social injustices.

We are now at a point where our leaders have stopped paying attention to crying voices, and we see that as an invitation for Zambians to protest because they are not being heard. Our support for public protests is not targeted at the opposition. It is addressing, even those who are in the PF who feel 'enough is enough'. They must join in and pass a vote of no confidence in this regime.

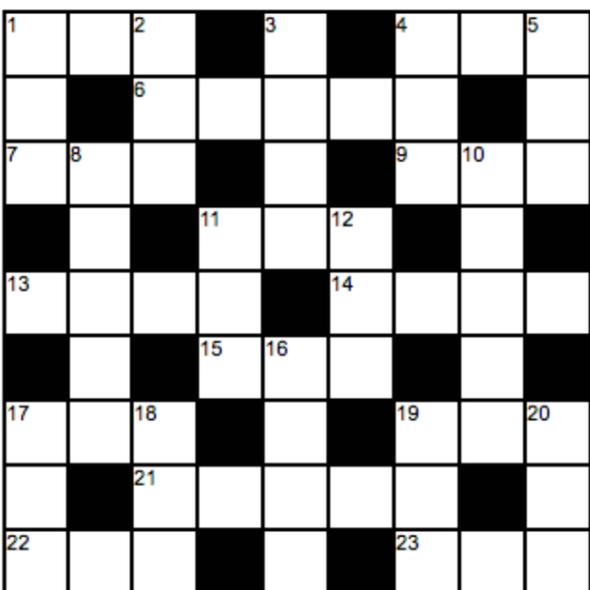
By encouraging lawful and peaceful protests, we are not

inciting citizens to take the law into their own hands or head to the streets and start burning tyres, no! That is not a lawful and peaceful way of protesting. What we are encouraging the people of Zambia to do is that, in their communities, let them pick one issue that they feel government has failed or refused to address. Let them notify the local police of their intention to conduct public interest protests.

Police have a constitutional obligation to facilitate this civil rights exercise among the people. If anything, our police must be willing to help those who want to follow the law when engaging in public protests because the officers are among the most downtrodden taxpayers.

We are begging the police command to allow Laura Miti's team to protest next Friday. We can vouch for these civil society organisations and say that, as long as the police don't allow PF cadres to disrupt the peaceful roadside protest, there will be no violence or confusion. For once, give them a chance to freely express their views.

Crossword puzzle 195



“Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.”
- Albert Einstein

- | Across | Down |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Seek damages | 1. Have a seat |
| 4. Observe | 2. Extra Sensory Perception |
| 6. Brief | 3. Hammer or wrench |
| 7. Summit | 4. Pig home |
| 9. "I kid ___ not" | 5. Large flightless bird |
| 11. Boxer: Muhammad ___ | 8. Magazine edition |
| 13. Computer operator | 10. Egg-shaped |
| 14. Object of worship | 11. Part of a circle |
| 15. Forensic crime show | 12. Roman 3 |
| 17. Not dry | 16. Faction |
| 19. Commotion | 17. Triumph over |
| 21. Academy award | 18. Garage service |
| 22. Right away | 19. Upper limb |
| 23. Bumped into | 20. Not in |

Solutions to puzzle 194



Reader's feedback

Mwanakatwe's declaration that Parliament does not need to approve loans

Editor,
 "Nonsense! Cabinet doesn't pay tax; our representatives need to ascent or veto loans on behalf of us, the represented. Does Cabinet use personal money to pay back loans?" - John Muleya

"We are in trouble with this ignorance. Article 114 of our Constitution is clear." - Muna Chikale

"That Cabinet comprising of idiots and drunkards busy pocketing Chinese borrowed money." - Fernez M Scot

"Madam Margaret, Parliament represents us meaning we need to know how much debt you are contracting for what reasons." - Mofi Kaseketi

ND OPINION on Kabanshi an innocent accomplice



Editor,
 "Good analysis, though what is in someone's heart it's difficult to tell as they say outlook should not deceive you and never judge a book by its cover." - Christopher Phiri

"News Diggers! thumbs up for opening our minds. Us who thought this lady is a lamb, while is a wolf in lamb's skin. Please continue. Wake us up who like dozing." - Jay Jay

"What a wakeup call!!! I hope the remaining bootlickers are reading this." - Pious Emmanuel Sungah

"As always, News Diggers! you have hit the nail on the head." - Boyd Moonga

"Since when did donor funds like Social Cash Transfer Fund become PF Party funds and be used for campaigns? Please, ECZ, take note this electoral malpractice of highest level in Zambia." - Kennedy Mulenga

"There's more stealing going on; it's just that this time, they stepped on donor money." - Wanosha Wanosha

"I am so disappointed with these happenings in PF. This isn't the PF of old. How can you do that to your own people

"She fully partook. No donor dances to thieving of a donated coin. The one suffering now is the intended recipient of donor funds who never got a coin despite being on paper to do so." - Maningi Dibili

"No one is innocent. She knew something was wrong; why did she keep quiet?" - Shelton Kaluba

Lungu on not falling again by listening to 'stupid propaganda'

Editor,
 "Boss, the issues that have dominated the news deserve a more serious answer or explanation. Poor people's money went missing and the donors have withdrawn." - Sydney Skycastle

"Is questioning the misappropriated money or stolen donor funds stupidity? Why this arrogance from this man?" - David Simbayi
 "Boss you've failed. Just call for early elections even if we're broke as a country, 2021 is way too far for you to continue twapapata...!" - Godfrey Mwale

"2021 is even too far, otherwise, there will be nothing to speak of about my country Zambia with this kind of leadership." - Maybin Kabwe

"Ba Chagwa, manje don't speak out of impulses and emotions; the Zambian people are entitled to transparency and the rule of law!" - Henry Mukuka

"Mr President, we pay you for the service and we expect the best when it comes to service delivery. And if you can't deliver, we will show you the exit." - Mwachisama Mwachisama

"When he is at the airport he becomes very arrogant. finshi bazandila nga bafika pa airport batata aba?" - Dennis Tyson Phiri

"Doctors need to help this man. Jet fuel or

whatever it's called excites this man a lot!" - Kesaf Chilufya

"For all his arrogance, Lungu's fall will be terrible. The ministers and PF officials supporting him now

will desert him. His will be a lonely ending. His so called friends and advisers will be state witnesses in the courts of law. I pity Lungu, his family will suffer worse than that of Chiluba's." - Mwiche Mwiche

CSOs' planned demos at Parley ahead of budget presentation should be nationwide!

Dear Editor,

"I wish it was countrywide we join you. We are not doing anything, please." - Ireen Munthali

"I wish this was a nation-wide programme. No one should block this!!" - Paul Kasonde

"Kudos, Laura Miti. Bikenipo naka red card for Lungu." - Kaseba Golden

"We pledge total support, Laura Miti." - Malala Pipe

"Welcome move." - Davies Nyirongo

"But what is happening in our country, my fellow citizens, is very embarrassing. The whole world is just laughing at Zambia currently." - Dean Munambaba

The son of Angola's former president Jose Eduardo dos Santos has been remanded in custody in a \$1.5bn corruption case, a state prosecutor said.

"Given the complexity and seriousness of the deeds and in order to guarantee an effective enquiry... the state prosecution service decided to apply a preventive detention measure to those accused" in the case, prosecutor-general Alvaro Da Silva Joao said in a statement on Monday.

Those targeted include the ex-president's son, Jose Filomeno dos Santos, former head of Angola's sovereign fund.

"The evidence assembled in the case constitutes sufficient evidence that the accused were involved in acts of corruption," the statement added.

Also accused in the case is another former fund manager, Angolan-Swiss businessman Jean-Claude Bastos de Moraes, the prosecutor said.

Jose Filomeno dos Santos, nicknamed Zenu, was appointed head of the \$5-billion fund in 2013 by his father, president at the

Angola ex-president's son remanded on corruption charge

time.

Jose Eduardo dos Santos stepped down last year after

dominating the country's politics for nearly four decades.

He gave control of strategic sectors of the economy to close allies - including the

state oil giant to his daughter Isabel.

The former president chose

a successor from within his own party, his former defence minister Joao Lourenco - in the hopes of ensuring a peaceful handover.

He also appointed loyalists to head the country's security forces.

But Lourenco quickly moved to assert his authority after being elected president last year, beginning to dismantle his predecessor's empire.

Promising to reboot the economy, Lourenco deposed dos Santos's daughter from the top job at Sonangol and fired "Zenu" from the leadership of the sovereign wealth fund.

The son was charged in March this year with misappropriating public funds.

The main opposition Unita party hailed the detention of Jose Filomeno dos Santos, praising the president for "honouring his promises"

"Angola must become a normal country... and a democratic state," Unita spokesman Alcides Sakala told AFP news agency.

A senior official and member of the supreme decision making body of the ruling MPLA, Joao Pinto said: "if mistakes have been made, it is up to the courts to judge and, if necessary, to punish" any culprits.

Various dos Santos acolytes have been purged from top posts, including the army and police chiefs as well as executives at other state-owned companies.

Angola is Africa's second-biggest oil producer but is struggling with high unemployment and sluggish growth. **AL JAZEERA**



Thousands protest in Argentinian capital, Buenos Aires against President Mauricio Macri's austerity policies as he is expected to cut budgets as part of a deal to receive billions in IMF funds. **AL JAZEERA**

German Catholic Church to own up to decades of child abuse

Germany's Catholic Church was Tuesday due to confess to and apologise for thousands of cases of sexual abuse against children, part of a global scandal heaping pressure on the Vatican.

It will release the latest in a series of reports on sexual crimes and cover-ups spanning decades that has shaken the

largest Christian Church, from Europe to the United States, South America and Australia.

In Germany alone, almost 3,700 minors were abused between 1946 and 2014, according to the report prepared by the

German Bishops' Conference, details of which were leaked to the media earlier this month.

Justice Minister Katarina Barley said the study was "shocking and probably just the tip of the iceberg". She urged the Church to "take responsibility for decades of concealment, cover-ups and denials".

Barley also called on the Roman Catholic Church to work with state prosecutors to bring every known case to justice, and to take steps to

prevent more abuse, speaking to news weekly Der Spiegel.

The independent commissioner for child sex abuse issues, Johannes-Wilhelm Roerig, recommended state authorities step in to clear up the crimes and ensure victims get access to Church files and compensation. The state "has a duty of care for all children, including those who are in the care of the Church", he told the Sueddeutsche newspaper.

The German Bishops Conference was due to officially

release the research paper, which it commissioned four years ago, at the start of a four-day meeting in the western city of Fulda.

A victims support hotline and a dedicated website with information will be put in place during the meeting.

The conference head, Cardinal Reinhard Marx, said earlier this month that bishops were "deeply depressed, shaken and ashamed before the reality of sexual abuse of minors within the Catholic Church". **AFP**

S. Sudan doctor wins UN Award



A South Sudanese doctor who runs an overcrowded hospital with a dimly-lit surgical theatre and no regular supply of general anaesthetics on Tuesday won the UN refugee agency's prestigious Nansen award.

Evan Atar Adaha's Maban hospital in the South Sudanese town of Bunj serves more than 144,000 refugees from Blue Nile state in neighbouring Sudan, UNHCR said.

The hospital's X-ray machine is broken, but Atar and his team perform nearly 60 surgeries per week in a room

with just one light, with staff using "ketamine injections and spinal epidurals" instead of general anaesthesia, the agency said.

UNHCR chief Filippo Grandi said Atar's "profound humanity and selflessness" had saved thousands of lives. Atar had previously run a hospital in Blue Nile but was forced to relocate when a conflict erupted there in 2011 between the Khartoum government and rebel fighters.

Khartoum unilaterally announced a ceasefire in the area in March. **AFP**

Instagram co-founders resign from Facebook-owned company

Instagram co-founders Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger have announced they are leaving the photo-sharing app bought by Facebook six years ago, setting a new test for the parent company as it works to quell mounting turmoil.

"Mike and I are grateful for the last eight years at Instagram and six years with the Facebook team," Systrom said in a statement late Monday, following a report on the departure in The New York Times.

"We're planning on taking some time off to explore our curiosity and creativity again."

Systrom, 34, created the app in 2010 with 32-year-old Krieger, now the outgoing "chief technical officer," when they were students at Stanford University in the heart of Silicon Valley.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg praised the departing Instagram leaders for "their combined creative talents," saying "I've learned a lot working with them."

"I wish them all the best and I'm looking forward to seeing what they build next," Zuckerberg said in a statement released by Facebook.

Systrom's fortune is valued at \$1.4 billion by Forbes.

"Building new things requires that we step back, understand what inspires us and match that with what the world needs; that's what we plan to do," the statement said -- though several US media outlets attributed the split to a disagreement with executives at Facebook.

"We're now ready for our next chapter," the statement continued.

Instagram in June announced it passed a billion active users, and unveiled a new long-form video feature in a bid to attract "creators" like those on YouTube.

It became the fourth Facebook platform to eclipse the billion-user mark, including the namesake social network with more than two billion users, and the messaging applications WhatsApp and Messenger.

Facebook acquired Instagram in April 2012 for a combination of cash and stock worth some \$1 billion at the time.

Instagram has been a hit with young internet users, an audience that Facebook is keen to keep in its fold.

The Instagram co-founders have reportedly clashed with Facebook's leadership over the photo-sharing service's autonomy within the company, according to The Wall Street Journal citing people close to the matter.

The departures come as Facebook grapples with the worst crisis in its history, vilified for not more zealously guarding the information which users share.

Many see Facebook as having been a top vehicle for spreading false information in recent years, and of being used by nefarious interests intent on swaying elections such as the poll which put President Donald Trump in the White House. **AFP**



Messi ruled out of Argentina's upcoming matches. goal.com

Sunderland AFC terminate Didier Ndong's contract after going AWOL

Sunderland have announced the termination of Didier Ndong's contract after he provided 'no reason' for his absence from the club since July.

The 24-year-old joined the English League One side in a club-record fee of £13.6 million in August 2016 on a five-year deal from French Ligue 1 side Lorient and made 49 appearances for the side, scoring once.

In January, the midfielder signed for Premier League side Watford on loan with an option of making the deal permanent but after an unimpressive stint, the Hornets allowed him to leave.

However, the former CS Sfaxien player failed to return to Sunderland for four months and the Black Cats, on Monday, announced the termination of the Gabon international's contract.

"Sunderland AFC has given notice under its contract with Didier Ndong," read a statement from club website.

"The player, who was under contract with the club until June 2021, failed to return to Sunderland for pre-season training in July as scheduled, nor in the subsequent months that followed. No reason was given for his failure to report and continued absence.

"As a result, the club has accepted Didier Ndong's repudiatory breaches of contract and notice of the same has been provided to the player.

"Sunderland AFC does so whilst retaining the right to pursue the player and any club he may subsequently join in relation to compensation for the value of the player."

Earlier, the club also terminated the contract of Senegal international Papy Djilobodji for returning late to the club. *goal.com*

Neymar must work as hard as Cavani and Mbappe – Eto'o

The three-times Champions League winner believes that PSG have the potential to go all the way this season - but only if the Brazilian bucks up Paris Saint-Germain can be a highly successful team if Neymar begins to defend as much as Edinson Cavani and Kylian Mbappe, according to Samuel Eto'o.

The Brazilian's ethic came under fire after PSG's 3-2 Champions League loss to Liverpool last week, and though he helped them recover at the weekend in a 3-1 success against Rennes, Eto'o has said that if they are to reach their full potential, more is required from the 26-year-old Brazilian.

And as a three-time Champions League winners, twice with Barcelona and once with Inter, he is well qualified to speak on the subject.

"We want to see Neymar running after defenders to help his team," Eto'o told Canal+. "Cavani does it, but it's not worthwhile only one player doing it. Mbappe also

does it, but the key figure is Neymar. If he does it, the whole team will turn around and run."

Although PSG lost at Anfield, Eto'o has suggested that they still have the capacity to get things right at the highest level - if they can get their

attitude correct.

"PSG must play as a team," he reaffirmed. "If everyone defends, they will have every chance to win. France won the World Cup because they defended well."

The Parisian side will attempt to maintain their

perfect start to the season domestically when they play host to Reims on Wednesday and then tackle Nice on Saturday. The following week, they are back in Champions League action with a home encounter against Red Star. *goal.com*

ZAVA schedules first ever beach volleyball tournament in Siavonga

By Alex Chilumbwe

More than 22 volleyball clubs have confirmed participation in the first ever Beach volleyball tournament scheduled for Siavonga, Southern province on 29th September, 2018. The Zambia Volleyball Association (ZAVA) organised tournament that will see clubs walk away with undisclosed handsome

amounts, medals and equipments is open to all volleyball clubs in the country and has categories ranging from Regular, High school and Madalas and Corporate, and carters to both genders. In an interview with Goal Diggers! ZAVA Referees Commissioner John Funsani gave details of the tournament and shared a little forecast of beach volleyball in Zambia.

"This tournament is a huge opportunity for us as ZAVA to determine the future of beach volleyball in Zambia. If we are able to organise such a one, then its future is more than bright. More than 22 clubs have confirmed participation with the bigger number coming from Lusaka and Copperbelt provinces. The likes of Green Eagles, Indeni, City of Lusaka,

Chalube, Green Buffaloes, Flight, Nkwazi and other big guns in the sport have confirmed," Funsani said. Funsani who is also Midlands volleyball association vice chairperson for administration touched on enabling locations that would brighten the future of beach volleyball in Zambia. "There are several venues in the country that would

supplement the growth of this sport in the country. There are reasonably beautiful beaches in the country and artificial ones can also be built strategically. The beauty that comes with locations would also prompt other people to gain interest in the sport and consequently elevate it. It is going to be a great sight of a sea of talent near a sea of water," Funsani added. Querried on the inclusion of Universities and High schools, Funsani had words of solidarity and inclusiveness in sports. "The beach volleyball tournament is only open to high schools based in Siavonga while any university or college can pay for participation. This is because clubs can identify talent in the two and actually make some of these talent hubs in the future. There could be students or pupils looking for clubs to join and this opportunity will be an eye opener. Let me just say a fit citizen is a productive citizen and this beach volleyball tournament will be a befitting fitness showcase too," summed Funsani.

NASCZ warns uncleared international sportsmen

By Alex Chilumbwe

National Sports Council of Zambia (NASCZ) has noted the need to conduct a thorough Sports Club clean-up in order to prevent clubs from using uncleared international players. Council general secretary Raphael Mulenga said clubs should not be failing to follow simple procedures that were part of the laws of the country and ensure their international players were cleared from their respective countries. "We will conduct a thorough clean up and

make sure that all the international players are cleared in their countries. The procedure is really not cumbersome whatsoever although some people want to do shortcuts. Discipline is an everyday topic in sports and it should start from here. International players or sportsmen and women are most dominant in football and basketball so we will start from there," Mulenga said. And Mulenga also advised local sportsmen and women to abide by the laid down

rules that govern their respective sports. "Make sure you exhibit good behaviour and stick to rules or regulations that govern your particular sports disciplines. It is not good for the country to lose bankable talents based on misconduct either on or off your play grounds. Some of you are international players and while you are out there, you represent Zambia. Please make sure that you represent us well. We are a highly talented country so let us use our talents wisely," advised Mulenga.

Resilient Chambeshi clings to hope...

By Alex Chilumbwe

Do not rule us out on the league title, says Nkana coach Bestone Chambeshi whose side is second on the table and has 69 points while league leader ZESCO United has 77 points. Nkana struggled in the first round of the FAZ/MTN super league as it failed to record consistent wins. The case for 'Aba Red or Kalampa' changed in the second round as the side began to record consecutive wins and score more goals. In an interview with Goal Diggers! Chambeshi revisited his hope of winning the league title. "I still have hope we can win the league. We have four more games to play while league leaders have four as well. What if the they lose all the four and we win all the four and keep in mind we are eight points apart. Football is a funny game because anything happens even to fans favourites. Look at the bouncing back of NAPSA Stars while others thought they would never leave the relegation zone. All I'm saying is we should not be ruled out yet," said Chambeshi. Meanwhile, NAPSA Stars' coach Mohammad Fathi admitted a loss to Green Buffaloes on Sunday was a strong backward but kept a positive spirit. "It was our chance to move up the table and ensure we do not slide back into relegation zone. There are now five teams below us and the point difference is not so good. We need to create a bigger margin so that we are safer. We do not have serious injuries and the

DON'T RULE NKANA OUT

boys are in good shape. We now have to play to win all the remaining games," said Fathi. In another update, New Monze Swallows maintained dignity in having fulfilled all the fixtures and expressed no hope of surviving relegation based on the number of games remaining before the league is concluded. "We are proud to have fulfilled all the fixtures under difficult financial situations and our guys proved that they have passion for the game so there is room for growth in them. They now have better understanding of the super league and the experience obtained is of great help," said coach of the side, Grey Sichoonga. Swallows are on bottom of the table with 18 points while Nchanga Rangers is second from the bottom with 26 points.



Ronaldinho (L) and Host Idris Elba (C) pose with the FIFA FIFPro World XI players David De Gea, Dani Alves, Marcelo, Sergio Ramos, Raphael Varane, Eden Hazard, N'Golo Kante, Luka Modric and Kylian Mbappe during the ceremony of the Best FIFA Football Awards in the Royal Festival Hall in London. Photo credit - Fifa.com



Boxing fans have voted for unified heavyweight champion Anthony Joshua to fight Deontay Wilder in April 2019. Yahoo



LeBron James says his new franchise the LA Lakers are way behind current NBA champions the Golden State Warriors. Skysports